



South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation
National Validation Meeting: SASEC National Sanitary-phytosanitary and
Technical Barriers to Trade Diagnostic Study for Nepal

“Identification of Potential Exports Facing SPS and TBT Measures in the SASEC Subregion”

31 October, 2017: Kathmandu, Nepal

AGENDA

Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share findings of the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) national sanitary-phytosanitary (SPS) and technical barriers to trade (TBT) diagnostic study for Nepal • Present recommendations coming out of the study for consideration by the Government of Nepal • Seek comments and feedback from public and private sectors for inclusion in the final diagnostic study report
Participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPS/TBT national core group • Participants from related Government Agencies • Participants from private sector • Asian Development Bank
Venue	Radisson Hotel, Kathmandu, Nepal
08:30–09:00	Registration
09:00–09:30	Opening Session: Welcome and Opening
09:00–09:45	<p>Welcome and Programme Highlights: Mr. Manoj Acharya, Focal Point Nepal</p> <p>SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework and National Diagnostic Study: Dr. Selim Raihan, ADB & Mr. Shyam Dahal, ADB.</p> <p>Remarks from Private sector: Mr. Manish Kumar Agrawal, Export Promotion Centre, FNCCI (TBC)</p> <p>Inaugural Remarks: Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of Nepal</p>
09:45–10:00	Tea Break and Official Photograph



10:00-11:45	Session One: Nepal's Trade Pattern and Export Potentials to SASEC Countries
10:00 -11:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADB national consultant for SPS-TBT will discuss recent and current patterns of trade between Nepal and five other SASEC countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka), based on analysis of import and export data 2012–2015 and present a list of products, which have the potential for export from Nepal, yet are subject to SPS/TBT measures in other SASEC countries, and explain the methodology used to identify these products, and how the products are grouped. <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Director, Trade and Export Promotion Centre <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Posh Raj Pandey ADB <p>Floor Discussion</p>
11:45–12:30	Session Two: Brief Overview of SPS and TBT Measures, Institutions, and Infrastructure in Nepal
11:45–12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session Two provides an overview of current SPS and TBT measures in Nepal, focusing on (i) legal structures, (ii) institutional frameworks, (iii) infrastructure facilities for both SPS and TBT. Existing gaps in these areas of SPS and TBT in comparison with international best practices will be highlighted. <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director General, Nepal Bureau of Standards and Metrology (NBSM) <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, ADB and Kshitiz Dahal
12:30–13:30	Lunch break
13:30–14:45	Session Three : Identification of Standards, Regulations and Procedural Barriers Facing Nepal Exports
13:30–14:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session Three identifies standards, regulations and procedural obstacles in both Nepal and in other SASEC countries that impede trade of the identified potential export items from Nepal. Reasons for these obstacles are presented and discussed, based on the findings of the national SPS-TBT diagnostic study. <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director General/Chief, Department of Food Technology and Quality Control (DFTQC) <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, ADB and Kshitiz Dahal <p>Floor Discussion</p>

14:45–16:00	Session Four : Recommendations for Future Actions
14:45–16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ADB national consultant will present (i) possible measures to address SPS-TBT constraints in Nepal within the overall framework of the World Trade Organization; (ii) proposed actions to address the issue relating to technical regulations and standards, as well as the staging of individual and related initiatives such as MRAs etc; (iii) proposals to address SPS and TBT infrastructure and human capacity constraints; and (iv) potential sources of technical assistance and expertise in SPS and TBT.</i> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Manoj Acharya - Focal Point, Dr. Posh Raj Pandey - ADB <p>Floor Discussion</p>
16:00–16:30	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
16:30–17:30	Session Five: Finalization of Summary of Proceedings
16:30–17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>ADB will present a Summary of Proceedings capturing the issues raised in comments and feedback throughout Sessions 1-6, and confirm the necessary adjustments to be made to the final national SPS-TBT diagnostic study for Nepal.</i> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Selim Raihan, ADB • Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, ADB <p>Closing Remarks by the Chair</p>