

WTO Workshop on Risk Analysis, Geneva, 13-14 October 2014

Summary of the presentation by Delia Grace

International level

Speaker from an international organization will discuss outcomes related to risk assessment, risk management and risk communication of various workshops organized at the international and regional levels since 2000 on implementation of the SPS Agreement

Experiences with capacity building for risk analysis in Africa and Asia with a focus on domestic markets and regional trade

In most developing countries, livestock and food-borne diseases are major causes of economic loss and human health risk. Over the past decade, ILRI research has provided insight into the impacts of livestock and food-borne diseases, challenged conventional thinking on food safety and livestock trade, and developed a successful approach to “participatory risk analysis” for understanding and managing food safety in domestic markets.

During 2008-2011, core capacity in risk-based methods was built through training and practical application in 25 proof-of-concept studies in eight sub-Saharan Africa and 3 Asian countries. In addition, over 50 decision-makers from the ten countries including professionals from universities, food and drug authorities, public health departments, national agricultural research institutes and veterinary departments were trained in short-term risk assessment courses and national workshops. Policy analyses were conducted in 9 countries.

Evidence generated by ILRI research is leading to new attitudes and approaches for promoting safe food consumption and trade. Findings include: wet markets are highly preferred and likely to persist; export of livestock and livestock products is not a priority for most poor countries; food safety does matter to poor consumers; food safety policies relying on strict standards and enforcement are difficult to implement and may make increase risk; risk-based approaches generate important and non-obvious evidence for better managing food safety and trade; and, solutions exist for better assuring domestic food safety and regional trade.