



Capacity building for greater use of trade-related international support measures for LDCs

Briefing by the UN CDP Secretariat
for the LDC group at WTO
Geneva, 18 November 2014

Structure

1. Background
2. Objectives and principles
3. Stages and activities
4. Findings and recommendations
5. E-PING

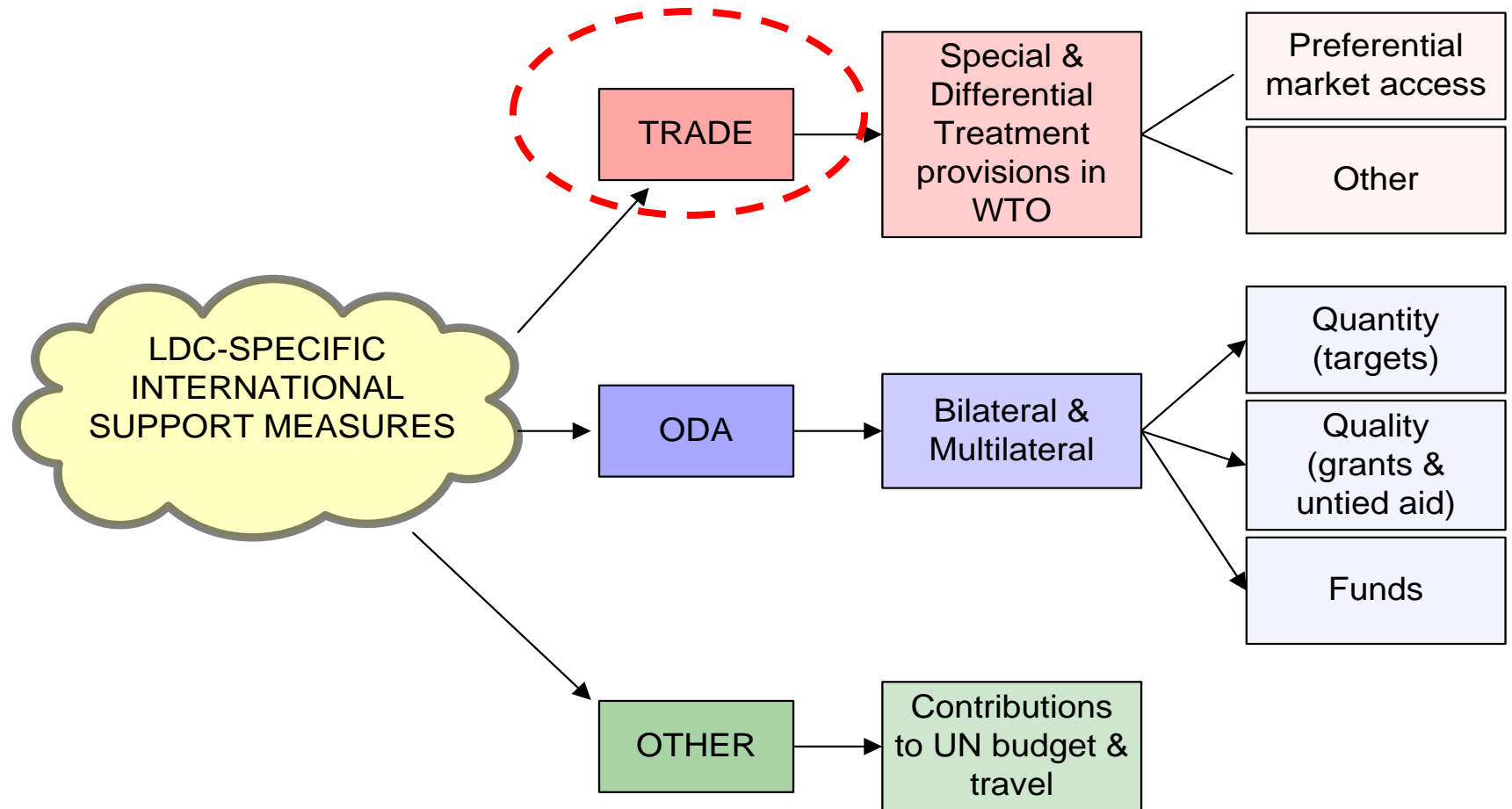


1. BACKGROUND

CDP capacity building activities

- LDCs are low-income countries suffering from structural handicaps to sustainable development
- Category allows for special international support measures to tackle specific problems
- However: limited knowledge
- Past project activities:
 - Building awareness
 - Cataloguing and centralizing information
 - Assessing utilization

ISMs – International Support Measures for LDCs



Trade-related ISMs

→ Special and differential treatment WTO legal texts

- Increase trade opportunities for LDCs
- Safeguard the interests of LDCs
- Flexibility in rules and disciplines
- Longer transitional periods
- Provision of technical assistance

→ Other measures besides WTO agreements

Examples:

- Enabling clause, Services Waiver
- TRIPs extensions, ASCM exclusions, guidelines on accession, longer TPR intervals, SPS/TBT technical assistance, etc.
- EIF

Main outcome: LDC Portal

The screenshot shows the homepage of the 'Support Measures Portal for Least Developed Countries'. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Trade, Development Assistance, General Support, Find a support measure, and Learn more. Below the navigation bar is a large banner image of a conference, with the text 'FOURTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' and '13 May 2011, Geneva'. The main content area features a section titled 'Improving Access to Support Measures' with a paragraph explaining the portal's purpose. Below this are three columns: 'Trade', 'Development', and 'General Support', each with a representative image and a brief description. To the right, there are two sidebars: 'Latest stories' and 'Latest news', each containing a list of recent updates with 'more »' links. At the bottom, there are three boxes labeled 'New! Coverage' with specific news items.

Support Measures Portal for Least Developed Countries

Home Trade Development Assistance General Support Find a support measure Learn more

FOURTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
13 May 2011, Geneva

Improving Access to Support Measures

This Portal gives users access to information about special international support measures (ISMs) adopted by the international development community for countries included in the LDC category. ISMs are meant to assist LDCs in confronting their special development challenges and in achieving progress towards graduation from the category. The measures can be grouped into 3 broad areas of assistance:

- Trade**
International support measures from development partners related to international trade.
[go to Trade »](#)
- Development**
Support measures related to the volume and quality of Official Development Assistance.
[go to Development »](#)
- General Support**
Other support measures such as dedicated travel funds and caps on contributions to the UN.
[go to General Support »](#)

Latest stories

- **LDCs and trade in services**
LDCs continue to play a marginal role in global trade in services flows, but their market share is...
- **Smoothing the Transition**
On 7 December 2012, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a resolution on smooth...

[more »](#)

Latest news

- **Deadline for STDF funding applications**
The next deadline for STDF funding applications for project preparation grants...

New! Coverage
Deadline for STDF funding applications

New! Coverage
Bilateral ODA to LDCs in 2012

New! Coverage
SPOTLIGHT: New

Finding:

Low utilization of trade-related ISMs

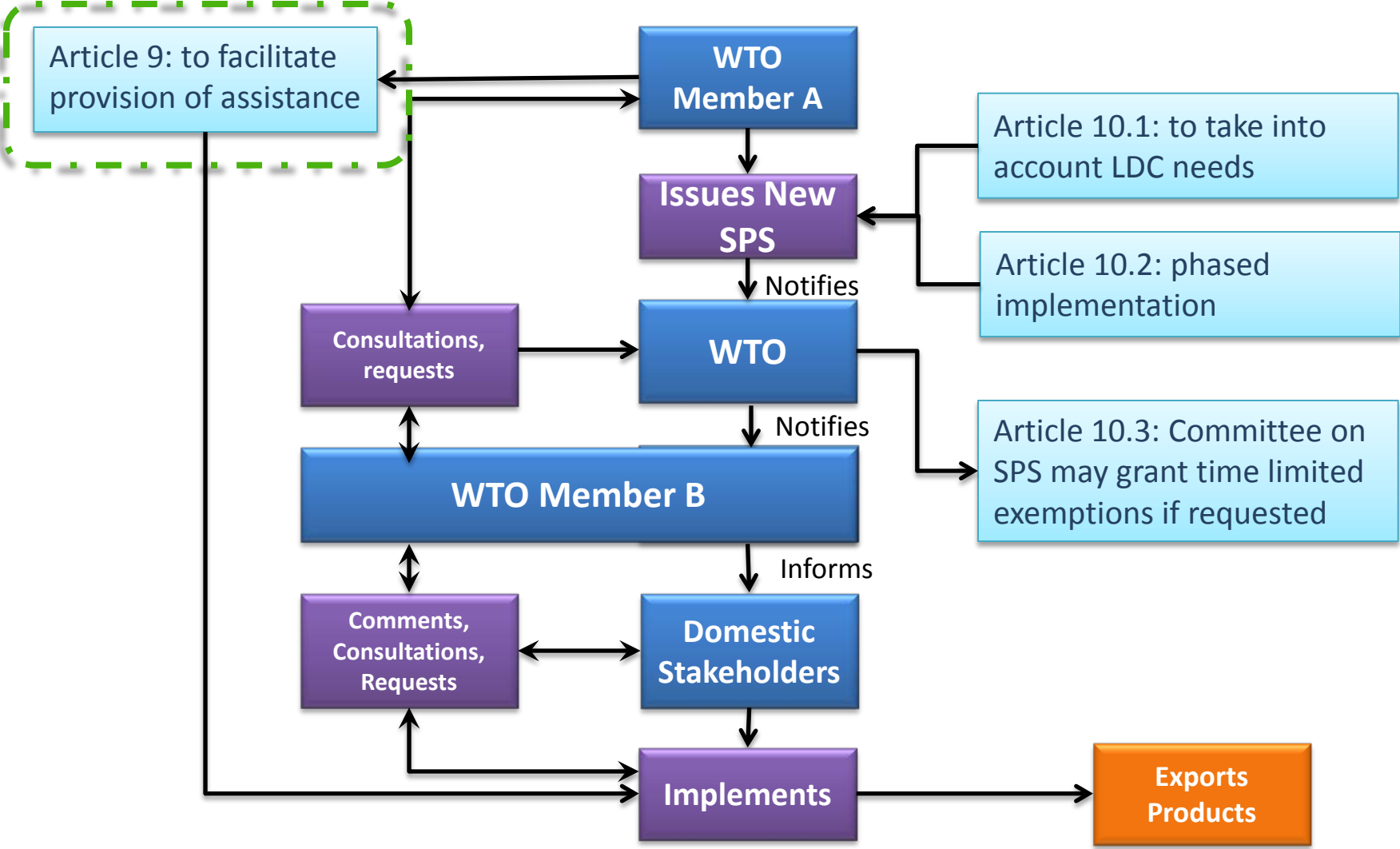
Why?????

- Ambiguous nature
- Dispersed
- Complex
- Not binding
- Require capacity:
 - Low productive capacities
 - **Institutional capacity constraints**

What are institutional constraints?

- Lack of information among stakeholders (country level: trade-related ministries, exporters, producers, standardization bodies, private sector)
- Communication and coordination failures (internal and external)
- Inappropriate institutional arrangements within and among government agencies and/or with partners
- Deficiencies related to human resources

Institutional constraints in action: an illustration – SPS Agreement





2. OBJECTIVES AND PRINCIPLES

Follow-up needed: Removing constraints in utilization of trade-related ISMs

Objective ►

- Increase institutional capacity in LDCs to access and effectively use the trade-related ISMs

Expected accomplishments ►

- Improved capacity to **set priorities** for accessing trade-related ISMs
- Improved capacity to **tackle institutional constraints in accessing** and sharing information on trade-related ISMs
- Feedback to intergovernmental processes

Principles ►

- Building up: pilot countries participated in Project I
- Staggered: sharing country experiences
- Avoiding duplication: delivering as one



3. STAGES AND ACTIVITIES

Project implementation

A. Diagnosis and prioritization

1. Catalogue of priority exports
+validation

2. SWOT ↔ interviews ↔
preliminary matching

3. Targeted surveys **toolkit!**

4. CBA **toolkit!**

5. Validation

✓ **Outcome:** improved capacity
to set priorities for accessing
trade-related ISMs

B. Intervention

1. Selecting areas for action

2. Defining plan

3. Implementation

4. Review and evaluation

✓ **Outcomes:**

- Increased capacity

- Increased ISM use

- Increased exports

A.1. Cataloguing and validation

	DTIS ¹	National Export Strategy ²	National Development Plan ³	STDF ⁴	UNIDO Integrated Industrial Policy ⁵	Vision 2040 ⁶	Uganda Handicrafts Export Strategy ⁷	Uganda Services Export Strategy ⁸	DTIS update ⁹	ITC Sector Projects ¹⁰	Uganda Apiculture Export Strategy ¹¹
Cereal, pulses and oil seeds											
Maize											
Edible oils											
Breakfast Cereals											
Flour											
Fortified Foods											
Coffee											
Dairy											
Fresh milk											
Processed (powder, butter, UHT, ghee, cheese)											
Livestock											
Fish and Fisheries											
Tilapia											
Nile Perch											
Poultry											
Horticulture											
Fresh fruits and vegetables											
Dried fruits and vegetables											
Fruit Juice, pulp and concentrates											
Banana flour											
Canned fruit											
Vegetable purees and chutney											
Cotton/textile and clothing											
Cotton											
Silk											

A.2 SWOT and preliminary matching

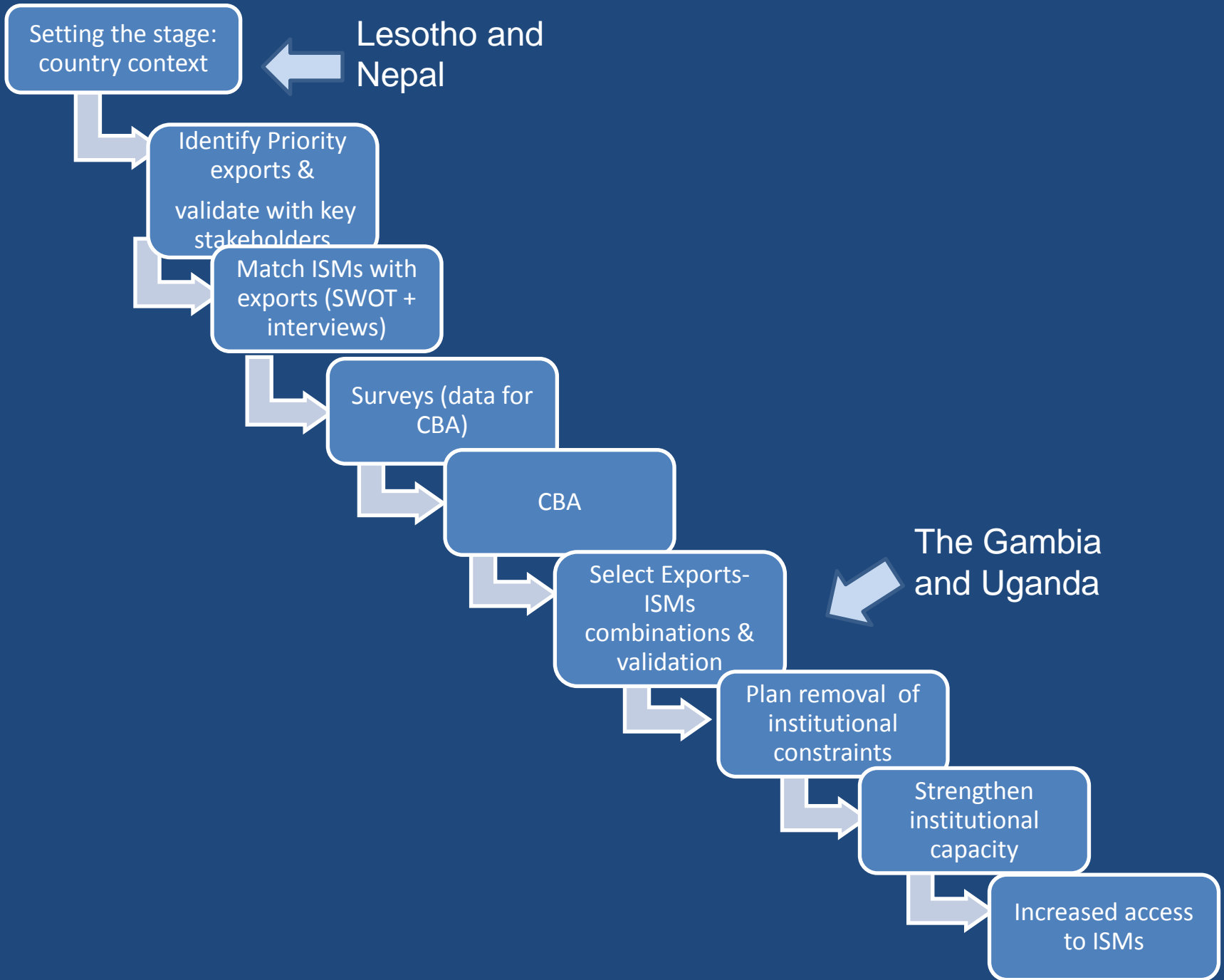
Product	STDF	SPS – WTO members	TBT Art. 11	EIF Tier 2	UNCDF
Coffee	implementation of quality standards/SPS	implementation of quality standards/SPS	coffee specific research, extension services and enforcement of quality and standards regulations	transport infrastructure	coffee specific research, extension services and enforcement of quality and standards regulations
		Coffee Wilt Disease and other pest and diseases		Coffee Wilt Disease and other pest and diseases	
Floriculture	Poor cold storage management	Poor cold storage management		Poor cold storage management	
	Traceability	Traceability	Traceability		
Tea					
Etc.					

A.3: Targeted surveys

Question	SPS	TBT	EIF	DFQF	UNCDF	Fish stock
Q1a. Do you receive training on the processes for accessing the ISM?						
Q1b. Which ISM would you be most interested in receiving training on? Rank from 1 (most) to 6 (least)						
Q1c. Which ISM would be most difficult to organize training for, due to travel costs, availability of trainer, etc.? Rank from 1 (difficult) to 6 (easy)						
Q1d. Which ISM has the most frequent changes in the rules and regulations? Rank from 1 (most) to 6 (least)						

A.4 and A.5: CBA and Validation

ISMs Uganda	Direct cost	Indirect cost	Total cost	Trade benefit	Socio- economic benefit	Total benefit	Net benefit	Benefit -cost ratio
SPS	3	5	4	1	1	1	1	1
TBT	4	4	5	3	4	3	4	4
EIF	2	2	1	4	2	4	3	3
DFQF	1	3	2	2	3	2	2	2
FS	5	1	3	5	5	5	5	5





4. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

B.1 Areas for capacity building

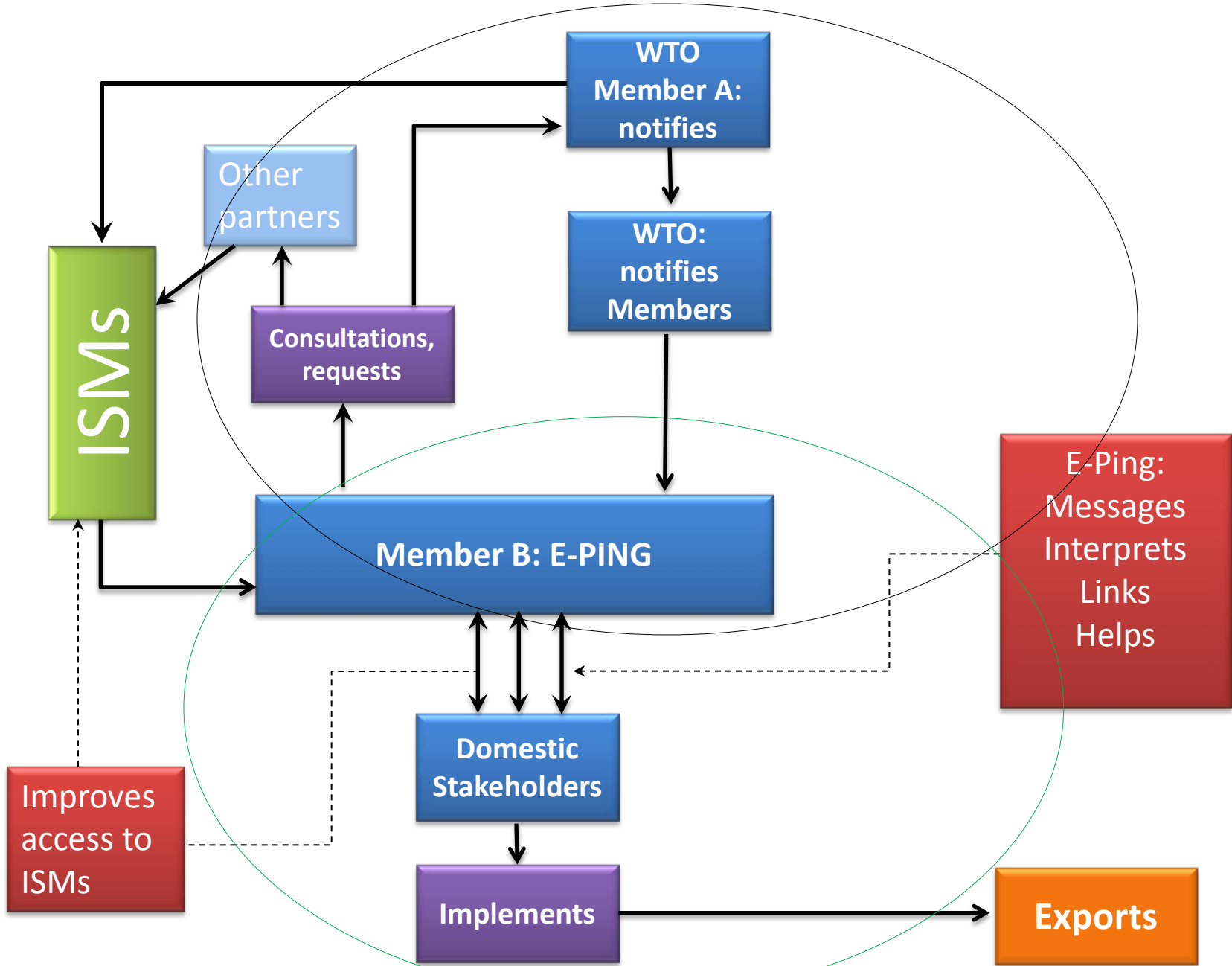
THE GAMBIA	UGANDA
SPS	ISM Focal Points SPS/DFQF
Capacity building in Aflatoxins (nuts)	Identification
Notifications	Operationalization
	Dissemination
UNCDF	
Microfinance support (cashew + horticulture)	TBT and SPS
	Information dissemination
EiF	Improve communication flows
Donors round table	
Follow-up DTIS sector studies	EPing Alternative
UNFSA	
Ratification process	
GIEPA	
CBA methodology	CDP Secretariat



5. E-PING: ADDRESSING COMMUNICATION CONSTRAINTS

E-Ping objectives

- Effective communications flows
- TBTs and SPSs notifications to reach exporters
- Dissemination of import alerts
- Facilitates access to ISMs



Moving E-Ping forward

- Consultations with private sector
 - Involvement by relevant development partners
 - Sustainability
 - Local context
 - Establish procedures, identify responsibilities and accountability mechanisms, training
 - Disseminating the dissemination facility
- Discussions taking place at the Geneva workshop



THANK YOU!