FSSAI hosts workshop for India, other participating nations under CTF2

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Under the international initiatives, FSSAI has hosted a workshop for the participating countries, including Bhutan, India and Nepal under the three-year joint project - Codex Trust Fund 2 (CTF2).

In the joint India, Bhutan and Nepal Project under CTF2, India, as the lead country, is working with Nepal and Bhutan on the CTF2-supported capacity building project over the next three years.

“India with a fairly developed Codex structure will lead the other two countries and also undertake some activities specific to India, including the workshop on chemical risk assessment, Codex awareness workshops, advocacy workshop and development of standard operating procedure for data generation in various areas to help inform standards formulations/contribute in Codex standard making process,” said FSSAI in a statement.

**Codex Trust Fund 2**

CTF2 is designed to provide support for a limited period of time (12 years) to individual countries or groups of countries to address specific barriers at national level that inhibit full and effective engagement in Codex at the national, regional and international levels with a view to helping build and/or strengthen Codex structures at the national level in a manner that will be sustainable over time.

The goal of the project is that developing and transition economy countries will be sustainably engaged in Codex. The increased capacity of countries to engage in Codex, and the sustainability of this engagement will be monitored throughout the entire period of CTF2. To achieve the goal of CTF 2 various activities would be undertaken which includes:

- National workshops involving policy and decision-makers from key sectors and stakeholder groups
- Twinning between a less-experienced country with a developed/transition economy country with well-functioning national Codex structures to strengthen their own Codex structures and build more effective engagement in Codex
- Diagnosis of national Codex structures and development of a national plan of action to strengthen Codex engagement
- Building capacity for more effective engagement in Codex by using different delivery methods and experienced trainers to build capacity and training focussed on specific technical areas

**Codex Trust Fund 1**

Codex Trust Fund was developed by FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)/WHO (World Health Organization) to support several developing and least developed countries which are unable to bear the expenditure on travel/stay for Codex meetings. CTF is managed in a transparent manner by the Codex Trust Fund Secretariat in WHO.

It was in operation between 2004 and 2015 and supported over 2,300 participants from developing and transition economy countries in this period and provided FAO/WHO Codex training to over 1,200 people to boost the effectiveness of their participation in the Codex Alimentarius Commission.

Building on the success of the first Codex Trust Fund, FAO and WHO launched a successor initiative to the Codex Trust Fund (CTF2), officially launched in July 2016 at the 39th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. CTF2 has shifted the focus from widening participation in Codex, to building strong, solid and sustainable national capacity to engage in Codex.