

# AID-FOR-TRADE CASE STORY

DENMARK

## FOOD AND DRUGS BOARD

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Country: Ghana

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## BACKGROUND

The Private Sector Development Strategy (PSDS I) of Ghana represents a bold attempt by the public sector to support the growth and development of the private sector in Ghana. The programme commenced in 2004 and was terminated at the end of December 2010. A second phase of the Strategy has just been launched.

The PSDS I is being supported by the Government of Ghana in partnership with a number of Development Partners such as Danida, DFID, GTZ, and the World Bank that use a pooled funding modality to deliver their support for the Strategy. In addition, eight other Development Partners use direct bilateral funding mechanisms to support the Strategy. These include partners such as UNDP, EU, Switzerland, and Japan.

The Strategy has four outputs, including:

Competence and Capacity at firm level;

Efficiency and Accessibility of National Markets;

Ghana's Competitiveness in the Global and Regional Markets (trade related); and

The Government's Private Sector Policy formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation strengthened.

The case story concerns improvement of quality standards of palm oil export from Ghana to meet international standards. This activity is one of several activities under the PSDS I.

### Problem Statement

The Food and Drugs Board is the Central Government agency for ensuring quality standards in food and drugs imports to and exports from Ghana.

The Board received a number of complaints from EU and other international quality agencies about the poor quality of palm oil and other related exports coming out of Ghana. The exports did not meet acceptable

minimum standards to compete favourably on the international market.

#### The Programme and Process

This challenge was brought to the attention of the Policy Coordinating Bureau of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and an application forwarded for approval and funding under the PSDS I.

The Food and Drugs Board was supported by the PSDS I Pooled Fund to carry out an extensive nationwide survey and a follow-up series of educational, awareness creation campaigns, training in quality control, process validation, and other modern analytical techniques. The target group was palm oil manufacturers and exporters.

#### Outcome

It is noted that from 2009 to date, there has not been a single alert or reported case of sub-quality palm oil export from Ghana.