

18th Annual Meeting (AM) of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Working Group on Agriculture (WGA)

Summary of Discussion – Annexes

July 2021

Annex 1

18th Annual Meeting of the Greater Mekong Subregion Working Group on Agriculture Agenda

18th Annual Meeting (AM) of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Working Group on Agriculture (WGA)

Theme: Towards Achieving Agri-food Safety and Quality Harmonization in the Greater Mekong Subregion in the context of COVID-19 and Climate Change

Wednesday 7 July 2021 / 9:00-16:00 (Bangkok time, GMT+7)
Thursday 8 June 2021 / 9:00-12:00 (Bangkok time, GMT+7)

Recognizing the growing food safety concerns alongside agri-food chains, and the crucial role that food safety plays in putting an end to hunger (SDG 2) and promoting health (SDG 3), the United Nations (UN) General Assembly declared 7 June to be the World Food Safety Day. In 2017, the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Ministers of Agriculture endorsed the Strategy and Action Plan for *Promoting Safe and Environment-Friendly Agro-Based Value Chains in the Greater Mekong Subregion*, with the vision that the GMS would become a leading supplier of safe, nutritious and climate-friendly agri-food products in the world.

Join the Zoom Meeting:

https://adb-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_F1zgDmfqTXWwm19G_ZpEfw

Meeting ID: 997 3221 6407

Password: 18GMSwga
(Valid for both 7 & 8 July 2021)

Production of safe and nutritious agri-food products has become increasingly important for economic development in each of the GMS countries, commensurate with growing demand for such products in both export markets and national retail markets. The need for improving safety and quality (nutrition) of agri-food products has become more evident in the context of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), as immunity and vulnerability are inversely related. Research suggests that the implementation of food safety management systems such as Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), besides cleaning, sanitation, good hygienic practices, and active packaging, are important to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection. Likewise, climate change impacts manifested through increasing temperature and humidity, and variability in precipitation patterns increase operational and reputations risks for agri-food industry.

Production of safe and nutritious agri-food products has become increasingly important for economic development in each of the GMS countries, commensurate with growing demand for such products in both export markets and national retail markets. The need for improving safety and quality (nutrition) of agri-food products has become more evident in the context of coronavirus disease (COVID-19), as immunity and vulnerability are inversely related. Research suggests that the implementation of food safety management systems such as Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), besides cleaning, sanitation, good hygienic practices, and active packaging, are important to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection. Likewise, climate change impacts manifested through increasing temperature and humidity, and variability in precipitation patterns increase operational and reputations risks for agri-food industry.

All GMS countries are members of the recently agreed Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership that accounts for about 30% of the world's population (2.2 billion people) and 30% of global GDP (\$26.2 trillion) as of 2020, making it the biggest trading bloc in history. Each of the GMS countries is also a partner in separate bilateral trade agreements with many countries, including the United Kingdom, United States, Australia, and New Zealand, as well as with the European Union. Agri-food trade within the GMS is increasing but is constrained by the lack of regional agreements and by informal cross border trade.

While the formal trade agreements provide a great opportunity for the agri-food products from GMS countries to access these higher value export markets, they also require that the agri-food products meet the Food Safety and Quality (FSQ) standards and regulations for these markets. National retail markets, especially the supermarket chains, also have FSQ standards that the agri-food products must meet. Agri-food value chain stakeholders—farmers, collectors and traders, and agribusiness processors and distributors – must all comply with FSQ standards to access high value national retail and export markets.

The GMS Working Group on Agriculture (WGA) and their collaborators undertook pioneering work in the areas of food safety, quality assurance, and climate-friendly agriculture practices under the GMS Core Agriculture Support Program II (CASP-II). Substantial progress was achieved in terms of: (i) development of a strategy to improve food safety and quality assurance for climate-friendly agri-food products; (ii) policy dialogues on food safety and associated knowledge products¹; and (iii) public-private collaboration for enhanced training on food safety and quality control for upgrading the technical skills of GMS food

¹ The GMS WGA initiated two large GMS-wide Policy Forums on food safety, quality assurance and sustainable value chains. The first was held at the annual world trade forum, THAIFEX from 31 May to 1 June 2017. The other dialogue was conducted in September 2017 as one of the side events of the second GMS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

scientists in addressing mycotoxin² and regional/national stakeholder consultations, training and demonstrations on traceability barcoding systems³. Despite all such progress, substantial policy and capacity gaps remain at the GMS level, and more strategic investments are needed. Since many of the FSQ measures are implemented at local levels, further in-depth discussions at national and subregional levels are needed. Harmonization of FSQ standards in the GMS can be difficult to practically achieve and sustain, especially since GMS countries have different processes for ratifying, and codifying new regulations. A better coordinated regional approach to food safety and quality policy, driven by business and public interests, will enhance the protection of domestic consumers and suppliers. It will also support scaling up of production and expanded market access.

The ASEAN Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment (MAMRASCA)⁴ provides a practical approach to harmonization of FSQ standards, since, participation in a mutual recognition agreement is in a phased manner as long as multi-lateral conformity assessments, and laboratory capacity are at acceptable levels.⁵ Further work is needed to advance and adopt MAMRASCA but opportunities are ripe for GMS countries to be its early adopters and expand regional agri-food trade. Development of harmonized agri-food FSQ standards, however, must involve the government departments responsible for FSQ regulations and compliance, and the private sector.

The COVID 19 pandemic disrupted agri-food value chains and reduced access to export markets. The pandemic has also provided a new set of agri-food trade challenges and trust issues amongst the GMS economies. Rebuilding trust will entail greater coordination within and between countries. Support for benchmarking (national, ASEAN, and global) and sharing of best practices within the region could help the establishment of trust and enforcement of FSQ.

Adverse impacts of climate change impacts on agri-food production and value chain competitiveness are becoming more evident. Farmers are challenged with greater rainfall variability making agri-food production more expensive, and risky. Increased temperatures and extreme events are causing food wastage in on-farm storage, and along the agri-food value chains. Agribusinesses need to upgrade their cool chains to ensure agri-food quality. Customers in higher value agri-food markets are demanding that agri-food products be produced in a climate-friendly manner.

To support the implementation of the *Strategy for Promoting Safe and Environment-Friendly Agro-Based Value Chains in the GMS*, ADB approved a Knowledge and Support Technical Assistance (TA) entitled **Greater Mekong Subregion Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program (SAFSP) for 5 years (April 2020 – March 2025)**. The **outcome** of the TA is: 'GMS investments in and capacity for climate-friendly, safe, and sustainable agri-food value chains increased'. The TA has three **outputs**: (i) Climate-friendly, inclusive, and gender-responsive agri-food value chains and agribusinesses strengthened; (ii) Harmonized crop and livestock safety and quality systems adopted; and (iii) Climate-adaptive agriculture in the context of the water-energy-food security nexus enhanced.

² Supported by FIA and University of Maryland. Phase 1 & Phase 2 took place in Singapore in December 2017 and January 2018 for scientists from all 6 GMS countries, Vietnam was selected as pilot country to conduct the in-country training for Phase 3, in Can Tho City from 8-12 October 2018. This initiative addressed lack of verification capacity to test for food contaminants of safety and trade impact concerns, such as aflatoxins, pesticides and veterinary drug residues resulting in loss of trust in the supply chain and lack of cross recognition of certificates of analysis which can devalue commodities and close some export markets.

³ Initiated in collaboration with GS1 and FIA to develop the capacity of growers, manufacturers/processors, distributors, and governments in applying the GS1 barcoding traceability systems. Stakeholders consultations and capacity building workshops were held in Cambodia, PRC, Myanmar, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam between November 2017 and April 2018. Demonstration pilots were undertaken for vegetables in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in May 2018 (Natural Garden retail shop), and in Dalat, Viet Nam for the dairy supply chain in mid 2019.

⁴ Aims to facilitate the establishment of an effective mechanism for operationalizing and accepting standards at both national and regional level and covers the mutual recognition of all three existing ASEAN agri-food standards: ASEAN Agricultural Best Practices, including good agricultural practices (GAP) for fruits/vegetables, good aquaculture practices (GAQP) for food fish, and good animal husbandry practices (GAHP) for poultry products including broilers and layers, with the flexibility for further adoption of additional agri-food standards.

⁵ Mutual recognition in accordance with a country's ability to meet two technical milestones, namely: (i) if existing national standards are aligned with the ASEAN Standards based on an alignment assessment process; and, ii) if national conformity accreditation bodies can meet relevant ISO standards.

In support of realizing output 2, the 18th Annual Meeting of the GMS Working Group on Agriculture will feature the theme of: “Achieving Agri-food Safety and Quality Harmonization and Traceability in the Greater Mekong Subregion in the context of COVID-19 and Climate Change.”

Objectives

1. To share national priorities of GMS countries for reinvigorating the agri-food sector in the context of COVID-19 and climate change;
2. To assess how the ASEAN Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment can be utilized to facilitate GMS agri-food trade in the GMS and beyond; and
3. To agree upon priority actions to support harmonized FSQ standards and digitization to enhance agri-food trade in the GMS and beyond.

Target participants

- GMS WGA representatives
- Technical department representatives from all GMS Ministries of Agriculture, and other related ministries (environment, science and technology, health, planning, and finance)
- Private sector (agribusiness) representatives
- Development partner representatives
- ADB
- TA 9916 consultant team

Expected output

1. 18th GMS WGA Annual Meeting Statement

Owing to prevailing COVID-19 situation and associated uncertainties, the GMS WGA annual meeting will be held virtually using the Zoom application in **English** language.

Agenda

| Date / Time (GMT+7) | Subject | Presenters |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| DAY 1: Wednesday, 7 July 2021 | | |
| Opening Session | | |
| 09:00 – 09:15 | Welcome Remarks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs, Deputy Permanent Secretary / WGA Coordinator, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand • Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, Environment, Natural Resource & Agriculture Division, Southeast Asia Department, ADB |
| 09:15 – 10:00 | Priorities for Reinvigorating the GMS Agri-food Sector in the Context of COVID-19 and Climate Change – Presentations by GMS WGA Representatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambodia (H.E. Dr. Prum Somany, Advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) / Director, Department of International Cooperation / WGA Coordinator, MAFF) • PRC (Ms. Liu Xiangzhou, Level 4 Investigator (Deputy Director level), Division of Asian and African Affairs, Department of International Cooperation, MARA and Ms. Zhang Bin, Associate Researcher, Asia Regional Cooperation Division / WGA Focal Point, Foreign Economic Cooperation Center, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs [MARA]) • Lao PDR (Dr. Thatsaka Saphangthong, Director General, Department of Policy and Legal Affairs / WGA Coordinator, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry) • Thailand (Mrs. Benjawan Siribhodi, Expert on International Agricultural Economics Policy, Office of Agricultural Economics, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives) |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnam (Mr. Nguyen Do Anh Tuan, Director General, International Cooperation Department / WGA Coordinator, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) |
| Session 1: Agri-Food Safety and Quality Harmonization | | |
| 10:00 – 10:20 | Keynote: Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Pham Quang Minh, Assistant Director, Sectoral Development Directorate, Head of Food, Agriculture and Forestry Division, ASEAN Economic Community Department, the ASEAN Secretariat |
| 10:20 – 11:10 | Panel discussion: Perspectives on ASEAN Harmonized Standards and GMS Countries as Early Adopters of MAMRASCA: What Needs to be Done? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lin Jing, Chinese Academy of Customs Administration, Vice President, PRC • Dr. Thavisith Bounyasouk, Director of Clean Agriculture Standard Center, Dept. of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao PDR • Dr. Nguyen Anh Phong – Director, Institute for Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development (IPSARD), Viet Nam • Dr. Ker Monthivuth, Director, Plant Protection, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Cambodia • Dr. Virachnee Lohachoompol Standards Officer, Senior Professional Level, National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS), Thailand |
| 11:10 – 11:30 | Open Discussion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator: Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, Executive Director, Mekong Institute, Thailand |
| Session 2: Role of the Private Sector in the Harmonization of Agri-food Standards on Safety and Quality | | |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Keynote: Harmonization of FSQ Standards in the GMS – Private Sector Perspectives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Chusak Chuenprayoth, Chairman, KCfresh, Thailand (Vegetables Exporter to Europe) • Dr. Phuwakji Rungtiwakornkij, Managing Director, The Big Trading, Thailand fruit exporter to PRC |
| 12:00 – 13:00 | Lunch Break | |
| 13:00 – 13:40 | Panel discussion: Feedback/ Reflections from private sector and organizations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natcha Sikaewnamsai, Senior Operations Manager – Food Service, Intertek Thailand • Mr. CHEN Qisheng, General Manager, China Certification and Inspection Group (CCIC) Cambodia Inc. • Dr. Chen Wei Ning, William, Director, Food Science & Technology, Programme, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore • Mrs. Sharmeen Khan, Chief Marketing Officer, OpsSmart, USA |
| 13:40 – 14:00 | Open Discussion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator: Mr. Suriyan Vichitlekarn, Executive Director, Mekong Institute, Thailand |
| Session 3: Implementing Food Safety Harmonization and Traceability Initiatives in the GMS | | |
| 14:00 – 14:30 | Presentation: GMS TA 9916-Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program – Plan and Actions to support GMS Food Safety and Quality Harmonization, Traceability and Digital Solutions for Harmonization and Trade | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vichelle Roaring-Arunsuwannakorn, TA 9916 Food Safety & Quality Specialist • Pier Paolo Ficarelli, TA 9916 Digital Agriculture & Innovation Specialist |
| 14:30 – 15:30 | Panel discussion: Panel member Views on the Proposed TA Action Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Suporn Pongnumkul, Senior Researcher, National Electronics and Computer Engineering Center, National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), Thailand |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Wonganan, Mae Klong Distribution Company Limited and Choke Anan Farm • Mr. Do Hoang Phuong, Director of the Global Food., JST company • Mr. Sayakone Onnaly, General Manager, CPC, Lao PDR, (climate friendly agriculture and export trade) • Mr. Bui Ba Chinh, Executive Manager of GS1 Vietnam-MOST Directorate of Standard Metrology and Quality of Vietnam (STAMEQ) • Arvind Betigeri, Regional Rice Fortification, World Food Programme – [on food fortification standards] |
| 15:30 – 15:50 | Open Discussion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator: Stewart Pittaway, TA 9916-SAFSP Team Leader |
| 15:50 – 16:00 | Day 1 Conclusion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vichelle Roaring-Arunsuwannakorn, TA 9916 Food Safety & Quality Specialist • Pier Paolo Ficarelli, TA 9916 Digital Agriculture & Innovation Specialist |
| DAY 2: Thursday, 8 July 2021 | | |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | Presentation: GMS Task Force on Food Safety and Quality and Digital Technologies [working title]: Draft TOR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vichelle Roaring-Arunsuwannakorn, TA 9916 Food Safety & Quality Specialist |
| | Feedback & Discussion | |
| 09:30 – 10:00 | Presentation of Draft WGA Annual Meeting Statement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Srinivasan Ancha, Principal Climate Change Specialist, Asian Development Bank |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Discussion on the Draft Statement and Adoption of the Statement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator: Dr. Srinivasan Ancha, Principal Climate Change Specialist, Asian Development Bank |
| Wrap Up and Closing | | |
| 10:30 – 11:20 | Final Expression of the GMS WGA Representatives | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambodia (H.E. Dr. Prum Somany, Advisor to the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) / Director, Department of International Cooperation / WGA Coordinator, MAFF) • PRC (Ms. Liu Xiangzhou, Level 4 Investigator (Deputy Director level), Division of Asian and African Affairs, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, P. R. China) • Lao PDR (Mr. Samlan Paseuthkhamla, Director of Economic Integration Division, Department of Policy and Legal Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry) • Thailand (Ms. Preyanat Thiabratana, Plan and Policy Analyst, Senior Professional Level, Bureau of Foreign Agricultural Affairs, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand) • Vietnam (Mr. Nguyen Thanh Dam, Head of Multilateral Cooperation Division / WGA Focal Point, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development) |
| 11:20 – 11:40 | Wrap Up and Summary of the Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Srinivasan Ancha, Principal Climate Change Specialist, ADB |
| 11:40 – 12:00 | Concluding Remarks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Jiangfeng Zhang, Director, Environment, Natural Resource & Agriculture Division, Southeast Asia Department, ADB • Mr. Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs, Deputy Permanent Secretary / WGA Coordinator, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives |

Annex 2

Priorities for Reinvigorating the GMS Agri-Food Sector in the Context of Covid-19 and Climate Change (presented by Ms. Zhang Bin)



Priorities for Reinvigorating the GMS Agri-food Sector in the Context of COVID-19 and Climate Change

P. R. China

18th Annual Meeting of the
GMS Working Group on Agriculture
7th July 2021



Outline

1. Achievement and Status quo of PRC Agri-food Sector

2. Outlook and Priorities

3. Recommendations in response to the impact of COVID-19 and climate change



1. Achievement and Status quo of PRC Agri-food Sector in 2020

- ✓ Food security
- ✓ Poverty alleviation
- ✓ Agricultural modernization and sustainability
- ✓ Rural industry development
- ✓ Smallholder farmers' livelihood

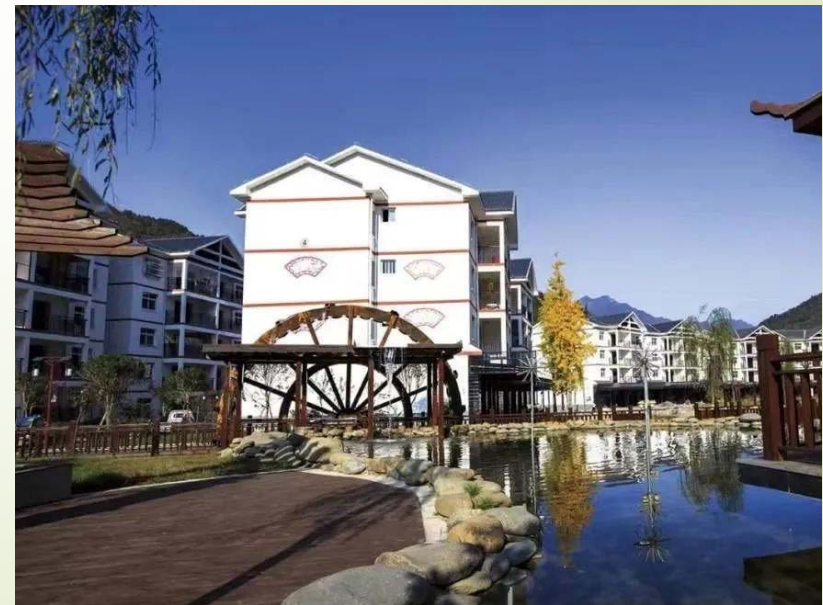
✓ Food security:

- "17 consecutive grain harvests", stable at over 0.65 trillion kg for six consecutive years;
- production capacity of live pigs basically returned to normal level



✓ Poverty alleviation:

- all rural poor population been lifted out of poverty:
832 former poor counties
128,000 former poor villages



✓ Agricultural modernization and sustainability

- contribution rate of agricultural sci-tech advancement exceeded 60%
- comprehensive mechanization rate of farming and harvesting reached 71%
- application of chemical fertilizers and pesticides negatively increased for 4 consecutive years
- comprehensive utilization rate of livestock and poultry manure exceeded 75%
- 10-year ban on fishing in Yangzi River started



✓ Rural industry development

- national agri-food processing business income reached 3.63 trillion USD
- rural online retail sales reached 27.9 million USD
- annual agricultural production trust service area exceeded 1.6 billion mu/times (15 mu=1 ha.)
- over 10 million entrepreneurs and innovation personnel returned to the countryside



✓ Smallholder farmers' livelihood

- villages all have access to national grid, hardened roads, and 4G networks.
- per capita disposable income of rural residents reached 2,677 USD, doubled that in 2010.
- rural public services further improved.
- more than 438,000 villages have completed the shareholding cooperative reform



2. Outlook and priorities

- Outlook: 2021--a year of critical significance
 - capacity to ensure grain and key agri-food supply further enhanced
 - access to daily food absolutely secured
 - maize planting area increase by 4%, and pork production up by about 20%.
 - Prices of agri-food expected to be maintained stable.

➤ Outlook: next 5 years

- structure of China's agri-food sector continue to be optimized; quality and efficiency of the sector development constantly improved.
- annual increase rate of output of maize, pork and dairy products etc. be more than 2%.
- unit output of maize and soybean will be largely lifted.
- The international trade of agri-food will be more active, and trade partners will be more diversified.

➤ Overall target for reinvigorating China's agri-food sector

In 2021

- structural reform of the agricultural supply side will be further promoted
- grain sown area remain stable and the output surpass 0.65 trillion kg
- pig industry develop steadily
- food safety and quality further improved
- income of farmers continue to grow faster than that of urban residents
- achievements in poverty alleviation consolidated

➤ Overall target for reinvigorating China's agri-food sector

By 2025

- agricultural foundation be more stable
- supply of grain and key agri-food be more secure
- agricultural production structure and layout significantly optimized
- quality, efficiency and competitiveness of agri-food sector significantly improved
- a modern rural industrial system basically formed, and regions meeting conditions getting ahead to basically realize agricultural modernization
- Poverty alleviation results consolidated and expanded
- income gap between urban and rural residents continue to narrow
- Positively progress in green transformation of rural production and lifestyle, the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides continue to decrease, and the rural ecological environment significantly improved

Priorities



Enhance the ability to guarantee the supply of grain and key agri-food

Reinvigorate the seed industry

Resolutely hold the red line of 1.8 billion mu (0.12 billion ha) of arable land

Strengthen technological and material support to modern agriculture

Build a modern rural industrial system

Promote the green development of agriculture

Promote the establishment of a modern agricultural management system

❖ 3. Recommendations in response to the impact of COVID-19 and climate change

In midst of COVID-19 and climate change, many problem of China's agri-food sector are exposed

There are also development opportunities for new sales models of agricultural products such as green and healthy specialty agricultural products, live webcasts, and the cold chain distribution system of agricultural products.





Recommendations:

1. Actively develop specialty agricultural products and build well-known brands
2. Cultivate new agricultural business entities and promote industrialized management
3. Strengthen the establishment of agricultural product traceability system and form a closed loop of quality management

谢谢！ Thank you!



Annex 3

Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment (presentation by Dr. Pham Quang Minh)



ASEAN Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment (MAMRASCA)



By: Dr. Pham Quang Minh

*Assistant Director
Head of Food, Agriculture and Forestry
The ASEAN Secretariat*



CONTENT

1. Introduction about MAMRASCA
2. Expectations for MAMRASCA towards regional trade
3. What have the AMS done to prepare for MAMRASCA?
4. What needs to be done at the GMS level to support the early adoption of MAMRASCA?
5. Covid-19 Responses initiatives in supporting ASEAN food safety mutual recognition initiatives



1. Introduction about MAMRASCA

- As ASEAN member states (AMS) move toward full realization of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), there is a need to promote intra-regional trade of agri-food products by improving food safety and sector competitiveness.
- One barrier to achieving this objective is the existence of at least 10 different national standards and conformity assessment systems for agri-food products across the 10 AMS. This caused many challenges for exporters to access ASEAN markets.
- To address the challenges, a proposal to develop the Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment” (MAMRASCA) was endorsed by SOM-AMAF in August 2017.



The **MAMRASCA** aims to:

establish an effective mechanism for operationalizing and accepting ASEAN standards on agriculture at both national and regional level to facilitate intra ASEAN trade



2. Expectation for MAMRASCA to contribute to regional trade

- The introduction of the MAMRASCA will be an important step towards greater regional integration in the agrifood sector. It will help facilitate trade for agrifood products amongst the AMS.
- MAMRASCA is expected to be a regional mechanism that cover regional standards, certification and accreditation bodies to ensure food safety in ASEAN in the value chain.
- MAMRASCA is expected to remove NTBs, and facilitate increased flows of goods bi-laterally and regionally.
- However, MAMRASCA should also not be expected to be a panacea for buyers.



3. What have the AMS done to prepare for MAMRASCA?

a. AMS Standards Alignment:

- **Good Agriculture Practice Standards (GAP):** The most progress has been achieved towards aligning AMS national standards the GAP for fruits and vegetables.- *Implemented by the EWG-GAP.*
- **Good Animal Husbandry Practice Standards (GAHP):** AMS is in the process of aligning their national standards with ASEAN GAHP for layers and broilers. – *Implemented by the EWG-GAHP.*
- **Good Aquaculture Practice Standards (GAqP):** All AMSs have a National GAqP in place which aligns with ASEAN GAqP.- *Implemented by the EWG-GAqP.*

b. Conformity Assessment Bodies: No information related to the compliance of national CABs against the relevant ISO Standards (*if certification bodies have met ISO 17065; if accreditation bodies have met ISO 17011; and if labs have met ISO 17025*)



c. ASEAN Standards for Horticultural produces

To date: More than 60 ASEAN standards have been established;

- ASEAN Standards for mango, potato, pineapple, banana, melons, dragon fruits and etc
 - The details of these standards can be found at

asean.org/asean-economic-community/asean-ministerial-meeting-on-agriculture-and-forestry-amaf/other-documents/

Challenges for operating MAMRASCA

- ASEAN Standards/guidelines on agriculture are mostly voluntary.
- The accreditation and certification procedures vary in the AMS.
- Different capacity for certification and laboratory infrastructure is observed in the AMS.
- Private sector's recognition and adoption on the MAMRASCA is a concern in the AMS.



Private sector's views

In 2017, the ASEC conducted a market survey of buy-side actors operating across AMS in the agrifood sector. The results indicate several important insights into the awareness, perceptions, and key concerns from market actors:

- **Awareness of ASEAN Standards:** Only 50% of the buy-side market actors surveyed were aware of the ASEAN Standards.
- **Perception of ASEAN Standards:** The vast majority of respondents see the implementation of regional standards across AMS as a positive development for their business interests.
- **Key Concerns from the Private Sector:** Some national standards are viewed by the private sector as tools to create trade barriers and protect local producers.

How has the MAMRASCA been developed?

| MRA or Agreement | Remarks |
|---|---|
| ASEAN Framework Agreement on Mutual Recognition Arrangements | Agreement on the process and approach to MRAs within ASEAN. |
| ASEAN Guidelines for the Development of MRAs (Second Edition, 2018) | These guidelines, extracted below, recommend a process for consensus text development. |
| ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Tourism Professionals | These Arrangements establish the common practice for ASEAN sectoral MRA texts, and limited involvement of private sector stakeholders. |
| ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement Framework on Accountancy Services | |
| ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Architectural Services | |
| ASEAN Sectoral MRA for Electrical and Electronic Equipment (ASEAN EE MRA) | |
| The EU Mutual Recognition Arrangement | |
| US-Japan Mutual Recognition of Organic Agriculture | Example MRA texts from other jurisdictions will provide sample provisions on key provisions such as a process for recognition of equivalence, designation of certain MRA stakeholders, and overall approach to technical standards. |
| Canada-Thailand Equivalence Agreement for Seafood Trade | |
| The APEC Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Conformity Assessment of Foods and Food Products | |
| The Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Arrangement | |
| China-NZ Electrical and Electronic Equipment Mutual Recognition Agreement (EEE MRA) | TBA |
| Additional Precedents | |



A taskforce has been established to develop MAMRASCA

Members of the taskforce

Focal points of EWG-GAP

Focal points of EWG-GAHP

Focal points of GAqP

Private sector can be invited to share their experience



Outlines of the MRA text

- 1. Title and Preamble:** sets the context and background to the treaty-level commitments in the MRA.
- 2. Objectives:** establishes a clear set of objectives, and is often used to interpret provisions of the agreement when there is dispute.
- 3. Definitions and Scope:** defines technical terms and sets the limits of application, including non-impact on existing domestic regulation, non-application to product standards etc.
- 4. Mutual Recognition Arrangements:** the key operative provisions of the MRA that establish the principle of mutual recognition upon meeting specified commitments. The provisions in this section will establish Milestone 1 (Standards alignment) and Milestone 2 (CAB recognition) as objectives for AMS to meet at their own pace.

- 5. MAMRASCA Institutional Arrangements:** this establishes the Joint Sectoral Committee, the three Technical Committees (with limited Private Sector engagement), and links these institutions with existing AMAF institutions. The Institutional Arrangement provisions will also require the notification of a national Designating Body for each AMS.
- 6. Amendments:** standard inclusion in ASEAN treaties to allow for amendment of the MRA.
- 7. Dispute Settlement:** standard inclusion in ASEAN treaties to allow for settlement of disputes between AMS with regard to the MRA.
- 8. Final Provisions:** standard inclusion in ASEAN treaties to deal with entry into force and other administrative matters.
- 9. Appendices:** appendices to the MRA are likely to include existing ASEAN Agrifood Standards, and perhaps some contact points.



4. What needs to be done at the GMS level to support the early adoption of MAMRASCA?

- Continue to focus on the common understanding of food safety, and quality issues among the countries to come up with better multisector coordination and cooperation.
- Continue to focus on the improvement of the control of food safety risks in agri-food trade.
- Continue to align the national standards (GAP, GAHP and GAqP, and product standards) with the ASEAN Standards.
- Continue to improve capacity of certification and lab bodies to meet international standards (ISO).

5. Covid-19 Responses initiatives in support ASEAN food safety mutual recognition initiatives

- **Statement of AMAF in response to the outbreak of COVID 19 to ensure food security, food safety and nutrition (April 2020)**

Strengthen AMAF's joint efforts in advocating, facilitating and implementing the ASEAN Food Safety Policy (AFSP) and the ASEAN Food Safety Regulatory Framework (AFSRF) to provide direction to relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and ASEAN Member States with the goal of protecting the health of ASEAN consumers, ensuring fair practices in food trade and facilitating the free movement of safe food products in ASEAN;

- **Study on COVID-19 pandemic implication on agriculture and food consumption, production and trade in AMS (February 2021)**

There is a need to revisit food safety practices in AMS.



Thank you for your attention!

Annex 4

Harmonization of FSQ Standards in the GMS –
Private Sector Perspectives (presentation on
KCFresh by Mr. Chusak Chuenprayoth)

KCFRESH 



FARM / SUPPLIERS



PACKING HOUSE

MANAGEMENT

Deliver raw materials to the packing house with cool truck

TRACEABILITY system

COOL CHAIN MANAGEMENT

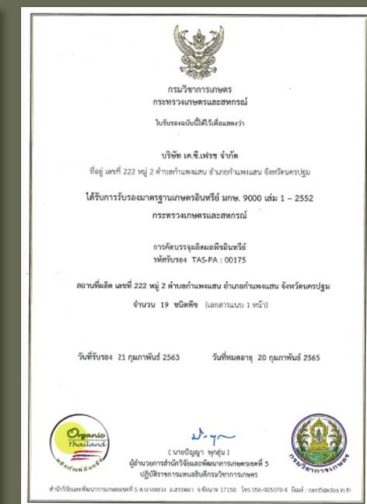
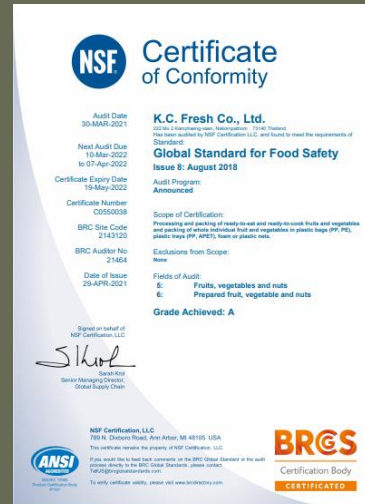
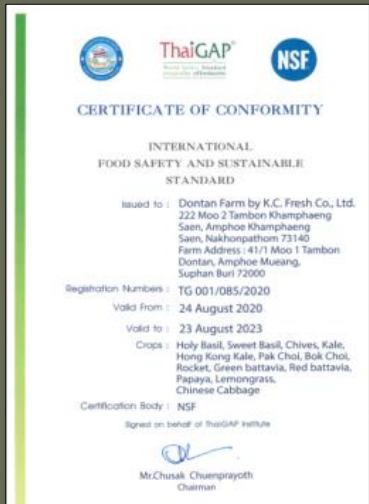
PRACTICED UNDER ETI Base Code (Ethical Trading Initiative) under the standard of SMETA SEDEX

CERTIFIED WITH

- THAIGAP
- QGAP
- ORGANIC THAILAND

CERTIFIED WITH

- BRC GLOBAL STANDARD FOR FOOD SAFETY
- GMP and HACCP
- ORGANIC Thailand





KCFRESH

PRODUCTS



KCFRESH

PRODUCTS : Fresh Vegetables

KCFRESH PRODUCTS : Fresh Vegetables

Retail Packing



Packing in Polystyrene box with jell ice packs or in Cardboard box



Wholesale Packing





KCFRESH

PRODUCTS : Ready to Cook

KCFRESH PRODUCTS : Ready to Cook





KCFRESH

PRODUCTS : Ready to Eat

KCFRESH PRODUCTS : Ready to Eat





KCFRESH

Organic products under the name of

organic+
By **KCFRESH**

Organic⁺

BY KCFRESH



Organic Kale "Curly"

Organic Kale "Dino"

Organic Spinach

Organic White aubergine

KCFRESH

OEM PROJECT

We provide the experiences to produce the products according to the Customer's specifications.



Party Salad & Salad Mixed , Ready to Eat Available at Seven-Eleven, Thailand



READY TO EAT

KC FRESH ร่วมเป็นส่วนหนึ่งในการผลิตผักสลัดพร้อมทาน* ให้คุณได้อิ่มท้องพร้อมสุขภาพดีที่ 7-11

*ปาร์ตี้สลัดและสลัดมีกิลัด ผักผลิตโดย KC FRESH วางจำหน่ายที่ 7-11 โซนพระรามสอง, มหาชัยและเส้นเพชรเกษมมุ่งหน้าลงใต้



Our Customer:

Overseas:

SATURNALIA UK in UK
Kafer in Germany
Tropical Flora in Russia
Showa in Japan

In Thailand:

Tops Supermarket,
FoodLand,
Home Fresh Mart,
Max Value,
Lemon Farm,
Tang Hua Seng,
Golden Place,
RimPing (ChiangMai),
CP All
Etc.



Overseas : within 48 hrs.

Local : within 24 hrs ,daily delivery

KCFRESH FRESH DELIVERY

In order to help restrain the spread of Covid 19, KC Fresh has built up the team to deliver our Fresh Produces directly to the customer in Bangkok,

Pathumthani, Samutprakarn and Nakornpathom.

The customer can get various products any day even when they are at home. The products are delivered with our experienced drivers in our cold trucks with the procedure to avoid the virus, to ensure the customer that their orders are delivered with safety and fresh.

The customer can order our products & services via

1. www.facebook.com/ThailandKCFresh
2. Official Line @KC Fresh



KC FRESH DELIVERY
- DELIVER TO YOU WITH FRESH -

สั่งครบ 300 บาท จัดส่งฟรี!!





LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Agro Master of The World

With more than 20 years of Solid Business Management, **Mr. Chusak Chuenprayoth** – The President of KC Fresh has built up the Strong Organization to challenge the Next Step of Success from 2021 and onward by kick-starting New Agro-Innovation under Theme of **AGRO-MASTER OF THE WORLD** to collaborate with New Investors. The Next Step is to produce a sound business plan, in order to bring potential investors, relevant stakeholders, as well as business partners on board. This Proposal is drafted to advise Business Feasibility, and Business Plan.



PLANT FACTORY

*An Indoor Vertical Farming System
for Efficient Quality Food Production*



THANK YOU



www.kcfresh.com



www.facebook.com/ThailandKCFresh

Annex 5

Harmonization of FSQ Standards in the GMS –
Private Sector Perspectives (presentation on The
Big Trading Co., Ltd. by Dr. Phuwakji
Rungtiwakornkij)

THE BIG
TRADING CO.,LTD

บริษัท เดอะบิกพีเทรดดิ้ง จำกัด



THE IMPORT PROMOTION OF FROZEN AND FRESH-FRUIT PRODUCTS

Dr. Phuwakij Rungtiwakornkij

Managing Director (MD) The Big P Trading Co., Ltd



The Big P Trading Co., Ltd

- (1) Frozen and fresh -fruit products.
- (2) The import promotion of frozen and fresh-fruit products.

At present, the demand for frozen and fresh - fruit products has been increasing which leads entrepreneurs to import frozen - fruit products to satisfy consumers' needs.



Although Thailand has allowed the entrepreneurs to import frozen and fresh-fruit products, in practice there are some restrictions on legal guidelines and measures related to frozen and fresh - fruit product importation.

These cause problems and obstacles for the importation and do not correspond to the government policies to support and promote frozen and fresh - fruit product importation.

The legal guidelines and measures related to this should be amended to promote the frozen and fresh - fruit product importation and the entrepreneurs importing this kind of products. To benefit the consumers in choosing the products and comparing the quality products as well as to satisfy consumers' needs.





- **Experience exporting Thai product to PRC and importing products form PRC to Thailand.**
- **Quality standard to promote market access to PRC**
- **How improved to facilitate cross - border trade?**

THAILAND



1. Human development
2. Level of Education
3. Plant and crops identification from the officer
4. Conduct of authority process (monitoring, sampling, inspection, investigation)

CHINA



1. Standard level of (safety) for chemical residue
2. Artificial and "fake" food
3. Products description



*THANK
YOU*

Annex 6

Panel Member Discussion Paper: China's Safety and Quality Requirements for Imported Agriculture Products (presented by Mr. Chen Qisheng)

China's Safety and Quality Requirements for Imported Agricultural Products

China Certification & Inspection (Group) Co., Ltd.

CCIC (Camcodia) Co. Ltd. MR. Chen Qi Sheng

July 7, 2021

Part One

China's Quarantine, Safety and Quality Requirements for Imported Agricultural Products

China's quarantine, safety and quality requirements for imported agricultural products are mainly reflected in the following three aspects.

The first is the plant quarantine requirements, the second is the toxic and hazardous substance limit requirements, and the third is the commodity quality requirements.

1. Plant Quarantine Requirements

It is stipulated that imported agricultural products shall not carry harmful organisms such as plant diseases, pests and weed seeds that are dangerous to plant growth, and shall not carry soil. Therefore, cassava chips, corn, rice, eucalyptus chips and other products exported to China must be fumigated and exterminated after shipment. At the same time, an official phytosanitary certificate must be issued by the government department of the host country, and it must declare that it does not carry any pests of concern to China.

2. Limit Requirements for Toxic and Hazardous Substances

In terms of heavy metal and pesticide residue limit requirements, it must meet China's national food safety standards-"Maximum Residue Limits of Pesticides in Food (GB 2763-2019)" and "Limits of Contaminants in Food (GB 2762-2017)" and "Food The limit of mycotoxins (GB 2761-2017)".

The main heavy metals are: Inorganic arsenic , Mercuriy(Hg) , Lead(Pb) , Cadmium(Cd) , Chromium.

The main pesticide residues are: Phosphides , Malathion , Methyl parathion , Phoxim , Methophos , Monocrotophos , Methamidophos , Acephate , Glyphosate , , Paraquat , Trichlorfon , Dichlorvos , Deltamethrin , Bifenthrin , Omethoate , Carbaway , Carbendazim , Tebuconazole , Chlorothalonil , Benzo[a]pyrene (BaP) .

In addition, there are also requirements for other toxins, such as Aflatoxin B, Ochratoxin, Vomitoxin (Don) , Zearalenone and so on.

3. Product Quality Requirements

It is generally implemented in accordance with the commodity quality requirements of the importing country and the terms of the trade contract signed by the buyer and the seller.

Part Two

Limit Value of Safety Items

for Major Agricultural Products exported to China

Here, we will introduce the safety project limit values for the export of major agricultural products to China in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) and the types of certificates required.

2.1 Rice

2.1.1 Certificates required for rice export to China

For rice exported to China, the following 8 certificates are required:

- a. Quantity/Quality Certificate
- b. Packaging certificate
- c. Annual Production Certificate
- d. Container Sanitation Certificate

- e. Hazardous Substance Residue Certificate
- f. Fumigation Certificate
- g. Certificate of origin (shall be issued by the Ministry of Commerce of the host country).
- h. Phytosanitary Certificate (shall be issued by the competent agricultural department of the country where it is located).

2.1.2 The main heavy metals and pollutants limit values of rice.

| tem | limit |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Lead (Pb) 铅 | <0.20 mg/kg |
| Cadmium (Cd) 镉 | <0.20 mg/kg |
| Mercury (Hg) 汞 | <0.02 mg/kg |
| Abio-arsinic (As) 无机砷 | <0.20 mg/kg |
| Chromium (Cr) 铬 | <1.0 mg/kg |
| Phosphides 磷化物 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| Monocrotophos 久效磷 | <0.02 mg/kg |
| Dimethoate 乐果 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| DDT 滴滴涕 | <0.10 mg/kg |
| BHC 六六六 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| Aflatoxin B1 黄曲霉毒素 B1 | <10 µg/kg |
| Ochratoxin 赭曲霉毒素 | <5 µg/kg |

2.1.3 Main quality Items of rice

According to the "Chinese National Standard for Rice (GBT1354-2018)", high-quality rice must Must meet the requirements of the following quality items.

| Item | limit |
|-------------------|---------|
| Moisture | ≤14.5 % |
| Small broken rice | ≤1.0 % |
| Yellow Kernels | ≤0.5 % |
| Chalkiness degree | ≤8.0 % |
| Defective Kernels | ≤3.0 % |
| Extraneous Matter | ≤0.25 % |
| Color and smell | Normal |

Milling Degree

Extra Well

Milled

2.2 Corn (Maize)

2.2.1 Certificates required for corn export to China

Corn exported to China must have 9 certificates.

- a. Weight/Quantity Certificate
- b. Quality Certificate
- c. Health Certificate of Fitness
- d. Hazardous Substance Residue Certificate
- e. Toxin content Certificate
- f. Fumigation Certificate
- g. Certificate of Origin
- h. Phytosanitary Certificate
- i. Certificate of Non-GMO Product

2.2.2 The main heavy metals and pollutants limit values of corn.

| Item | limit |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Lead (Pb) 铅 | <0.20 mg/kg |
| Cadmium (Cd) 镉 | <0.10 mg/kg |
| Mercury (Hg) 汞 | <0.02 mg/kg |
| Total arsenic (As) 总砷 | <0.50 mg/kg |
| Chromium(Cr) 铬 | <1.0 mg/kg |
| Ethylene debromide (EDB) 乙烯脱溴 | <10 µg/kg |
| Aflatoxin B1 黄曲霉毒素 B1 | <20 µg/kg |
| Ochratoxin 赭曲霉毒素 | <5 µg/kg |
| Zearalenone 玉米赤霉烯酮 | <60 µg/kg |
| Vomitoxin (Don) 呕吐毒素 | <1.0 mg/kg |

2.2.3 Main quality Items of corn

The limit Items for the following specific quality items are usually negotiated by the buyer and the seller.

| Item | limit |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Test weight | MT |
| Moisture | % |
| Broken & Immature kernels | % |
| Total damaged kernels | % |
| Other coloured kernels | % |
| Weevilled kernels | % |
| Foreign matter | % |

2.2.4 List of pests that cannot be carried

The phytosanitary certificate of corn exported to China must state the The corn batches exported to China did not carry the following plant pathogens, pests and weeds of concern to China:

- a. *Pantoea stewartii* subsp. *Stewartii* (E.F. Smith) Mergaert et al
- b. *Peronosclerospora sorghi* (Weston & Uppal) Shaw
- c. *Prostephanus truncatus* (Horn)
- d. *Trogoderma granarium* Everts
- e. *Sorghum Almus* Parodi
- d. *Sorghum halepense* (L.) Pers.

2.3. Cassava chips

2.3.1 Certificates required for exporting cassava chips to China

For cassava chips exported to China, the following 7 certificates are required:

- a. Weight/Quantity Certificate
- b. Quality Certificate
- c. Health Certificate of fitness
- d. Hazardous Substance Residue Certificate
- e. Fumigation Certificate
- f. Certificate of Origin

g. Phytosanitary Quarantine Certificate

2.3.2 The main heavy metals and pollutants limit values of cassava chips

| Item | limit |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Lead (Pb)铅 | <0.20 mg/kg |
| Cadmium (Cd)镉 | <0.10 mg/kg |
| Mercury (Hg)汞 | <0.01 mg/kg |
| Abio-arsinic (As)总砷 | <0.50 mg/kg |
| Chromium(Cr)铬 | <0.50 mg/kg |
| Trichlorfon 敌百虫 | <10 mg/kg |
| Dimethoate 乐果 | <10 mg/kg |
| Chlorpyrifos 毒死蜱 | <5 mg/kg |
| Glyphosate 草甘膦 | <60 mg/kg |
| Sulfur Dioxide(SO ₂)二氧化硫 | <3 mg/kg |

0

2.3.3 Main quality items of cassava chips

The main quality items of cassava chips mainly include the following 4 items:

| Item | limit |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Moisture 水分 | % |
| Starch 淀粉 | % |
| Raw fibre 粗纤维 | % |
| Foreign matter or sand /Silica 杂质或砂石 | % |

2.4 Tapioca starch

2.4.1 Certificates required for exporting starch to China

Starch exported to China requires the following 5 certificates:

- Weight/Quantity Certificate
- Quality certificate
- Fumigation certificate
- Certificate of origin

d. Phytosanitary certificate

2.4.2 Limit values of main pesticide residues and pollutants of starch

| Item | limit |
|--|------------------------|
| Lead (Pb) 铅 | <0.20 mg/kg |
| Cadmium (Cd) 镉 | <0.10 mg/kg |
| Mercury (Hg) 汞 | <0.01 mg/kg |
| Abio-arsinic (As) 总砷 | <0.50 mg/kg |
| Chromium (Cr) 铬 | <0.50 mg/kg |
| Total number of colonies 菌落总数 | <10 ⁵ CFU/g |
| Coliform 大肠菌群 | <10 ³ CFU/g |
| Mold and yeast 霉菌和酵母 | <10 ³ CFU/g |
| Sulfur Dioxide((SO ₂) 二氧化硫 | <3 mg/kg |

0

2.4.3 The main quality items of starch

| Item | limit |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Starch 淀粉 | 85 PCT MIN |
| Moisture 水分 | 13 PCT MIN |
| ASH 灰分 | 0.30 PCT MIN |
| Pulp(cc/50g) 纸浆 | 0.40 MAX |
| PH 酸碱度 | 5.0- 7.0 |
| Viscosity 粘度 | 700 BU MIN |
| Whiteness 白度 | 90 PCT MIN |
| Fineness(150Mic) 细度 | 99 PCT MIN |
| SO ₂ 二氧化硫 | 30 PPM MAX |

2.5 Fresh fruits (banana, mango, durian, etc.)

2.5.1 Certificates required for exporting fresh fruits to China

Fresh fruits exported to China need to be accompanied by the following 5 certificates:

a. Weight/Quantity Certificate

- b. Hazardous Substance Residue Certificate
- c. Container Sanitation Certificate
- d. Certificate of Origin
- e. Phytosanitary certificate

2.5.2 The main pesticide residue and pollutant limit values of fresh fruits

a. Banana

| Item (Banana) | limit |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 铅 Lead (Pb) | <0.20 mg/kg |
| 镉 Cadmium (Cd) | <0.05 mg/kg |
| 多菌灵 Carbendazim | <2.0 mg/kg |
| 百菌清 Chlorothalonil | <0.20 mg/kg |
| 毒杀芬 Toxaphene | <0.05 mg/kg |
| 杀虫脒 Chlordimeform | <0.01 mg/kg |
| 氧乐果 Omethoate | <0.02 mg/kg |
| 乐果 Dimethoate | <0.02 mg/kg |
| 敌敌畏 Dichlorvos | <0.20 mg/kg |
| 草甘膦 Glyphosate | <0.10 mg/kg |
| 灭线磷 Methophos | <0.02 mg/kg |
| 久效磷 Monocrotophos | <0.03 mg/kg |
| 甲胺磷 Methamidophos | <0.05 mg/kg |
| 蝇毒磷 Coumaphos | <0.05 mg/kg |
| 乙酰甲胺磷 Acephate | <0.05 mg/kg |
| 甲基对硫磷 Methyl parathion | <0.02 mg/kg |
| 甲基硫环磷 Thiophos-methyl | <0.03 mg/kg |
| 联苯菊酯 Bifenthrin | <0.10 mg/kg |
| 溴氰菊酯 Deltamethrin | <0.05 mg/kg |

b. Mango

| Item (Mango) | limit |
|----------------|-------------|
| Lead (Pb) 铅 | <0.20 mg/kg |
| Cadmium (Cd) 镉 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| Glyphosate 草甘膦 | <0.20 mg/kg |

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Omethoate 氧乐果 | <0.02 mg/kg |
| Carbaway 克百威 | <0.02 mg/kg |
| Carbendazi 多菌灵 m | <0.50 mg/kg |
| Phoxim 辛硫磷 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| Tebuconazole 戊唑醇 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| Deltamethrin 溴氰菊酯 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| Methyl parathion 甲基对硫磷 | <0.02 mg/kg |

c. Durian

| Item (Durian) | limit |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Lead (Pb) 铅 | <0.10 mg/kg |
| Cadmium (Cd) 镉 | <0.05 mg/kg |
| 敌敌畏 Dichlorvos | <0.2 mg/kg |
| 杀螟硫磷 Fenitrothion | <0.5 mg/kg |
| 倍硫磷 Fenthion | <0.05 mg/kg |
| 氰戊菊酯 Fenvalerate | <0.2 mg/kg |
| 乙酰甲胺磷 Acephate | <0.5 mg/kg |

2.5.3 Main quality Items of fresh fruits

Generally, the buyer and seller determine the specifications and size requirements of the product.

Third part:

CCIC applies GAP, Implements Food Safety Standards and Provides Product Traceability Services

In recent years, the Cambodian company team of China Inspection Group (CCIC) has given full play to its professional and technical advantages, Committed to promoting the export of more high-quality agricultural products from Cambodia and Laos to China.

We provide pre-shipment inspection and certification for rice and other agricultural products exported to China, and guide rice processing plants to apply Chinese rice quality standards and carry out measures to improve rice quality. Good results have

been achieved. The quality of rice exported to China is guaranteed and the number of Cambodian rice exports to China is increased (Increased from 5,000 tons in 2012 to 260,000 tons in 2020) and Laos' exports of Chinese glutinous rice reached 50,000 tons, which played a role in safeguarding China-Cambodia and China-Laos trade.

We also went deep into various agricultural production areas, orchards, and processing plants to help banana and mango manufacturers apply Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), use chemical fertilizers and pesticides scientifically, carry out epidemic monitoring, do quarantine matters, and implement quarantine and pest control treatments, etc. It also provided full-process quality supervision and traceability services for agricultural products exported to China, and played an active role in the direct export of Cambodian fresh bananas, fresh mangoes, and aquatic products to China, and won high praise from Cambodian agricultural enterprises, all walks of life, and domestic and foreign importers and exporters.

Annex 7

GMS TA 9916 – Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program – Plan of Actions to Support the GMS Food Safety and Quality Harmonization, Traceability and Digital Technologies (presentation by Ms. Vichelle Roaring-Arunsuwannakorn and Pier Paolo Ficarelli)



GMS TA 9916-Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program

Plan and Actions to Support GMS Food Safety and Quality Harmonization, Traceability and Digital Technologies

Vichelle Roaring Arunsuwannakorn / TA
9916 Food TA Food Safety and Quality Specialist

Pier Paolo Ficarelli/ TA 9916 Digital Agriculture
and Innovation Specialist



FOOD SAFETY THREATS cuts across national borders

haiger

THAILAND

Fruit buyer arrested for allegedly using counterfeit certificates to export durian

Published 1 week ago on Tuesday, June 22, 2021
By Jack Arthur




Latest News Thailand News

Rooting out on Thai exporters selling unripe and false origin Durian to China

By Pattaya Mail June 27, 2021 782 0

f 29 Tweet

IKEA SALE IKEA Thailand
IKEA Sale



Mr. Chalermchai has issued an order to take serious criminal and civil action against the scam, including removal of GAP and GMP certification from the exporters selling Vietnamese durians as being from Thailand, calling for an operation to root out sellers of unripe durians to be expanded to include the new offenders.

The Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives has ordered serious action against unscrupulous importers selling off fruit from Vietnam as Thai durian, while Chinese media have voiced confidence that Thai authorities will remedy the situation.

Vision:

GMS being a leading supplier of Safe and Climate-Friendly Agri-food Products

TA 9916 Outcome Indicators



At least 60 agribusinesses and 500 farmers (30% women) gained capacity for adopting safe, climate-friendly agricultural practices



Pipeline of investment projects for ADB and the private sector of at least \$600 million on safe, climate-friendly agri-food value chains leveraged



5 Key Priorities

Under TA 9916 for Promoting Safe and Climate Friendly Agri-food Products in the GMS

- 1** Policy coherence on food safety and quality through mutual recognition of ASEAN standards, and equivalence recognition by PRC
- 2** Build capacity for mutual recognition/verification for safe and climate-friendly agri-food products
- 3** Deployment of digital technologies for traceability of safe and climate friendly agri-foods
- 4** Contribute to COVID-19 recovery efforts by enabling smallholder farmer direct access to higher value markets
- 5** Engage with development partners and private sector on harmonized Food Safety and Quality management systems and digital transformation

Action 1: Policy coherence on food safety and quality through mutual recognition of ASEAN standards, and equivalence recognition by PRC

- “GMS WGA Technical Task Force on Food Safety and Quality and Digital Transformation of Agri-food Value Chains.”
- Joint GMS roadmap and plan of action—geared towards GMS countries as the early adopters of MAMRASCA.
- Target: **Ministerial level endorsement or joint undertaking** on Food Safety and Quality during the 3rd Agriculture Minister’s Meeting in 2022 or 2023.



VietGAP



Action 2: Build capacity for mutual recognition/verification for safe and climate-friendly agri-food products

- Training of government representatives (training of trainers and scientist trainings, laboratories)
- Support programs for agribusinesses (in collaboration with government agencies, development partners and research and academic institutions) that want to transition to ASEAN/international standards.
- Relevant production technical guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures
- Recommendations for investing and upgrading laboratories to improve testing capacity and quality accreditation
- Recognition/accreditation of testing facilities for SPS/MRLs to eliminate multiple testing to meet various standards/import requirements



Pilots: Proof of Concept of Mutual Recognition of Standards (Action 2)

- **Mutual Recognition Agreements for GAP and traceability.** Pilot on multilateral mutual recognition of GAP and cross-border traceability practices (i.e. barcode technology) for export of fruits and vegetables.

Examples:

- Fruits: CLMVT countries to PRC
 - Off-season veggies: Lao to Thailand (Tesco) during off season
 - Potential for fast track “green lane at border crossing points guided by the GMS CBTA (i.e. single stop inspection)
- **Certified agri-food for e-commerce**
 - Certification standards in e-commerce platform to build consumer trust for fresh produce for smallholders.



Leverage pilots to accelerate sustainable, green, pro-poor and commercially viable digital solutions and innovations that could eventually lead to potential investments and long-term partnerships.

Action 3: Deployment of digital technologies for traceability of safe and climate friendly agri-foods

Drive E-traceability in support to smallholders and regional exporters for mutual FSQ standards recognition

| FOR DOING THINGS RIGHT | FOR DOING THE RIGHT THING |
|--|---|
| Support small-medium exporters to adopt e-traceability | Training farmer organizations in GAP |
| Use of GS1 barcoding standards | Share certification costs with agribusiness |
| Data sharing for end-to-end traceability | Offer support services to agribusinesses |
| Interoperability with different applications | Obtain higher farmgate price for farmers by reducing middlemen transactions |
| FSQ Assurance System adoption | Assure transparent payment transactions to farmers |

Fast tracking delivery of e-traceability innovation for crop-based value chains in cross-border trade (Action 3)

Assessment for e-traceability solutions may follow two action thrusts initially:

1. Building on existing National e-traceability initiatives and BCT platforms or portals
 - ❑ **E.g. Vietnam, Thailand, PRC**
2. Agribusiness partnerships with an e-traceability service provider under a National umbrella ensuring FSQ traceability standards and alignment with regulatory frameworks

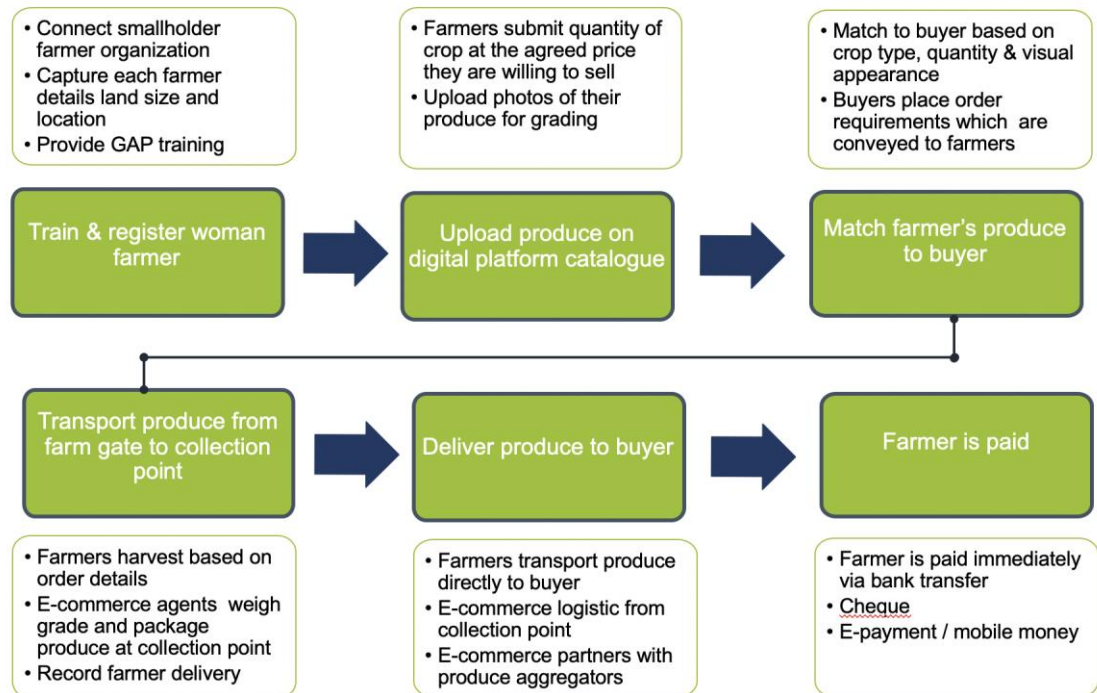
Action 4: Contribute to COVID-19 recovery efforts by enabling smallholder farmer direct access to higher value markets

Connecting small scale producers directly to end consumers through higher value/ e-commerce fresh produce value chains improves incomes and COVID-19 recovery

Farm-to-market digital platforms offer solutions to the acute lack of market access for small scale producers

- Shorten supply chain
- Eliminate middlemen
- Decrease transport costs to market yards through produce aggregation
- Increase farm gate prices
- Farmers can set prices for their produce based on actual National market price
- Algorithms match farmers to appropriate buyers based on price and grade preference.

Generic Model for Farm –to- Market Platforms



Support of direct from- farm-to -market links & partnerships to enable digital technology innovation (Action 4)

Assessment for farmer-to-markets links digital solutions follow two other threads:

1. Building on existing National public sector partnerships initiatives with e-Commerce businesses for farmer direct link with end consumers
 - ❑ E.g. Vietnam with Sendo, Thailand with Grab Mart , PRC Pinduoduo
2. Supporting fresh produce market buyers/exporters to partner with a digital platform service provider under a National umbrella facilitating farmer training and GAP certification

Action 5: Engage with development partners and private sector on harmonized Food Safety and Quality management systems and digital technologies

Engaging development partners and private sector for identifying areas of support and investment pipelines is key to reach the GMS vision for safe and climate-friendly agri-products

FOUR PILLARS FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTORS ENGAGEMENT & COOPERATION

- **Support regional policy dialogue on FSQ and digital technologies for more effective and efficient safe and climate friendly agrifood value chains**
- **Set up a mechanism for regular donor partners engagement**
- **Foster partnerships for scalable and commercially viable digital solutions for FSQ management**
- **Gather data, document and share lessons learned (Knowledge Products 2 and 6)**

Develop a Task Force to support policy dialogue, effective development partnerships and knowledge sharing (Action 5)

A technical task force is proposed as critical enabling mechanism towards the vision of a **GMS** as a leading supplier of safe and climate-friendly agri-food products

Technical Task Force Objective

To act as advisory board for providing guidance to the **GMS WGA** on:

- **Mutual recognition of food safety and quality standards**, pursuit of equivalence, and capacity-building.
- **Promotion of digital technologies** in support to end-to-end traceability and smallholder market access.
- **Knowledge sharing** for alignment with national and regional initiatives and donor support programs for targeted and synergistic investments in the **GMS**.

TA 9916 Outcome Indicators



At least 60 agribusinesses and 500 farmers (30% women) gained capacity for adopting safe, climate-friendly agricultural practices



Pipeline of investment projects for ADB and the private sector of at least \$500 million on safe, climate-friendly agri-food value chains leveraged



For any query or
clarifications

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Annex 8

Panel Member Discussion Presentation: Coffee Producers Cooperative (CPC) – An organization to improve living conditions of Lao coffee smallholders (presentation by Mr. Sayakone Onnaly, The Bolaven Plateau, Coffee Producers Cooperative, Lao PDR)

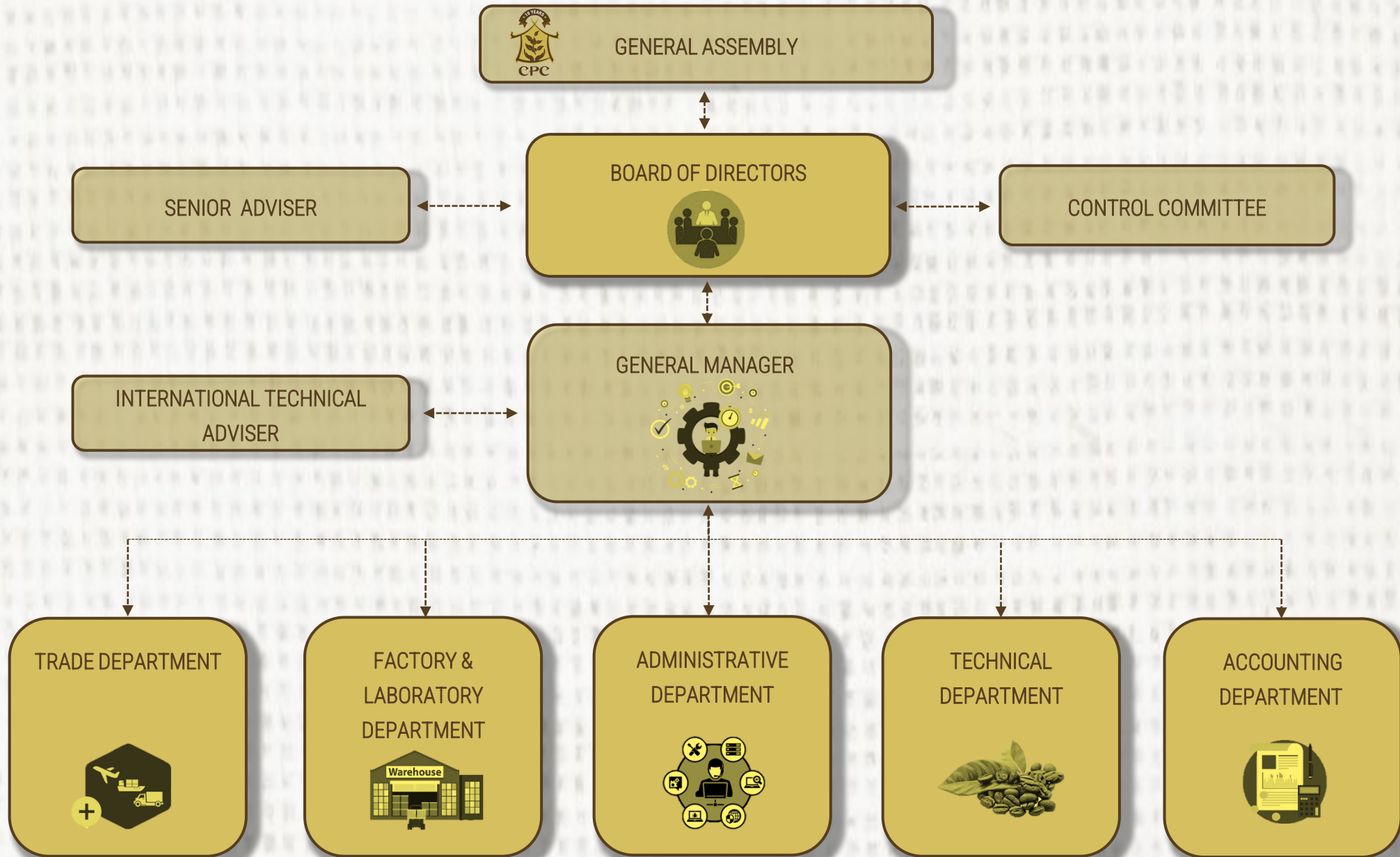


THE BOLAVEN PLATEAU COFFEE PRODUCERS COOPERATIVE

An organization to improve living
conditions of Lao coffee smallholders



I. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE (1)



II. FACTS AND FIGURES (1)



OUR PEOPLE

968

Families of coffee smallholders are benefiting from the cooperative services. Each family owns an average of 5 hectares of plantations.

841 families in the organic process.

45

Groups of producers distributed in 43 villages from 3 provinces (Champasak, Saravanh, Sekong) of the Bolaven Plateau.

38 groups in the organic process.

37

Employees dedicated to support CPC members including the management team, technicians, officers and workers.

8 women working full-time .

II. FACTS AND FIGURES (2)



3,319

Hectares of Arabica plantations in the organic process.

- Average : 3,95 Ha per family in the organic process
- Organic : 2,316 Ha / 9,753 MT of cherries
- In-conversion : 1003 Ha / 3,522 MT of cherries

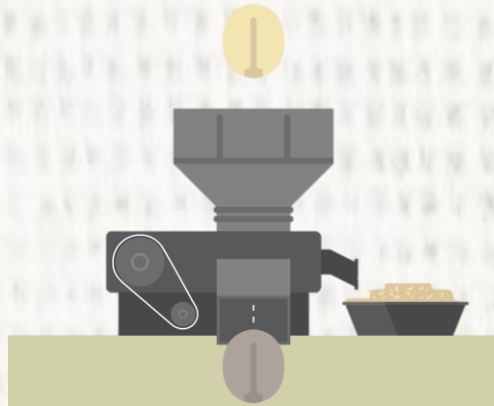
OUR COFFEE

1,128

Hectares of Robusta plantations in the organic process.

- Average : 1,34 Ha per family
- Organic : 858 Ha / 1,830 MT of cherries
- In-conversion : 270 Ha / 728 MT of cherries

II. FACTS AND FIGURES (3)



OUR FACILITIES

1 **Dry mill and laboratory** to collect and prepare members coffee for export with a capacity of one container of green coffee daily.

39

Wet processing centers enable the cooperative members to collectively process high quality Arabica and Robusta.

1

Composting unit to produce compost and vermicompost on a large scale to provide our members with high quality organic fertilizer.

II. FACTS AND FIGURES (4)



OUR SALES

9,071

Tons of cherries processed by CPC members during 2019-20 harvest.

- *Arabica : 8,011 MT*
- *Robusta : 1,060 MT*

1,355

Tons of coffee exported during 2019-2020 harvest, worth than 71 containers, including 1,150.8 MT of washed Arabica and 204.6 MT of Robusta, semi-washed.

6,3

Tons of roasted coffee sold in the domestic market in 2019-2020.

III. CPC COFFEE WORLDWIDE



CANADA



USA



THE UBUNTU COFFEE COOPERATIVE INC.



JUST COFFEE COOPERATIVE



UK



Rombouts



FRANCE



MONOPRIX

Malongo

NATURE DÉCOUVERTES

LAOS



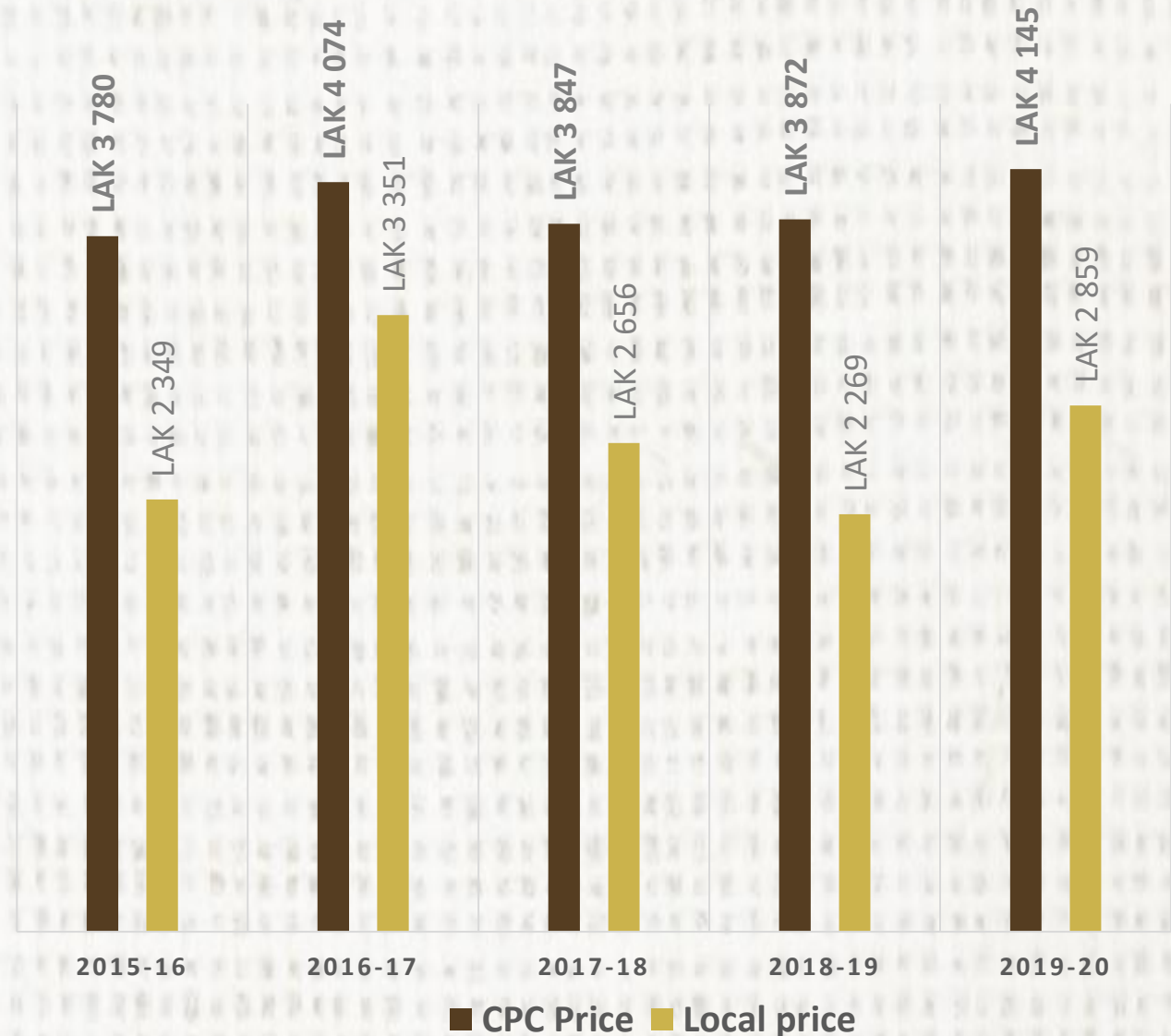
IV. SOCIO-ECONOMICAL IMPACT (1)

PRICE COMPARISON FOR ARABICA CHERRIES
2015-2020 (KG)



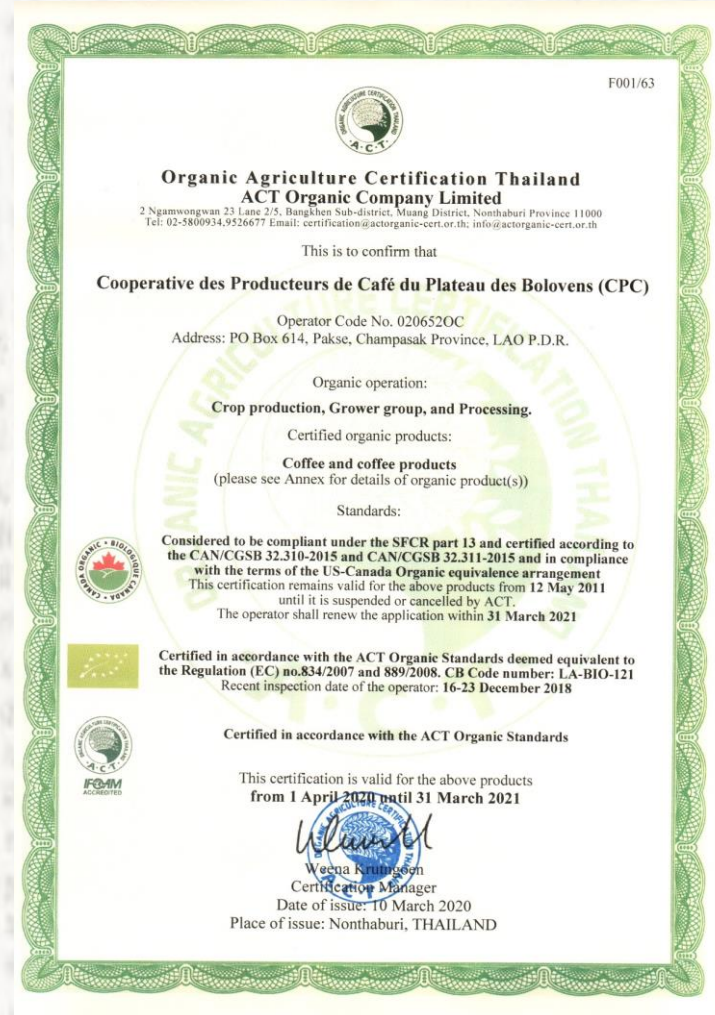
BETTER INCOME

Being Fairtrade and Organic certified enables the cooperative to guarantee its members with a minimum price and higher income than general market: +49% in average over the last 5 years.



IV. SOCIO-ECONOMICAL IMPACT (1)

Certificates



IV. SOCIO-ECONOMICAL IMPACT (2)



ACCESS TO EDUCATION

Thanks to the Fairtrade Premium, 1500+ children from the Bolaven have a better access to education thanks to the construction of 11 schools funded 100% by CPC and / or with its partners (LCG in Louangsena – Cafema & Malongo in Houeixèng / Poukham).

- Ban Luangsena, Laongam district (2008).
- Ban Houeixeng, Laongam district (2014).
- Ban Nambeng, Laongam district (2017).
- Ban Nongka, Paksong district (2017).
- Ban Nongsamphan, Paksong district (2017).
- Ban Phoumone, Paksong district (2018).
- Ban Porkhem, Paksong (2019)
- Ban Nongbone, Paksong (2019)
- Ban Nongchoua, Laongam (2020)
- Ban Denesavang, Paksong (2020)
- Ban Somsanoukmay, Paksong (2020)

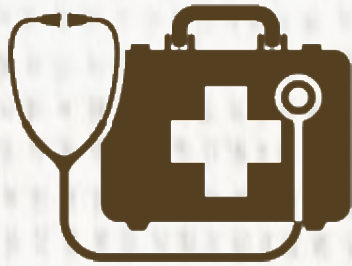


**Ban Houeixeng / Poukham
2014**



Students in their new classroom

IV. SOCIO-ECONOMICAL IMPACT (3)



ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

- More than 3,568 persons from 4 villages have a better access to healthcare thanks to the building of one health clinic in Ban Maysaisomboune, Paksong.
- More than 7,000 children have a better access to clean water at school thanks to 15 new drillings and 222 water filters distributed to 42 schools.
- Several donations to the health sector were done by CPC including equipment for *Covid-19* prevention, equipment for the *paediatric* department of *Pakse hospital* and gasoline for the “*Pakse rescue*” unit.



Healthcare center opening in Ban Maysaisomboune 2015



Clean water project in Ban Lakkhao school 2017

IV. SOCIO-ECONOMICAL IMPACT (4)



RECOGNITION AND PRIDE

As a great recognition for the coffee smallholders, the cooperative regularly receives guests from high level authorities such as Laos PDR Primer Minister, M. Thongloun Sisoulith, who visited CPC factory in February 2019, Chairwoman of Laos PDR National Assembly, Ms. Pany Yathotu, who visited CPC factory on January 2015 and French Ambassador in Laos PDR, Se. Madame Jeanblanc-Risler Florence, met the cooperative members in November 2018.



M. Thongloun Sisoulith
Prime Minister of Laos PDR



Ms. Pany Yathotu
Chairwoman of National Assembly of
Laos PDR



Asean Business Award Laos 2018
"Large Enterprise Excellence
Award".



Madame Jeanblanc-Risler
HE. French Ambassador in Lao
PDR



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**

FOLLOW US ON



www.cpc-laos.org



CPC - @CPCcoffeelaos



AGPCbolovens

Annex 9

Draft Terms of Reference of the Task Force on Food Safety, Quality and Digitization in the Greater Mekong Subregion (presentation by Ms. Vichelle Roaring-Arunsuwannakorn)



DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

**“Task Force on Food Safety, Quality and Digitalization in
the Greater Mekong Subregion (TFSQ)”**

(Working Title)

As of 8 July 2021

“A Technical Task Force is useful to provide a mechanism for information and experience exchange as a basis for strengthening policy coherence and co-ordination of activities among national authorities and stakeholders working on food safety and quality across GMS countries.”

1. Background and Rationale (1)

- **Vision:** To become a leading supplier of safe, nutritious and climate-friendly agri-food products – *Strategy endorsed by GMS Agriculture Ministers in 2017*
- **Compliance with international and regional FSQ standards needed:** regulation, delegation, participation, and public and private investments from farm to fork
- **Adoption of MAMRASCA Principles**

Described as:

- ASEAN Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment (MAMRASCA)
- Mutual recognition agreement in a phased manner as long as multi-lateral conformity assessments, and laboratory capacity are at acceptable levels.
- Operationalizing and accepting standards at both national and regional level
- Covers the mutual recognition of ASEAN Agricultural Best Practices-- GAP for fruits/vegetables, (GAqP) for food fish, and GAHP for poultry products including broilers and layers, with the flexibility for further adoption of additional agri-food standards.
- MAMRASCA Technical Milestones:
 - (i) if existing national standards are aligned with the ASEAN Standards based on an alignment assessment process
 - (ii) if national conformity accreditation bodies can meet relevant ISO standards.

1. Background and Rationale (2)

- **Intergovernmental cooperation**

- Development of harmonized agri-food FSQ standards, must involve the government departments responsible for FSQ regulations and compliance, and the private sector.
- Close involvement and participation of technical experts, including academia, regional organizations, etc.
- Interoperability of traceability systems *and data sharing among* GMS countries is equally important.

- **Elevating coordination and discourse at the GMS level**

- Initiatives on FSQ along with related digital transformation initiatives

2. Objectives and functions (1)

The Technical Task Force (the “TFSQ’) will act as a technical advisory group to the GMS WGA by providing guidance and inputs to support GMS WGA’s efforts on **FSQ and related digitalization of agrifood value chains in the region.**

It will serve as a joint platform for effective technical coordination to....

2. Objectives and functions (2)

- **Foster regional dialogue and joint action** towards mutual recognition of ASEAN standards among GMS countries (e.g. GAP/GMP/HACCP/organic) and to pursue equivalence recognition by PRC for safe and climate friendly agri-food products.
- **Benchmark (national, ASEAN, and global) and sharing of best practices** within the region to help the establishment of trust and enforcement of FSQ standards.
- **Support efforts to narrow capacity gaps among national certification systems and obtain equivalence with international/ regional standards** and to obtain **mutual recognition by other country trade partners.**
- **Foster partnerships** for enabling adoption of FSQ standards and information sharing, to identify barriers to multi-lateral conformity assessments
- **Provide recommendations for upgrading laboratories** to improve testing capacity and quality accreditation
- Support recognition/accreditation of testing facilities to **eliminate multiple testing** to meet various standards/import requirements

2. Objectives and functions (3)

- Support implementation of the **GMS joint action plan for adoption of MAMRASCA**
- Promote the **alignment of national traceability initiatives**
- Provide **technical advisory inputs** to conduct demonstration projects
- Support **joint prioritization exercises among** the representatives of governments, private sector, academia and development partners
- **Regularly share information** about food safety work and relevant events

3. Membership and Coordination Mechanisms

In its capacity as **technical advisor to the GMS WGA**, the task force will have the following coordination mechanisms:

Co-chairs: Technical experts from government agencies and ADB (this can be rotated among core members)

Core members:

- Government Agencies: agriculture departments, health departments, industry/commerce departments, customs department, border agencies, science and technology departments,
- Conformity Assessment Bodies: certification and standards agencies, laboratories

Extended Members/Partners:

- Private sector representatives, Development Partners, Regional Organizations, Research and Academic Institutes

Meeting frequency: Quarterly or as needed

Monthly event calendar and bulletin board: projects, programmes, activities

Sharing of reports/studies, status assessments, articles, news and meeting minutes

Joint Action Plan

4. Secretariat

ADB TA 9916 shall provide secretariat support for the TFSQ, including technical, administrative and other related support

Annex 10

18th Annual Meeting of the Greater Mekong
Subregion Working Group on Agriculture Record
of Discussion (presented by Mr. Srinivasan
Ancha)



18TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION (GMS) WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE (WGA)

7-8 July 2021

Virtual Meeting

RECORD OF DISCUSSION

1. The members of the Working Group on Agriculture (WGA) from the five countries of the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), namely, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China (PRC), the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, met virtually on 7-8 July 2021 for the 18th Annual Meeting of the WGA (WGA AM-18). The meeting deliberated on the theme "Achieving Agri-food Safety and Quality Harmonization and Traceability in the GMS in the context of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and Climate Change".

2. The WGA noted that the GMS has enormous potential to produce safe, nutritious, and environment-friendly agri-food products, and that advancing subregional cooperation on harmonization of safety and quality standards is critical. It agreed that COVID-19 and climate change are posing serious challenges to food safety and quality, and thereby food security and intra- and inter-regional trade of agri-food products. Each participating country identified priority actions to minimize value chain disruptions and enhance quality and safety of agri-food products, through promoting institutional, technological, financial, and capacity-enhancing innovations. The WGA recognized disparities among the GMS countries in terms of capacities, institutions, and facilities for food safety and quality management. It stressed the need for harnessing the collective wisdom and experience of the subregion in addressing transboundary issues of agri-food resource management and achieving harmonization of safety and quality standards.

3. The WGA confirmed that GMS ASEAN member countries have high potential to be early adopters of the ASEAN Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment (MAMRASCA) by tackling country-specific and regional challenges on policies, capacities and investments in food safety and quality.¹ The meeting noted the multisectoral and cross-cutting nature of food safety and quality and underscored the need for streamlining institutional systems for food safety and quality monitoring and management in each GMS country. It stressed the importance of (i) adopting a value chain approach in piloting mutual recognition arrangements and conformity assessments, (ii) enhancing capacity of certification bodies, accreditation bodies, inspection bodies, and laboratories, and (iii) standardizing the procedures and regulations for food safety and quality management. The meeting pledged support to the ASEAN Food Safety Regulatory Framework agreement to be signed in late 2021 and strengthen efforts to implement the ASEAN Food Safety Policy with the goal of protecting the health of consumers within and beyond the GMS.

¹ As PRC is not a member of ASEAN, it has not endorsed MAMRASCA.

4. The WGA agreed that the private sector should be proactively involved early on in achieving the objectives of MAMRASCA towards harmonization of agri-food standards on safety and quality, and a greater regional integration in the agri-food sector. The private sector representatives noted that the lack of agreement on sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS) among the GMS countries and limited understanding of the stakeholders along the value chain on the protocols and guidelines for good agricultural practices (GAP), good animal husbandry practices (GAHP), and good aquaculture practices (GAqP) remain as major bottlenecks. They called for an improved enforcement of regional and international food safety and quality regulations, including organic certification, good manufacturing practices (GMP), and Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) by responsible public sector agencies and for promoting third party audits on quality and safety monitoring along the value chain. The private sector representatives also sought support of the public sector, civil society organizations, and development partners in (i) building producer capacity in GAP to expand access to higher value markets, (ii) ensuring traceability and data sharing standards through public private partnerships, and (iii) investing in facilities (e.g., laboratories) to support compliance with regional and global standards.

5. The WGA confirmed five priorities on food safety and quality management to be pursued up to 2025, with specific activities and targets under each priority.

- (i) support to achieve policy coherence on food safety and quality through mutual recognition of standards in GMS countries
- (ii) build institutional and technical capacities for mutual recognition of standards for safe and climate-friendly agri-food products
- (iii) deploy digital technologies (e.g., blockchain) for enhanced traceability of safe and climate-friendly agri-food products, and for accelerating harmonization of food safety and quality standards
- (iv) contribute to COVID-19 recovery efforts by supporting measures to improve direct access of producers to higher value markets
- (v) engage with development partners and the private sector on harmonized food safety and quality management systems and digital transformation

6. The members of the WGA extended sincere appreciation to the financing partners of the GMS Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security Program: the PRC Regional Cooperation and Poverty Reduction Fund, and the Asian Development Bank. The members of the WGA encouraged ADB and other development partners to continue to coordinate and support the program and strengthen shared commitment and partnership for a more integrated, prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable GMS.

7. The WGA expressed its appreciation to the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and its Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives for co-hosting the meeting.

8. The WGA also thanked the Government of Viet Nam and its Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development for agreeing to host the 19th Annual Meeting of the WGA.

Annex 11

Why Gender Matters in Food Safety
(presentation handouts prepared by Ms. Bodil
Warming)



Women play important roles in all agro-value chains; “from farm to fork /chopstick”.... feminization of agriculture...



Men play dominant roles in all agro-value chains as agro-business owners...in leadership and decision making.....

Women / female farmers, traders, workers:

- Main responsible for **family food security and food handling / shopping and cooking....**still; (traditional gender roles....) – **time poverty**
- **Food crop/ ‘low value’ crop production;**
- **Consumers and shoppers;** often untrained and **unaware of health risks...**from unsafe food.....
- Operates in the **informal sector**, petty trading in unhygienic local markets without water supply and proper sanitation; **cannot afford** food protection....
- **Small-scale farm-gate processing / sale;**
- Low paid, **untrained in food processing;**
- **Missed opportunities/ excluded** in leadership and decision making, and extension training; and technology use /mechanization;
- **Badly/ worst affected by harmful chemicals and polluted air and harmful waste** throughout the agro-value chain....(especially during pregnancy and lactating): **cannot afford** protection measures
- **Lost business due to Covid-19 and climate change** – and women’s lack of digitalization training - may force women in agro-business to **cut expenses and compromise on food hygiene...**

Men/ male farmers, traders, workers:

- Monopolize **high-value crop/ animal** production and trade and occupy the biggest and best land plots and irrigation/ water supply;
- Dominate **households investment / agro-business and decision making: technology a use of loans / inputs** and what to produce and sell;
- More **mobile and monopolize participation** in extension training events;
- Dominate **farmer group decision making and leadership;**
- Monopolize **big-scale trading;**
- **Dominate skill training in processing industry** and are paid relatively more than female worker
- **Male-bias in extension services....**
- Badly affected by harmful chemicals and air pollution but **physical less exposed than women and better trained to protect themselves....**(*m have thicker skin and bigger lungs than women.*)

Why gender matters in promoting food safety....



Women / female stakeholders and men/male stakeholders have equal rights....but different and unequal positions and conditions and priorities....

There is a need to 'level the playground'....so women and men can enjoy equal rights and benefit from equal opportunities in agro-business....

.....

How to promote gender equality in food safety, tracing, digitalization?

- **GENDER ANALYSIS** of specific agro-value chains (crops, livestock, fish businesses);
- **Good practice training / capacity building** of both female and male extension workers;
- **Training and inclusive extension** of both female and male farmers, traders and processing workers on:
 - **Standard agro-hygiene measures**, (legal education of farmers, traders, workers, investors);
 - **How to mitigate health risks- with low cost or free measures;**
 - **How to proceed with organic and clean 1) farming, 2) harvesting and storing 3) processing and 4) packing, 5) transportation and 6) shopping and cooking!**
 - **Gender-smart and inclusive, affordable, assessable Apps and online services.**

Why gender matters in food safety....



(how to....continued);

- **Supply of clean water (and sanitation)** in production and processing and in market places;
- Control on compliance with **core labour standards** and **work safety measures/protection** of both female and male farmers, traders, processing workers; (**decent and women-friendly working environment and employment**);
- **equal opportunity for skill training**; free health check for workers/ health insurance.....**non-exclusion of pregnant female workers...**
- **Replacement/ ban on harmful chemicals...**promoting and perhaps **subsidizing organic fertilizers and pesticides, organic disinfection liquids, recycled, organic food packaging material / ban on plastic.....and** better waste management etc.)
- **Gender-smart consumer awareness campaigns** on food safety and food / kitchen hygiene and why organic food matters....
-**Other suggestions?**

