



Agricultural Standards in Regional Cooperation

GIZ Approaches

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DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT



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Introduction: agricultural trade, standards, and trade facilitation

- Constant increase over time
- Requirements: efficient transport and border processing procedures
 - Removing unnecessary, mostly administrative barriers to trade
- Risks: spoiled, contaminated or rotten foodstuffs can have serious consequences for the health of end users
 - Facilitating trade that guarantees food safety

 Development of country specific standards and trade rules

 Worldwide fragmented and non-harmonised food regulation



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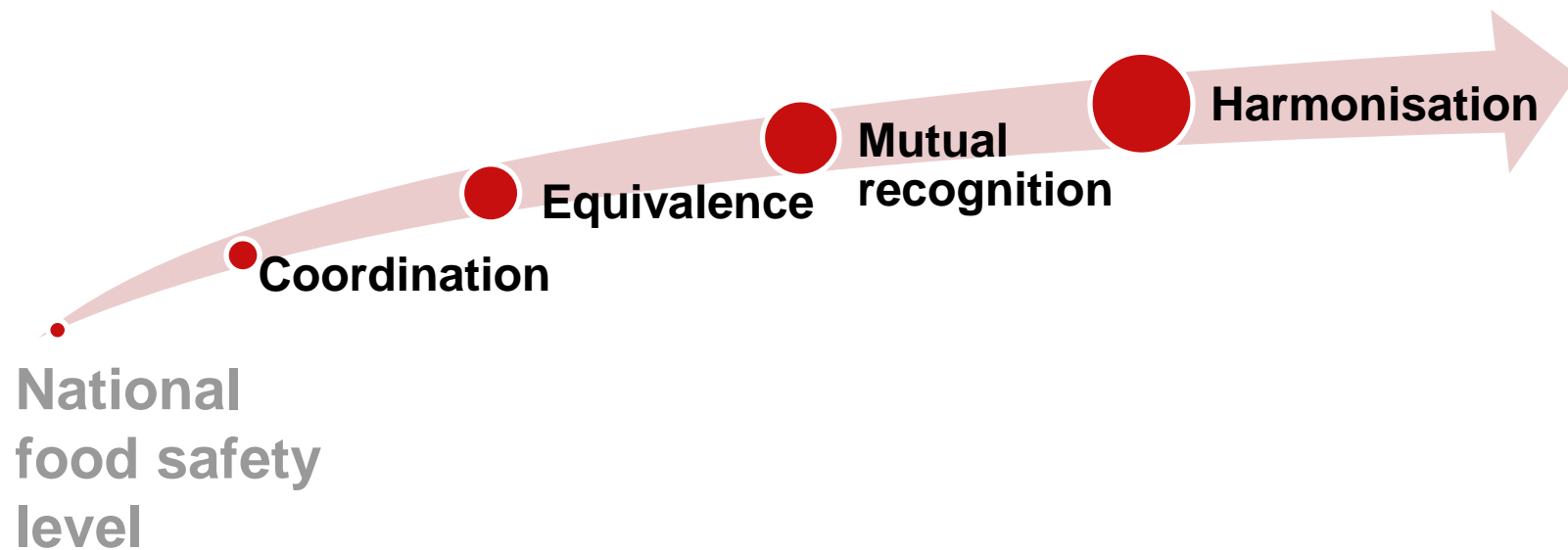
Agricultural Exports between GTI Members

	2010	2015
PR China	3.59 billion	6.06 billion
Mongolia	0.024 billion (2013)	0.066 billion
Republic of Korea	0.96 billion	1.32 billion
Russian Federation	1.92 billion	2.68 billion

Source: UNCOMTRADE International Trade Statistics Database



Introduction: Country strategies for cooperation on agricultural standards and food safety





Example 1: Standards in the South-East Asian Food Trade (SAFT)



Commissioning Party: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Country: ASEAN countries (with specific focus on Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Indonesia, Philippines)

Lead executing agency: Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Overall term: 2015 to 2017

Website: www.asean-agrifood.org/projects/saft/



Example 1: Standards in the South-East Asian Food Trade (SAFT)

- Low number of foods are certified in accordance with current standards for good agricultural practice
 - businesses and farmers lack information about the certification process
 - business institutions in ASEAN countries are failing to provide adequate support services
- ➔ Limits options for the export of produce to lucrative markets outside ASEAN (e.g. Japan, the European Union, USA)
- ➔ Hinders individual ASEAN countries to further integrate themselves into the ASEAN economic community



Example 1: Standards in the South-East Asian Food Trade (SAFT)

Objectives

Application of international or ASEAN-wide standards relating to good agricultural practice and specific quality features for food (e.g. organic farming methods) in ASEAN member states

How?

Support the ASEAN Expert Working Group on ASEAN GAP and the Task Force on ASOA (ASEAN Standard on Organic Agriculture), which are the competent bodies within the sector to **harmonise national standards** with the existing regional ASEAN GAP and ASOA standards.

- Creating an **enabling environment** for the further development of standards in the food sector
- **Training** inspectors, auditors and state supervisory bodies
- **Supporting** farmers, producer groups and companies through PPP

Results and Effects

- Alignment of quality standards in the ASEAN economic community with internationally recognised standards such as Global GAP and the EU's organic certification label.



Example 2: Sustainable Agrifood Systems in the ASEAN Region (SAS)



Commissioned by: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Country: Member States of ASEAN; in particular Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam

Lead executing agency: ASEAN Secretariat

Term: 2013 to 2017

Website: www.asean-agrifood.org/



Example 2: Sustainable Agrifood Systems in the ASEAN Region (SAS)

- One of the most important engines of economic growth in the ASEAN region
- Increasing demand among consumers for high-quality foodstuffs is driving regional and national agricultural policies to focus on the concept of sustainability
- Ensuring safe, healthy and affordable food for a growing population requires the activities of all actors along various value chains
- Focus on **advancing the agrifood sector along entire value chains** in the rice, vegetable, fruit and perennial crops.





Example 2: Sustainable Agrifood Systems in the ASEAN Region (SAS)

Objectives

- Strategies and guidelines of ASEAN Member States for sustainable agrifood systems are implemented at national level.
- Harmonisation of national policies towards the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

How?

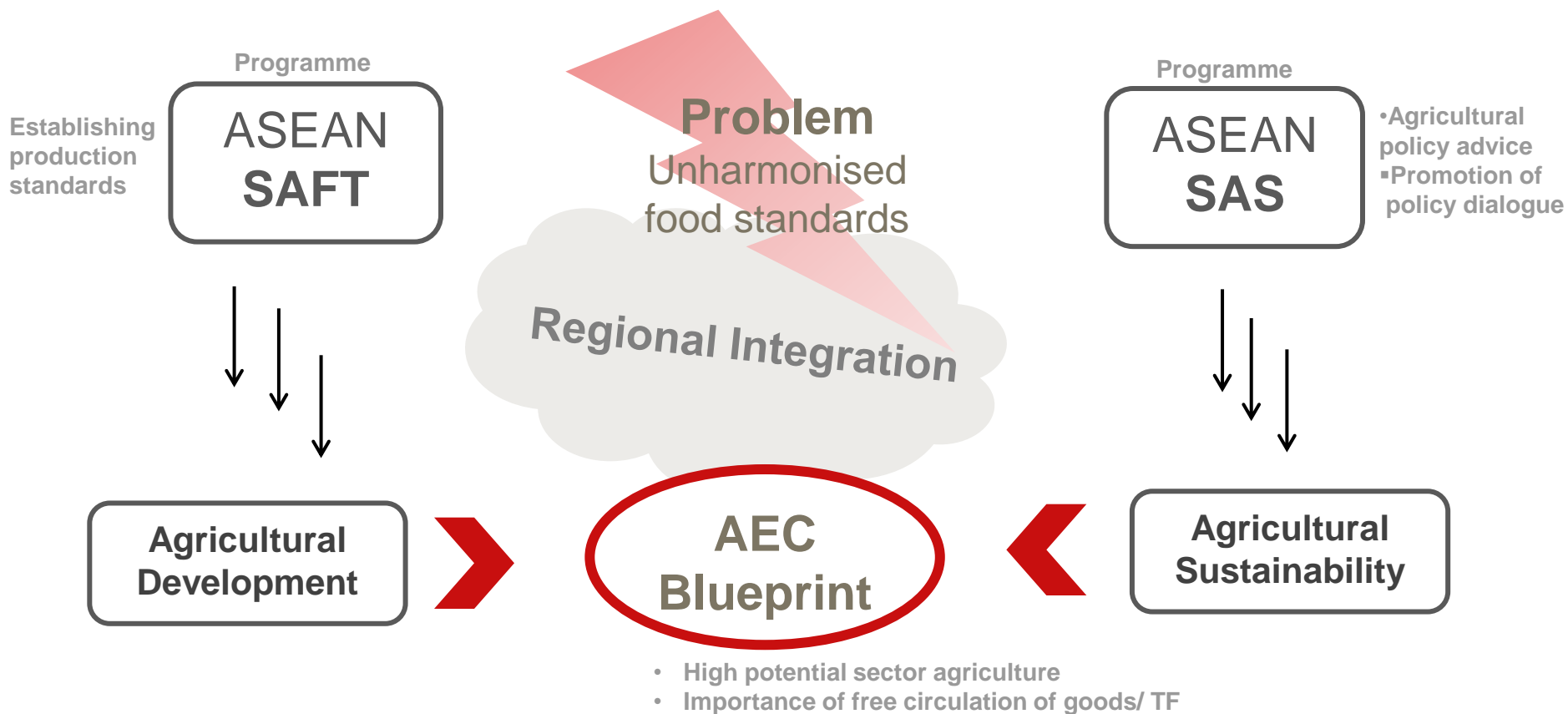
- **Policy Framework:** Advice for ASEAN Member States on policy-making and decision-making
- **Implementation of production technologies:** Selected approaches to sustainable production, based on biological control agents
- **Market linkages:** promotion of cooperation between smallholders and the private sector, sustainable agrifood models

Results and Effects

- Official endorsement of Guidelines on the Regulation, Use and Trade of Biological Control Agents by the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting and selected implementation on a national level.
- Training of 500 ministerial staff and agricultural experts as well as more than 10,000 farming households in sustainable agricultural practices



Conclusion: Standardisation and Regional Integration





Conclusion: Standards and Regional Cooperation

Challenge for regional cooperation

- Implementation gap, policy coordination, multi-stakeholder process

GIZ approaches

- Ensuring food security and safety through standardisation, trade and regional cooperation
- Inclusive approach: promotion of cooperation between private sector and policy-makers on a national and regional level



Conclusion: Standards and Regional Cooperation

Implications for Greater Tumen Region

- Diversity of experiences and performance
- High potential for regional cooperation
- Existing regional best practices
- Institutional set-up and regional coordination mechanism
 - GTI Secretariat and Committees

 **Utilise these opportunities** to realise concrete projects with tangible results around common issues while ensuring private sector inclusion.



Further information:

Support for Economic Cooperation in Sub-regional Initiatives in Asia:

www.connecting-asia.org

GIZ Agricultural Trade and Standards:

www.giz.de/expertise/html/3160.html

Standards in the South-East Asian Food Trade:

www.giz.de/en/worldwide/28747.html

Sustainable agrifood systems in the ASEAN region:

www.asean-agrifood.org/

GIZ Publications

www.giz.de/expertise/downloads/giz2015-en-Study_Trade_rules_and_food_security.pdf



Sources:

UNCOMTRADE International Trade Statistics Database

<http://comtrade.un.org/data/>

ADB & UNESCAP (2013): Designing and Implementing Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific, 2013 Update.

GIZ (n.d): Sustainable Agrifood Systems:

www.asean-agrifood.org/

GIZ (n.d.): Agricultural Trade and Standards, available at:

www.asean-agrifood.org/projects/saft/

GIZ (2015) Trade rules and food security

www.giz.de/expertise/downloads/giz2015en-Study_Trade_rules_and_food_security.pdf

GTI (2016): Regional Report Agricultural Cooperation in the Greater Tumen Region



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