



Cambodia's Achievements and Reflections: Experiences & Lessons Learned, Way Forward and Recommendations

The Regional Project End Workshop on Facilitating Trade for Agricultural Goods in ASEAN

26 November 2019, Siem Reap, Cambodia

Experiences and Lessons Learned/Achievements

Faster Inspection

Activity:

- Facilitated Regional Training Workshop on Phytosanitary Inspection (Bangkok-Chanthaburi and Ho Chi Minh-Binh Phuoc, 25-30 Mar 2019): 5 (2 female) inspectors attended.

Lesson Learned/Achievement

- The inspectors have increased common understanding of inspection procedures and practices in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam and increased capacity to detect pest faster during inspection.

Experiences and Lessons Learned/Achievements (2)

Faster Inspection

Activities:

- Translating selected 19 ISPMs (72 texts) from English into Khmer (Jul 2018-May 2019);
- To organize National Training on selected translated ISPMs (Jun 2019);
- To publish Khmer translation of the selected 19 ISPMs (Nov 2019).

Lessons Learned/Achievements

- The translated ISPMs will have supported to increase common understanding of inspectors and technical officers on international standards on phytosanitary measures adopted and implemented into national system;
- The inspectors and technical officers will have been trained and increased capacity to detect pest, identify pest, and implement inspection procedures faster;
- The selected translated ISPMs will have been made available in national language and ready for publishing.

Experiences and Lessons Learned/Achievements (3)

Faster Phytosanitary Certification

Activities:

- Conducted information gathering to develop phytosanitary information material: formalities for certifications for export (re-export), import and transit of plant quarantine materials (Aug-Dec 2018);
- Organized Consultation Meeting on developing the phytosanitary information material (04 Jan 2019): 25 participants including plant quarantine officers, designer, and GIZ staffs;
- Developed, publishing and facilitating uploading the phytosanitary information material and phytosanitary application form to GDA's webpage (MAFF's website) (May 2019): 1,000 copies of the information material in Khmer version are published and uploading to the GDA's webpage both in Khmer and English version.

Lesson learned/Achievement:

- Private sector will have saved time and cost by accessing faster and easier phytosanitary application form and information about formalities for certifications for export (re-export), import and transit of plant quarantine materials online.

Experiences and Lessons Learned/Achievements (4)

Faster Phytosanitary Certification

Activity: Organized National Workshop on Phytosanitary Procedures for Export, Re-export, Import and Transit of Agricultural Goods and disseminate the phytosanitary information material of formalities for certifications for export (re-export), import and transit of plant quarantine materials (Phnom Penh, 17 May 2019)

- Approximately 70 participants from expected:
 - private sector: exporters, importers, investors, and freight forwarders;
 - public sector: General Directorate of Agriculture, Provincial Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (from provinces near borders of Cambodia-Thailand and Cambodia-Vietnam), General Department of Customs and Excise, and Ministry of Commerce;
 - enterprise and agricultural goods associations;
 - development partners;
 - presses.

Lesson learned/Achievement:

- Private and public sectors will have been more aware about phytosanitary national regulations (and obligation to comply with international rules/standards), procedures and formalities for certifications for export (re-export), import and transit of plant quarantine materials;
- Private sector will have knowledge to fill in phytosanitary application forms faster and increased understanding of required supporting documents in order to obtain certificate for export (re-export), import and transit of plant quarantine materials.

Experiences and Lessons Learned/Achievements (5)

Improved Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) Application

Activities:

- Facilitated Regional Training Workshop on PRA and Quarantine Pest hosted by Thailand (Bangkok, 20-24 Aug 2018): 7 technical officers (1 female) of Cambodian National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) which is Department of Plant Protection Sanitary and Phytosanitary of General Directorate of Agriculture attended;
- Organized Coaching on PRA (Phnom Penh, 11-15 Feb 2019): 13 technical officers (4 female) of NPPO attended;
- Facilitated Regional Training Workshop on PRA Practice on dragon fruit hosted by Vietnam (Hanoi and Vinh Phuc, 04-08 Mar 2019): 5 technical officers of NPPO attended.

Lessons learned/Achievements:

- The technical officers of NPPO have increased skills in calculation rating risk assessment, phytosanitary treatment, fumigation, and PRA procedures;
- The technical officers of NPPO have increased knowledge of market access to Thailand.

Experiences and Lessons Learned/Achievements (6)

Improved Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) Application

Activities:

- Established PRA Working Group in Cambodia (Sep 2018): 9 members (1 female) of NPPO;
- Conducted general surveillance for drafting market access proposal to export longan from Cambodia to Thailand (Sep 2018-Mar 2019).

Lessons learned/Achievements:

- The draft market access proposal to export longan from Cambodia to Thailand has been produced and will have been submitted to Thai Department of Agriculture for PRA and negotiation for granting import permit for Cambodia to export longan to Thailand.

Way Forward

1. To develop a Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) for export plant and plant products to ASEAN Member States (To begin with longan, banana, dragon fruit, etc.)

- To identify a potential national expert on the respective topics*
- To form a working group to support the SOP*
- To organize a national consultation workshop with relevant stakeholders from the public, private and academia*

2. To improve guidelines for export fresh banana, mango and longan (under support of GIZ-SRECA)

3. To organize national and regional exchange of SPS related topics as well as capacity building trainings to relevant GDA officials

4. To promote better access among SMEs regarding agricultural trade related services i.e. PS certifications

Way Forward (2)

5. *To conduct applied research for pests and diseases management on important crops*
6. *To develop Pest Lists on important crops (Pest surveillance, diagnostic and identification)*
7. *To building capacity & Public Awareness-raising on SPS measure to private sectors, SMEs and farmers*
8. *To set up Pest forecasting & Pest monitoring System*
9. *To Develop and promotion of Good Agricultural Practices (focus on food safety)*
10. *To setting up Phytosanitary treatment facility for research purpose*
11. *To conduct training for staff on treatment facility operation*
12. *To upgrading Plant health laboratory*
13. *To setting up Plant quarantine regional office facility*

Conclusion and Recommendations/ Benefits to ASEAN/Regional Level

Faster Inspection

Regular technical meetings for countries having connected borders:

- To promote good cooperation among plant quarantine officers along borders through increased exchange common understanding in applying ISPMs (sampling and inspection) and increased understanding on national regulations, rules, and practices on phytosanitary measures (pest information communication);
- To avoid obstacle of trade flow when goods arrive at borders (i.e. entering agricultural goods at identified border gates where only plant quarantine stations exist);
- To regularly update identified contact points on phytosanitary matters.

Conclusion and Recommendations/ Benefits to ASEAN/Regional Level (2)

Faster Phytosanitary Certification

Make phytosanitary certification information online in national language and English

- National and foreign enterprises will have saved time and cost in discovering reliable information of phytosanitary requirements, procedures and formalities in order to obtain certifications for export (re-export), import and transit of plant quarantine materials.

Conclusion and Recommendations/ Benefits to ASEAN/Regional Level (3)

Improved Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) Application

Regular exchange of PRA application for countries having connected borders and at regional level

- To update pest status (avoid long time wait at borders when goods arrive borders due to lack of communication and information of high risk pests);
- To learn importing country system, so that export country can meet phytosanitary requirements for market access faster therefore increase legal intra trade in ASEAN;
- Private sectors will have reduced fee for phytosanitary treatment from immediate order at borders due to absence of information of phytosanitary requirements.



Thank you very much