



Vietnam'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

1. With FTAG support, Vietnam translated 20 ISPMs from English into Vietnamese (Jun 2018-Apr 2019). This activity has contributed to:

- Developing Vietnam national standards and regulations on Plant Protection in compliance with the international standards and practice; some ISPMs could be applied directly without adopting to the domestic standards (eg. ISPM-26)

ISPMs could be considered as common rules for all member countries to develop their own PS measures.

Experiences and Lessons Learned (2)



- **Series of support activities for Vietnam PQ inspectors to improve their capacity of sampling & detection skills and knowledge of PQ pest morphology** (including Training on Vietnam's procedures on inspection, sampling and detection on Quarantine Pests on 6 commodities (Hanoi & Hai Phong, Sept 2018; Publication of 2 Manuals on Morphology on QPs and Diseases subject to PQ (Oct 2018 & Mar 2019; and Training on the contents of the 2 Manual on Apr 2019). **These activities have contributed to:**
- Improving Vietnamese inspectors' capacity in their professional job, namely reducing their inspection time (previously, it took 2 hours for senior inspectors and 5 hours for junior ones to detect normal pests, while now the time has been reduced by 30%).

Experiences and Lessons Learned (3)

3. Training for more than PQ officers and traders on PS Certification for Exports integrated in the National Single Window (Oct. 2018 & May 2019)

- Improved understanding about e-certification integrated into the NSW, aiming at harmonizing with the ASEAN Single Window
- Updating some progress relating to IPPC ePhyto Project and ASEAN Single Window
- The application of the systems was discussed with various feedbacks from the pilot usage
- Further fine-tuning is ongoing with the view to make the future application smoother and more user-friendly



Experiences and Lessons Learned (4)

4. Developing SOP for fresh fruit to be exported to Thailand which includes an experts meeting to draft the SOP in Hanoi (Sept 2019), Consultation WS on the draft SOP (early Oct 2019), and Thais expert' consultancy mission in Hanoi and Lao Cai (mid Oct 2019)

- The draft SOP has been finalized and will be translated into Vietnamese for implementation by the end of 2019
- This will contribute to make Vietnamese PS procedure more transparent and compliant with international standards

Way Forward

Vietnam in the coming years would like to further promote its exports of agriproducts to ASEAN and big markets like China. Besides, we will focus on improving the pest control and plant protection at the grassroot through updating our database system. Therefore, we aim at:

- Developing criteria to make assessment on more new products of export potential (beside the commodities which have been the export major)*
- Improving the awareness and capacity of compliance for farmers and producers who face the significant changes in China's requirements on plant quarantine and food*
- Further improving the database of plantation areas which could provide detailed information about the major crops, caring methods, traceability (not only the address and planting area, but also typical crops, estimated harvest productivity, records of previous harvest, data about pest and logbook of the caring etc.). The database should be developed in a user-friendly manner so that farmers and producers could update inputs by themselves while local authorities will play as the supervisor and inspector on data inputs. This will help to decentralize the plant quarantine and management responsibility from the central to local levels*

Conclusion and Recommendations: Benefits to ASEAN/Regional Level

- ASEAN should have a regional approach on pest control and market access (toward the markets outside the bloc). We have the same climate, ecological conditions and trade with each other based on the seasonal difference.

Therefore, the trade volume and value remain rather limited. It is the time to work together to promote our exports to external markets that we could trade on the complementary basis

- China continues to be the biggest market for ASEAN exports. At the moment, China is shifting to the official trade which goes together with more PS and food safety requirements. This is seen as the opportunity for ASEAN agro producers and exporters who could sell their products at higher price when the Chinese market is becoming a high-end destination (more demanding but willing to pay higher). In the meantime, it imposes big challenge on ASEAN members to change their export structure, revise regulations and policies and improve the capacity of both public and private sectors to ensure the compliance. All of these need time for adjustment in the value chain

Thank you for your attention!