Overview of Lebanese Agriculture

- Total Cultivated Agricultural Area: 2.3 Million Du
- Total irrigated Area: 1.1 Million Du (50%)
- More than 70% of farmers have < 10 du area
- 4% have areas between 40 and 100 dun.
Major Crops

**Major seasonal crops**
- Tomatoes
- Cucumber
- Potatoes
- Wheat
- Lettuce

**Major Perennial Crops**
- Olive tree (43%)
- Apple (9%)
- Citrus fruits (8% of Perennial Crops)
- Grapes (table grape and for wine) (8%)
- Banana (2.5%)
Agricultural exports count for: **730 Million USD**
(19% of the total export)

Most important exported crops:

- Citrus fruits
- Apple
- Cucumber
- Tomatoes
- Potatoes
- Iceberg
GAP status

- Lebanon does not have a specific policy on the implementation of GAPs.
- GlobalGap projects were developed.
- Introduction of the IPM and IWM in the MoA strategy.
- In 2015 the food safety law, enforces the application of standards, traceability and record keeping which are all a major part of GlobalGap requirements.
Support by the International organizations

- **FAO:**
  - Strengthening Production and Marketing of Lebanese Agricultural Products 2010-2013 (MoA/FAO)

- **EU:**
  - Agriculture Development Project (2006-2009)
  - Agricultural Rural Development Programme (ARDP) (2014-…)
  - European Neighborhood Programme for Agricultural Rural Development ENPARD

- **USAID project**
Agriculture Development Project (2006-2009)

- Provided 3 Levels of Intensive Training about EurepGap (EurepGap I, II, III), for all the farmers beneficiaries of the project, and Ministry staff
- Developed technical Guides to the major crops grown in Lebanon
A- Improvement of GAPs targeted 3 main crops and followed 3 steps implementation plan:

- 6 Training of trainers sessions (112 trainees)
- 151 Training of farmers (6339 targeted farmers)
Subjects

- GAP quality management systems (TOT)
- Fruit tree husbandry and cultural practices
- Integrated Pest Management session for farmers
- Pheromones and traps use, irrigation, fertilization
- Good production practices (GPPs), pruning and grafting; fruit tree summer pruning
B-Field Guides

Apple

Citrus

Grapes
C- GAP Guidelines

“Guidelines for GAP for Fruits & Vegetables in Lebanon”

1- Soil and Soil Management, Soil Risk Assessment

2- Water and Water Management

3- Crop and Fodder Production
   a. Field and crop selection
   b. Nutrient management
   c. Field and Crop Management
C- GAP guidelines (Con’t)

4- Crop Protection
a. Pest Management and spray techniques
b. Mixing and Loading Pesticides
c. Disposal of Pesticide Containers
d. Pesticides Storage

5- HARVESTING & ON FARM PROCESSING & STORAGE

6- Energy and Waste Management

7- HUMAN WELFARE, HEALTH, HYGIENE & SAFETY
D- Field Visits

The project included field visits to Farmers, cooperatives and wholesale markets

- Some big farmers and cooperatives already have GLOBALGAP in Lebanon.

- Some others are willing to get GLOBALGAP however they are facing some difficulties:
  - Small size holdings
  - High Investment
  - Short delays of land renting time
  - Discrepancies in the yields from year to year
E- National Technical working group (NTWG) on GAP

- Drafting the ToR for a:
  National Technical working group on GAP

The Committee still not created
The purpose of the NTWG is:

**To shape national policy & strategies**

1- facilitate the adoption of international and/or national standards and regulations

2- guarantee systems for quality, food safety and environmental management by fruit and vegetable producers and other supply chain actors in Lebanon.
GAP Guides developed by the MOA

After the project, MoA issued guides for GAP on:
- Peaches and Nectarines
- Cherries

Extension work on GAP is continuous
MoA Strategy 2015-2019

*Increase productivity and competitiveness of Lebanese Ag. Products*

*Proposed actions:*

- Improve value chains and increase the value-added for products
- Strengthen sanitary and phytosanitary measures
- Increase agricultural exports
- Improve legal status of farmers
- Encourage youth and women to engage in agriculture-related investments.
Support by the governmental institution IDAL

- IDAL is a governmental body supporting export by giving subsidies

- GLOBALGAP producers are supported by 25% more subsidies resulting in an increased number of producers adopting GLOBALGAP and thus creating new markets
RECOMMENDATIONS
The role of the Lebanese MOA in the GLOBALGAP implementation:

1- Set a framework of the national regulations related to the GLOBALGAP implementation:

- Worker health, Safety and welfare regulations
- Environment, Wildlife and Conservation Protection with relation to the farm activities
- Empty pesticides containers disposal regulation.
- Disposal of Surplus Application Mix or tank washings.
- Nurseries production and transplants quality Regulations.
The role of the Lebanese MOA in the GLOBALGAP implementation:

1- Set a framework of the national regulations related to the GLOBALGAP implementation:

- Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) Regulation
- Fertilizers storage regulations
- Pesticides storage regulations
- Pesticides registration regulations
- Pesticides Special Approval for the imported Pesticides regulations
- Pesticides Off-Label PPP Approval regulations
The role of the Lebanese MOA in the GLOBALGAP implementation:

1- Set a framework of the national regulations related to the GLOBALGAP implementation:

- Postharvest Treatment Products registration regulations
- Postharvest Treatment Products Approval for the imported Postharvest Treatment Products regulations
- Postharvest Treatment Products Off-Label PPP Approval regulations
- Lebanese MRLs list
- Soil Fumigation Regulation (Approved and non approved chemicals)
- Chemical treatments Workers Heath check regulations.
- The use of treated sewage water for irrigation/fertigation regulation
- Supply of irrigation/fertigation water (abstraction – quantities – .....etc.)
The role of the Lebanese MOA in the GLOBALGAP implementation:

1- Set a framework of the national regulations related to the GLOBALGAP implementation:

- The availability of the accredited labs (pesticides residue – water analysis – soil analysis, fertilizers analysis – organic material analysis, etc.)

- The availability of the fertilizers and pesticides equipments’ calibration centers (for calibration and/or training)

- Plant protection products protective clothes usage regulations.

- First aid kits (availability and contents) regulations.

- Traceability regulations.
2- National Technical Working Groups (NTWG)

- Gain qualified input from national experts
- Close work in cooperation with the GLOBALGAP Secretariat and the GLOBALGAP Committees and support
- Facilitate the GLOBALGAP implementation and continuous improvement based on the specific interest area needs.
- Direct link in the country and the first contact point with the GLOBALGAP
- The MOA can be the NTWG and sign an agreement with GLOBALGAP Secretariat
3- The National Accreditation Council
مجلس الاعتماد الوطني

- Accredit a number of certification bodies to conduct the GLOBALGAP certification process

- The Certification Body (CB) has to be accredited by an approved Accreditation Body (AB)

- The Accreditation Body (AB) (The national accreditation council) has to be a member and internationally recognized from the International Accreditation Forum
4- GLOBALGAP Technical Department in the MOA

- Responsible about the GLOBALGAP Implementation and the consultation issues.

- Help growers to solve the technical problems and the constrains that they may face during the implementation.

- Establish an internal data base of all the growers, Coops, CBs, etc.
Thank you for your attention