Institutional Setup of National GAP Schemes in South Asian Countries

The First Meeting of Arab-GAP Stakeholders for Jordan (16-17 Feb 2017, Beirut, Lebanon)

Ms. Shashi Sareen
Advisor, Food Safety
E-mail: Shashi_sareen@hotmail.com
Overview

• Examples of Implementation – Bhutan and Maldives

• Documentation

• Key learnings
Some Examples from SAARC
Process followed in Bhutan for GAP

- **Initiated** – with request to FAO by Bhutan Agriculture and Food Regulatory Authority, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests – motivation FS & environment preservation

- **Regional WS** – September 2014

- **National inception WS** – Dec’ 2014: Finalised action plan & proposed implementation mechanism

- **Implementation structure** established

- **Steering committee** – 2 meetings: implementation structure; Committee structures (TC and CC), logo, standard finalization

- **TC meetings** – 2 (standard finalized); CC meetings – 3 (certification criteria and process finalized)

- **Logo development**

- **Trainings** - 2 stakeholder workshops, 1 TOTs, 1 auditor training, study visit
Implementation Structure: Bhutan

**Steering Committee**
(Chairperson – Hon’ble Minister, MoAF)
(Secretariat – DoA, MoAF)

**Scheme Owner - (Ministry of Agriculture & Forests)**
(Chairperson – Hon’ble Secretary, MoAF)
(Secretariat – Hort Division, DoA, MoAF)

**Technical Committee**
(Chairperson - Head, DoA, MoAF)
(Secretariat - Hort Div, DoA, MoAF)

**Certification Committee**
(Chairperson - Head, BAFRA, MoAF)
(Secretariat – ACD, BAFRA, MoAF)

**Accreditation Body**
(NABCB, India)

**Certification Body**
(BAFRA, MoAF)
BhutanGAP Certification Mark (Logo) developed by the taskforce of CC in alignment with Brand Bhutan Policy for Grown in Bhutan.

Bhutan has chosen to initially certify for food safety. The logo sent to Department of Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs to provide guidelines for implementation.
Government Incentives for GAP Promotion

- BhutanGAP Scheme implementation – a priority besides organic policy
- Assure markets for produce and attractive prices
- Subsidized produce packaging and transportation
- Current practices of subsidized farming inputs and mechanization to be continued
- GAP inspection and certification – free of charges
- Special Farmers’ Award for GAP certification
Process followed in Maldives for GAP

- **Initiated** – with request to FAO by MFDA (Maldives Food and Drug Administration, MOH)

- **Motivation** – tourist population, imports require MFN treatment for imports as per WTO

- **Regional WS** – September 2014; **National inception WS** – Feb’ 2015: Finalised action plan & proposed implementation mechanism

- **Implementation structure** established

- **Steering committee** – 3 meetings: implementation structure; Committee structures (TCC), logo, standard finalization

- **TC meetings** – 3 (standard, certification criteria and process finalized)
Process followed in Maldives for GAP

• Logo development & Launch (15 April 2016)
• Trainings – 5 farmer+ 1 other stakeholder workshops, 1 TOTs, 1 auditor, study visit
• All documents of SO and CB
• Model farms set up to demonstrate Practices as per MGAP
• Extension videos prepared to market the scheme
• Prepared complete set of documents for farmers
• Audits 3 farms for certification
Further Steps

• TV, radio interviews to create awareness to the general public
• To apply the MGAP scheme for imports
• To see the possibility of regulating the critical clauses in the scheme by making it mandatory through a regulation
• Accreditation of the certification body (MFDA)
Documentation required to be kept by SO and Farmers
Scheme Owner: Documentation

**General Documents**
- Master list of documents
- The GAP standards
- Governing structure and operational requirements
- TORS of various committees
- Sustainable business model

**Formats**
- Assessment report
- Assessment report – NC format
- Assessment report – concern format
- Certificate format

**Procedures**
- Safeguarding confidentiality by SO
- Complaint and appeal handling
- Monitoring and evaluation of Scheme
- Approval of CB
- Approval of AB – modalities

**Contracts**
- Logo use agreement
- Confidentiality and Non-disclosure Agreement
Records for GAP implementation - Farmers

- Records required by GAP scheme/standard
- Records required by Certification Body – individual or group producer
- Records required for system management – Management System records
Records required by GAP Scheme
Individuals/Groups

- Farm plan record
- Risk assessment records
- Planting material record
- Irrigation records
- Chemical procurement, usage, inventory
- Spray record
- Pest and disease monitoring record
- Postharvest chemical record
- Chemical authorization form

- Fertilizer & soil additives record
- Harvesting & packing record
- Job responsibility & training record
- Cleaning & pest control plan
- Calibration records
- Incident investigation records
- Complaints & corrective action report
- Traceability (delivery & destination) records
- etc…..
Records required by a CB for farmer

- Individual producers
- Producer group
  - Internal audit records
  - Management review records
  - Document control records
  - Record control records
  - Corrective action records
  - Identification and traceability records
  - Revocation/withdrawal records
  - Subcontracting records
Format of Documents to be Maintained by Producers

1. Farm Management Plan
2. Affidavit (if subcontracted)
3. Land Record → Ownership documents / records
4. Farm Map → Showing boundaries, neighboring plot details, permanent features of the farm, cropping pattern.
5. General Information → About the project, climate, rainfall, temperature, soil characteristics.
6. Crop Plans → Plans for the whole farm for one year including rotation crops, green manure crops, mixed crops etc. Details should include
   - Crop
   - Area
   - Variety
   - Planting Material Quantity
   - Planting Time
   - Harvest Time
   - Estimated Yield

7. Input purchase & Stock record – Should have the following minimum details
   - Date of Purchase
   - Particular of the product
   - Quantity
   - Bill No.
   - Suppliers Address
   - Product date/ Information Received
   - Total Stock.

8. Farm Operation Diary.
   - Date
   - Details Of the operation
   - Plot/Field No.
   - Equipment’s / Implements Used
   - Supv. Remarks

9. Soil Fertility Management Record
   - Date
   - Product Applied
   - Plot/Field No.
   - Quantity / rate
   - Supv. Remarks

    - Date
    - Pest/ Disease Observed
    - Rate & Quantity of pesticide used
    - Other measures taken
    - Supv. Remarks

11. Storage Areas on the farm for the inputs and products should be recorded.
    - Store No.
    - Product stored / to be stored
    - Capacity of the store

12. Product sales / dispatch record
    - Date
    - Particulars of the products
    - Quantity sold/ dispatched
    - Lot No.
    - Balance in stock
    - Mode of Dispatch
    - Consignee
Key Learnings

For Establishment of Mechanism in Country

1. **Ensure the independence** - separate the role of SO and CB, if possible under different ministries so that no “conflict of interest”

2. **Multi-ministerial stakeholder Committee, at policy level** - ensure buy-in & involvement of related ministries/departments

3. **Clarity on what GAP entails** – requirements to be certified – Technical guides to GAP

4. **Exchange visits** by countries for information-sharing/understanding each others’ GAP systems for uniformity/learning from each other.

5. **Logo application on produce and package**, if backed by testing possibly through NRCPs. Alternatively statement on produce indicating that from gap certified farm.
Key Learnings

Implementation

6. **Consumer demand** – simpler (market forces); else top down or government led (voluntary/mandatory);

7. **Cost of implementation/certification** important

8. **Benefit to farmer** important - **Incentives** by government to popularize the country GAP (e.g. preference in government procurements, advertisement and awareness campaign, preference in farm loans, food processing parks/zones giving preference to GAP produce)

9. **Demonstration farms** – supported by SO

10. **Sustainability**

11. **Aim to harmonie** with regional and international standards - no major difference for domestic markets/exports
THANK YOU

Any Questions?