

PROMOTING GOOD AGRICULTURE PRACTICES (GAP) IN ASEAN



The agriculture, food and forestry sector is a priority sector in the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint. In 2013, Agriculture Value Added to the economies of ASEAN Member States ranged from one percent for Brunei Darussalam to as high as 34 percent for Cambodia. The sector has significant social-economic implications for ASEAN, with employment from agriculture averaging 36.9 percent across ASEAN Member States (AMS) in 2013, higher than the industry and services sectors.¹

Australia has been working with ASEAN since 2004 to increase the international competitiveness of ASEAN's food and agricultural products. Building on earlier work from the first phase of the ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program (AADCP), AADCP II continues to support ASEAN to increase agricultural productivity and improve competitiveness of agricultural products.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2014

- An **ASEAN GAP standard for Animal Husbandry (GAHP) specifically for Broiler and Layer** (chickens) is now available, as well as the standard for **Aquaculture (ASEAN GAQP) Food Fish**. The standards outline best practices for environmental, economic and social sustainability for on-farm production and post-production processes to ensure safety and quality of produce.
- An **ASEAN GAP Operational Plan 2013-2016** and a **tracking mechanism** were developed and endorsed by the 21st ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops (ASWGC) meeting in May 2014. The Operational Plan guides the development and promotion of standardised Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) for Fruits & Vegetables in AMS. This is particularly useful for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar which are in the process of establishing their national GAPs in alignment with the ASEAN GAP that was developed with Australian support.

ONGOING PROJECTS IN 2015

Global Recognition of Quality Assurance for ASEAN Fruits & Vegetables - (ASEAN GAP) Phase 2

This project will develop guidelines for the design, operation and assessment of ASEAN GAP for Fruit and Vegetables, as part of the mutual recognition mechanism. Generic training materials and curriculum for trainers, farmers and auditors/inspectors will be prepared and improved to support their implementation of ASEAN GAP.

Establishment of ASEAN Good Aquaculture Practices (ASEAN GAQP) Phase 2

The project will provide capacity building to improve use of ASEAN Good Aquaculture Practices (GAQP); and monitor the systematic implementation of the GAQP Strategic Plan across ASEAN.

Establishment of ASEAN Good Animal Husbandry Practices (ASEAN GAHP) Phase 2

Similarly, this project will provide capacity building and identify mechanisms to improve marketability of these products within the region.



¹ <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.AGR.TOTL.ZS>