



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
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Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

**“Support for Capacity Building for International Food Safety Standard
Development and Implementation in ASEAN Countries”
(GCP/RAS/295/JPN)**

**The FAO National Training Course:
“Strengthening Food Safety Standard Setting and Effective Participation
in Codex activities in Lao PDR”
27-29 June 2016, Vientiane, Lao PDR**

CONCEPT NOTE

Background

The new FAO Regional project “Support for Capacity Building for International Food Safety Standard Development and Implementation in ASEAN Countries” (GCP/RAS/295/JPN) was launched in February 2016 for a period of five years as a second phase of the Regional project “Support to Capacity Building and Implementation of International Food Safety Standards in ASEAN Countries” (GCP/RAS/280/JPN).

The new project aims to strengthen the capacities of ASEAN countries in contributing to Codex standards-setting and implementing the adopted Codex Standards. Main project activities include implementation of workshops and training courses for food safety officials as well as preparation of case studies and guidance documents on food safety standards-setting and implementation in ASEAN countries as with the project GCP/RAS/280/JPN.

One of activities planned under the new project is to organize training workshops, which contribute to strengthening national food safety systems, particularly in the Least Developed Countries. This activity will also lead to enhance ability of countries for contribution to development of Codex standards. In this regard, the national training course is planned as the first program in this year.

Lao PDR has actively participated to the project activities and participants of the various workshops and training programmes had enhanced their knowledge on the concept of risk analysis and on implementation of the same including in case of food safety emergencies as well as enhanced their capacity for data collection and generation.

Lao PDR had developed national standards and food safety regulations partly by adopting/adapting selected Codex standards relevant to Lao PDR. However, the same were not fully accepted in view of varying opinions on the procedures to be followed for standards setting and significant discussions have been held on the same.

Considering current situation, it is realized that harmonizing national standard setting procedures among different national agencies is the most urgent activity in Lao PDR. For this purpose, it is critical to improve knowledge on understanding the Codex standards setting process and contributing to the same; and process for developing national standards including harmonization with international Codex standards as well as other national standards. It is also important to understand the role of regulatory standards/ documents and voluntary standards framed by the National Standards Body and the role of each.

As a result of these activities, capacity to enact a comprehensive food safety regulation containing national standards harmonized both with Codex and within the country, which is in tune with the government policy to adopt Codex norms, will be developed.

With the above background, the national training course on strengthening food safety standard-setting and effective participation in Codex activities in Lao PDR is being organized on 27-29 June 2016, in Vientiane Lao PDR.

Objectives

The general objective of the training course is to enhance capacity for food safety standards setting including contributing to Codex standards work. Specific objectives of this training course are as follows:

- 1) Enhanced understanding of the structure and function of Codex Alimentarius Commission in relation to SPS/TBT Agreements and elaboration of Codex standards
- 2) Enhanced knowledge of the basic concept of Codex risk analysis framework and its link to standard development and data collection and utilization
- 3) Enhanced understanding of strengthened National Codex Contact Committee
- 4) Enhanced knowledge about effective participation in Codex activities
- 5) Draft road map for improving standard development activities and strengthening Codex activities

Training Course Methodology

The training course methodology will be consisting of lectures, sharing of other country experiences followed by discussions and group work.

Expected Outputs

- 1) Enhanced understanding of the structure and function of Codex Alimentarius Commission in relation to SPS/TBT Agreements and elaboration of Codex standards
- 2) Enhanced knowledge of the basic concept of Codex risk analysis framework and its link to standard development and data collection and utilization
- 3) Enhanced understanding of strengthened National Codex Contact Committee
- 4) Enhanced knowledge about effective participation in Codex activities
- 5) Draft road map for improving standard development activities and strengthening Codex activities
- 6) Report of the workshop to cover;
 - entire proceedings of the workshop
 - current activities relating to standard setting
 - draft road map

Profile of Participants

Participants are invited from different department or agency responsible for food safety control specifically with regard to standards development and implementation. Participants should be involved in food safety standard setting, implementing standards of national and international level, the work of Codex Alimentarius.

As the workshop will be conducted in English, all those attending must be fluent in that language. Female candidates are encouraged.