GOOD AGRICULTURAL PRACTICE
A Private Sector’s Perspective

Presented by:

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Markets further expanding and opening up for more opportunities for each of the member-countries and their enterprise which is brought about by Trade Liberalization (i.e. FTAs).

Opportunities are opening up for the agriculture sector which I represent at the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Philippine Exporters Confederation, Inc. (PHILEXPORT) and the Philippine Food Processors and Exporters Organization, Inc. (PHILFOODEX)
No. of processed food and Beverage Companies: 11,000 more or less

Most of the food processors are located in Luzon Island, particularly in the National Capital Region (Metro Manila) and Southern Luzon Region (i.e. 56%)
Increased awareness for food and environment safety, bio-terrorism, food-borne illnesses, goal for sustainable agriculture.

Developed countries increasingly demanding that their food suppliers be GAP certified. And impose stricter environmental and health regulations.

Developing nations cannot cope.
Japan - Katayama Apple Company and Wagoen, an agricultural producers' cooperative composed of about 90 producers are GlobalGAP certified.

Malaysia - 150 farms are certified; “Malaysia’s Best” brand – internationally accepted mark

Thailand - 169,886 farms are GAP Certifies and 50,000 rice farmers GAP-registered

Taiwan - 988 fruit farmers, 703 vegetable farmers, 954 organic farms,
3 Major Aspects of GAP

(1) Quality of Harvest
(2) Health of Farmers
(3) Sustainability of the Environment
Seven (7) GAP-certified farms:

1. Del Monte Philippines (pineapple)
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3. Cardava Integrated Inland Farming (cardava banana)
4. Leonie Agri-Corporation (various vegetables)
5. Tagum Agricultural Development Company, Inc. (TADECO)
6. Labo Multi-Purpose Cooperative (Queen pineapple)
7. Mr. Athene Abad (Super Manila mango)

GAP Adoption in the Philippines is still in the development stage (SEARCA study 2011-GAP, How the Philippines fare?)
GAP Adoption in the Philippines

- There is High level of GAP adoption in the Davao banana industry primarily because of the predominance of corporate farms in the area that cater to the export market.

- There is one (1) GAP-certified mango farm in the country (located in Iba, Zambales).
Individual mango growers - there is a lack of awareness and understanding of GAP specially small farm owners.

One big mango farm owner whose operations are GAP aligned, is not keen on getting GAP certification. This is because even without it, his produce could be sold at a premium price to the high-end market in Metro Manila.

Mango traders and exporters are aware of GAP but none of them explicitly require their suppliers to be GAP certified.
Philippine Okra packers/exporters are GAP aligned but not fully GAP certified.

In 2008, there were 16 cases of chemical detections which exceeded the MRLs. These involved four chemicals: Fluazifop, Metamidophos, Difeconazole and Tebufenocide.

Subsequently, fresh okras from Philippines were subjected to chemical residue tests on the four chemicals mentioned above by Japan MHLW which totally weakened the marketability of okras.
For the continued education of Okra Farmers on the best (agricultural) practices.

The Philippine Okra Producers and Exporters Association (POPEA) hold its Annual Okra Seminar, wherein concerned government agencies (BPI, BAFPS, and FPA) are invited.
GAP Adoption Constraints

(1) Knowledge constraints
(2) Cost constraints
(3) Process constraints
(4) Reward/Incentive constraints
Expand information campaign on the importance of GAP and other food safety certification.

- Intensify awareness campaigns for the implementers (farmers).
Philippine GAP should be aligned with GlobalGAP. So that PhilGAP is will be recognized in the international market.
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