

Participatory Guarantee Systems

6th ITF Meeting

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PGS

- HISTORY
- CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT
- ECOVIDA NETWORK
- PGS *vs* Certification Criteria (ISO65)
- INTERNATIONAL SCENARIOS

HISTORY

- 80 – Verification by farmers and consumers associations (auto-certification)
- 90 – Latin America - Inadequate standards and certification criteria for small family farmers (MAELA)
- 96 – 2000 = Institutionalization of PGS (Brazil)
- > 2003 - Recognition of PGS (Brazil, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica,)

HISTORY CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT GLOBAL TRADE

- 80 – 90 = Inspection, certification, accreditation,
- 95 – 2000 => Conformity assessment
- TBT (95)
 - 1997, 2000, 2003 - Triennial Reviews
 - Supplier Conformity Declaration
 - Few/none participation ("active") of Low Income Countries on standartization (ISO, CODEX, WTO,

BASIC BASIS OF CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT

- **Technical competence recognition**
 - Quality System, Infrastructure, Personal, Evaluation of the control instruments, Peer evaluations,
- => **Credibility/Reputation**
 - Ethic, Imparciality, Commitment, Long term relations
- => Necessity of continuous mechanisms of attendance and evaluation of the reliable relations
 - Conformity Verification (to prevent) # Inspection (to correct) => operator and market surveillance

CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

⇒ **Technical Conformity**

⇒ Laboratory Analysis, tests, essays, inspections, certifications, accreditations, MLA,

⇒ **Social Conformity**

⇒ Common objective of the group

⇒ Group Norms

⇒ Interaction, interdependency and communication

⇒ Length of relations, reputation

⇒ Role of the basis group

⇒ Habits, values, traditions

⇒ Local Councils and Ethical Councils

⇒ Database platform available on internet

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ECOVIDA NETWORK

- Network of 2.600 family farmers (290 groups), 10 smallholders (shops, restaurants), 30 NGOs (technical advisors), 15 coop. consumers
- Domestically Commercial Channels = 100 street markets (feiras), 20 natural shops and supermarkets, governmental purchase
- Exportation = concentrate citrus juice, essencial oil
- Total Sells US\$ 1.2 million (66% national markets)

Certification criteria vs PGS

independence, impartiality, transparency, competence

- Open just for the members
- Advisors organizations are part of PGS
- Necessity of support for PGS actions
- Emphasis on participation/social control, and not on documents
- Organization that keeps registers is not legalize
- No homogeneity on the operation and composition of nucleus and groups
- No existance of a systematic model of internal control in the organization that keeps the registers
- Lack of agility in the operation of tasks and the circulation of informations

FAVOURABLE SCENARIOS

- Second, Third Triennial Review TBT – Supplier Conformity Declaration (nov. 2000, 2003) – Workshop 2005
- IFOAM/MAELA/ECOVIDA Workshop (apr. 2004)
- “Employment” of Brazilian PGS professionals: FAO (2004) and GTZ (2005) => practices and regulations
- CYTED PROJECT – OA Standards for Ibero America (2005)
- ECOVIDA – ICEA Project (jun - nov 2005)
- IFOAM GA Motion for SPG (Adelaide), IFOAM European Group (2005) and IFOAM Latin America Group (2006)

FAVOURABLE SCENARIOS

- Workshop ICCO-ASPTA // BIOFACH Lat.Am. (Oct. 2005)
- ITF FAO/UNCTAD/IFOAM (Dec. 2005, Oct. 2006)
- IFOAM Task Force PGS (Mar. 2006)
- Nearness with Fair Trade (IFAT, ICEA, CLAC) – 2005, 2006
- Project Brazilian Gov., Andalusia Gov. (Spain) and Bologna Gov. (2005 - 2006?)
- Plan for F6 EU PROJECT “From farm to fork” (oct. 2006)
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