

Building up an Internal Control System for Certification to EurepGAP Option 2

The GTZ – EurepGAP Smallholder Manual

UNCTAD/PHILEXPORT
 Sub-regional Stakeholder Consultations:
 Potential and Challenges of EUREPGAP in Asia
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Why does GTZ support the implementation of EurepGAP?

- Certification to EUREPGAP standards is demanded by leading retailers and encourages sustainable agricultural practices
- The introduction of GAP standards forces the compliance with official regulations which are not always observed
- The implementation of GAP standards is more effective when undertaken in public private partnership

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GTZ supports in particular

- The design of farmer group quality management systems
- The setting up of local certification bodies

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GTZ support addresses producer associations

- The costs of compliance are serious obstacles for small and even medium sized farms to become EUREPGAP certified
- As individual actors, small and medium enterprises have little chances on export markets
- Exchange of information, investments in infrastructure and bargaining is easier for a group (association, self-help group, cooperative etc.)
- Organised in groups, small and medium farmers reach the critical mass that is necessary to become certified

EurepGAP Certification mechanism

<p>Option 1 Individual certification EurepGAP</p>	<p>Option 2 Group certification EurepGAP</p>
<p>Option 3 Individual certification Benchmarked Scheme</p>	<p>Option 4 Group certification Benchmarked Scheme</p>

EurepGAP Benchmarking procedure

- **Technical Benchmarking Document**
 A clause -by- clause crossreference to the standard seeking equivalence against EurepGAP
- **Certification Mechanism Benchmarking Document**
 The requirements of the certification system seeking equivalence must be cross-referenced with all of the requirements of the EurepGAP General Regulations

EUREPGAP requirements for group certification

- **General regulations, 8.2:**
Certification process
- **General regulations, Annex 2:**
Farmer Group Quality Management Systems
- **General regulations, Annex 3:**
Guidelines for Evaluation of Quality Management Systems

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Reasons to support the development of group quality management systems

- Group certification is a cost effective option for integrating smallholder producers into the supply chain
- Smallholder groups need support how to design their group quality management system
- The GTZ EurepGAP Smallholder Manual has been developed to meet this demand

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Concept of the generic smallholder handbook

The generic smallholder handbook:

- explains the EUREPGAP scheme and the certification process according to option 2 in detail
- discusses critical aspects in group certification to avoid failure
- provides a template of a quality management handbook including some forms

It is not intended to be a „one size fits all“ handbook solution!

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The quality management system

Structure

- Quality management handbook
- Standard operating procedures
- Forms

The documents shall serve as examples and starting point for farmer groups to create their own QMS!

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The quality management handbook in detail

- Structure of the Quality Management System
(Company Brief, Legality, Administrative structure, staff qualification ...)
- Core processes
(Training and advice, internal inspection, residue testing, produce handling, sales and distribution)
- Accompanying operations
(e.g. sanctioning, complaints, product withdrawal etc.)

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SOP and forms in detail

- Standard Operating Procedures
(Competency and training of staff, subcontracting, internal audit,...)
- Forms
(Farmer register, contract, job descriptions, internal inspection report, handling of complaints)

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Testing the Manual in developing countries

- Pilots in three continents
- Selection of groups according to predefined criteria
- Collaboration with interested parties that are working with smallholder farmer groups
- Liaising with EurepGAP
- Publishing the final version of the manual based on lessons learned in the trial phase

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Availability of the manual as free share ware

Result after the successful completion of the pilots:

A simple local shareware QMS manual will be provided that can be readily used by small scale farmer outgrower groups.

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Any questions left?



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Do not hesitate to contact

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