

# Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Strategy in the Philippines

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## Presentation Outline

1. Philippine GAP (PhilGAP) Program;
2. PhilGAP Program and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Economic Community (AEC);
3. GAP strategies in the Philippines; and
4. Major Conclusions.

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## The Philippine Food Safety Act of 2013

**Section 9.** The Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Health (DOH) shall set the **mandatory food safety standards**...

**Section 16.**

The **Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) (of the Department of Agriculture)** shall develop food safety standards including those for organic agriculture... **science-based** food safety standards for **fresh plant**, animal, fisheries and aquaculture foods...



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## The Philippine Department of Agriculture's Commitment...

Ensuring food safety follows the  
**Farm to Fork Continuum**



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## The Philippine GAP (PhilGAP) Program

- Philippine participation in the ASEAN-Australian Development Cooperation Project, which aimed to develop a harmonized ASEAN GAP
- PhilGAP aligned with ASEAN GAP



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## Elements of PhilGAP

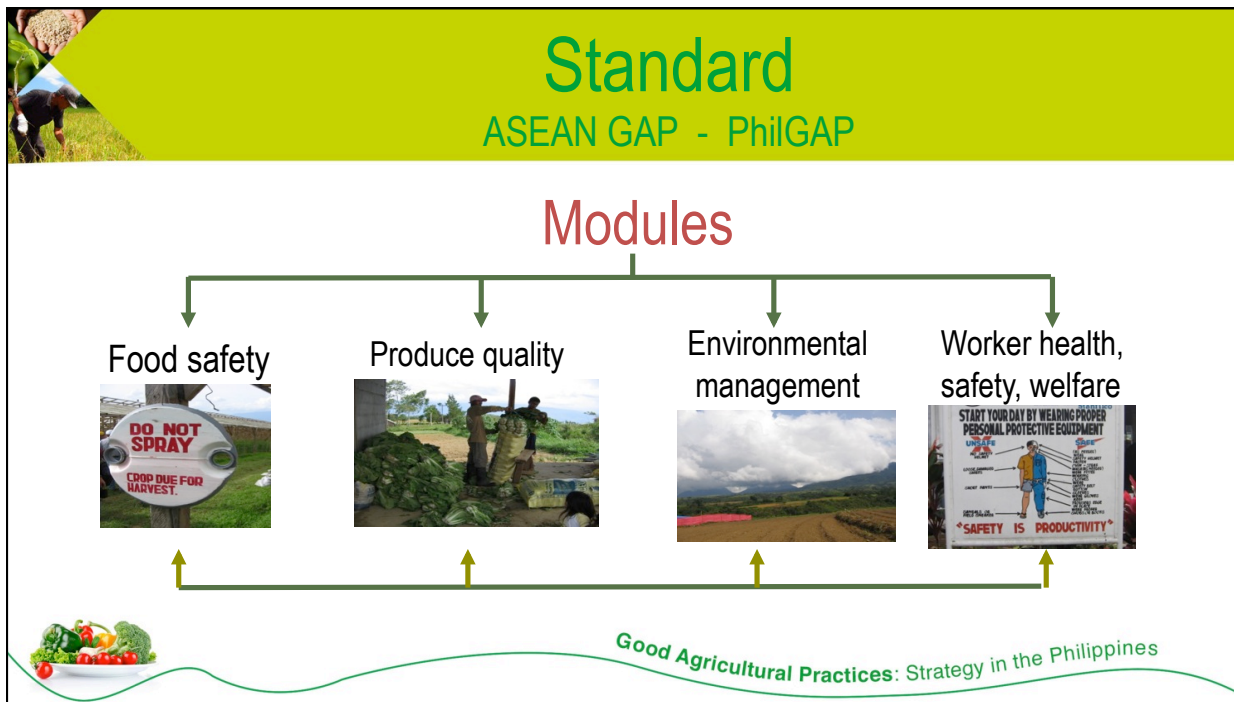
(Provided in an Administrative Circular)

- Standards
  - Basis of the Checklist
- Certification Program
  - Guidelines and Protocols
  - Certification Committee
  - Pool of Inspectors
  - Revocation & Advertisement
- Inspectors
  - Central Offices
  - Regional Field Units
  - Training and Capacity Building
- Work Instruction for Inspection
- Timing of Inspection




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**Unique Characteristics of the PhilGAP Program**

<p>Government Certification Program ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Certification fully funded by the government</p>	<p>Secretary of the Department of Agriculture – approving authority Bureau of Agriculture &amp; Fisheries Standards (BAFS)- PhilGAP Program Secretariat</p>
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## • Unique Characteristics of the PhilGAP Program

### No Minimum Area Requirement

There is no provision in the Administrative Order that limits application for certification based on AREA, or MINIMUM INCOME

### Funding of the Program

- DA BAFS
- DA Banner Programs
- DA Regional Field Offices
- DA Bureaus and Attached Agencies



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## • Unique Characteristics of the PhilGAP Program

### Inspection

- food safety
- produce quality
- worker health, safety and welfare
- environmental management.

### Certification Time/Period

Is **DEPENDENT ALSO ON THE** ability of the applicant to fulfill or comply with the non-compliant items found by the inspectors during actual field visits



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## ASEAN Vision 2020


“We will create a stable, prosperous and highly competitive ASEAN Economic Region in which there is a free flow of goods, services and investments, a freer flow of capital, equitable economic development and reduced poverty and socio economic disparities...”

“... to enhance food security and international competitiveness of food, agriculture and forestry products to make leading producers of these products and to promote forestry sector as a model in forest management, conservation and sustainable development”

*Sixth ASEAN Summit, Ha Noi  
December 1998*




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## ASEAN COMMUNITY

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>POLITICAL SECURITY Blueprint</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules based, shared norms and values</li> <li>• Cohesive, peaceful, stable, resilient with shared responsibility</li> <li>• Dynamic and Outward Looking</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ECONOMIC Blueprint</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single market &amp; production base</li> <li>• Highly competitive economic region</li> <li>• Equitable economic development</li> <li>• Integration into the global economy</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SOCIO CULTURAL Blueprint</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Development</li> <li>• Social Welfare and Protection</li> <li>• Social justice and rights</li> <li>• Environmental Sustainability</li> <li>• ASEAN Identity</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ASEAN CHARTER</b> <b>ONE VISION, ONE IDENTITY, ONE CARING AND SHARING COMMUNITY</b></p>		

Harmonization of Standards under ASEAN
*(Pongsapitch, 2014)*



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## ASEAN Harmonization of Standards (under AMAF)

1. ASEAN Food Safety Network
2. ASEAN Good Agriculture Practices (GAP)
3. ASEAN Maximum Residue Limits
4. ASEAN Horticultural Produce
5. ASEAN Organic Agriculture Standards
6. ASEAN Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAHP)
7. ASEAN Animal Vaccine Standards
8. ASEAN Livestock Establishments and Products Accreditation
9. ASEAN Good Aquaculture Practices (GAqP)



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## Role of GAP in the ASEAN Economic Integration

### A.7 Food, Agriculture & Forestry

National and regional standards/guidelines for food, agriculture and forestry products with significant trade impacts/potentials (including for production and quality management-based standards, production safety standards, quarantine and inspection procedures, and regulatory framework for agricultural products derived from modern biotechnology)

### OPERATIONALIZATION OF ASEAN GAP Strategic Plan of Action (SPA)

- **Strategic Priority Action 1.** Implementation of national GAP programmes in AMSs
- **Strategic Priority Action 2.** Development of ASEAN GAP certification system
- **Strategic Priority Action 3.** Strengthening the Alignment of national GAP with ASEAN GAP
- **Strategic Priority Action 4.** Awareness of ASEAN GAP for private sector, civil society organization (CSOs) and non-governmental organization (NGOs)



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## ASEAN GAP

1. ASEAN GAP adopted in 2005
2. PhilGAP fully aligned with ASEAN GAP
3. Pipeline Activities:
  - Establishment of Certification and Accreditation Systems for ASEAN GAP among AMS
  - Alignment of GAP Inspector/Auditor Qualification
  - Full alignment of other AMS national GAP programs
  - Global Recognition of ASEAN GAP



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## Other Initiatives: PhilGAP & GLOBALG.A.P

### United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standard (UNFSS)



UNFSS Philippine Briefing  
October 2013, Pampanga

- Identified GAP as one of the priority private standard that will be addressed to lessen problems in trade
- GAP-Organic Track is being developed to provide easy transition from organic to GAP certification and vice-versa



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## UNFSS SPIN-OFF

- National Technical and Marketing Working Group (NTMWG) Workshop, 19-21 February 2014
- GLOBALG.A.P Secretariat as Facilitator/Resource Speaker
- Aim: Develop 1<sup>st</sup> draft of national interpretative guidelines for GLOBALG.A.P (localGAP ~ PhilGAP)



*UNFSS Philippine Briefing  
October 2013, Pampanga*



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## Tiered Approach Towards GAP compliance

1. 1<sup>st</sup> level – compliance to food safety standards consistent with the Philippine Food Safety Act of 2013
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> level – compliance to full PhilGAP standard aligned with ASEAN GAP
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> level – compliance to GAP aligned with GLOBALG.A.P.



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## Ladderized Approach for GAP towards International Benchmarking with GLOBALG.A.P.

Membership to GG.A.P. to establish localg.a.p. team

NTWG established with the following TOR: to develop revised PhilGAP standard | interpretative guides in local language|

Standards have to be benchmarked with GLOBALG.A.P.

DA as Certifying Body (CB) will have to be compliant with ISO 9001 | ISO 17065

Philippine Accreditation Bureau (PAB) to have Multilateral Agreements (MLA) for GLOBALG.A.P.

Philippine Accreditation Bureau (PAB) to accredit private CBs | government certification to ISO 17065

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## Conclusions

1. The PhilGAP is geared towards a tiered-approach to GAP compliance, taking into consideration the varying levels of capacity and capabilities of farmers to comply with requirements.
2. Primary focus is compliance of small farmers to food safety
3. The three (3) proposed levels of GAP compliance:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Level - compliance to food safety standards
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Level - compliance to PhilGAP, harmonized with ASEAN GAP
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Level - PhilGAP aligned with GlobalG.A.P.

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Thank you!

