



PSAV

Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture in Viet Nam - PSAV

PSAV Newsletter

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1st Quarter - 2019

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UPDATES ON ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TASK FORCES IN AGRICULTURE

The PPP Task Force on Coffee:



In the 1st quarter of 2019, the PPP Task Force on Coffee continued to implement the four key target groups set by the Task Force in the orientation of 2018-2020 on “Promoting the chain linkage to increase the value of Vietnamese coffee and support the Government’s Project of developing high quality Vietnamese coffee”.

- Promote chain linkages to increase the value of Vietnamese coffee: Continue to carry out training and sharing activities to replicate successful models of sustainable development projects in the industry; apply technology in the management and measurement of performance; build interactive groups on social network channels;
- Support the Government’s Project of developing high quality Vietnamese coffee: Organize meetings to initiate, exchange and agree on the preliminary orientation to develop the Project with the Viet Nam

Coffee Coordination Board (VCCB) and The Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural development (IPSARD);

- Update, improve and apply related sustainable agriculture guidelines in coffee production: continue to encourage the application of National Sustainability Curriculum (NSC) for coffee production in training of projects in the industry; organize training to improve capacity in the system;
- Responsible management and use of agrochemicals: finalize the updated contents of the NSC; take part in policy dialogues with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), relevant management agencies and coordinate with other PPP Task Forces to develop solutions for responsible management and use of agrochemicals.

The PPP Task Force on Tea:

In the 1st quarter of 2019, the “Integrating smallholders into sustainable and quality tea supply chains in Viet Nam - Phase 2” Project (V.U.I Project) and the “Quality and Sustainability in Viet Nam tea industry Project (Agri-team) were completed. During the implementation process, these two projects attracted 20 domestic tea enterprises and 10,048 farmers. The total area of tea plantations participating in the program was 8,023 ha, the total production of sustainable tea was 29,960 tons, of which 7500 tons have been certified by the Rainforest Alliance (RA).



Also in the 1st quarter of 2019, the PPP Task Force on Tea cooperated with the Secretariat of the Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture in Viet Nam (PSAV) to conduct a performance assessment of the Task Force in order to build the 5-year Strategy of the Task Force. The objectives for the next phase in the draft Strategy of the PPP Task Force on Tea will focus on (i) Supporting smallholders to improve the quality of Vietnamese tea from 3.6 to 4.0 under the brandname “Tea made in Viet Nam”; (ii) Enhancing the effectiveness of cooperation between the public sector, the private sector and social organizations; (iii) Promoting the comprehensive and sustainable development of the tea industry in terms of economy, society and environment to increase access to major export markets. This activity is supported by Grow Asia and the Inclusive Business Action Network (IBAN) to support the replication of effective inclusive business models.

The PPP Task Force on Fisheries:

On March 8th, 2019, within the framework of the Project “Supporting sustainable development of aquaculture in the Mekong Delta through strengthening public-private partnership”, the Directorate of Fisheries cooperated with the



Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) held a workshop: “Orientation to improve the effectiveness of environmental monitoring, disease surveillance in aquaculture in the coming time”, with the following main contents:

- Assess the status of environmental monitoring and disease surveillance in the past; the correlation between some environmental factors and epidemics in aquaculture;
- Discuss solutions to improve the effectiveness of environmental monitoring and disease surveillance in the coming time;
- Research to improve and complete the website for environmental monitoring and disease management to support users with easy access, simplified procedures and build a complete database;
- Identify and advise the current status of shrimp and pangasius farming and propose solutions to minimize chemicals and/or antibiotics used in aquaculture, and improve the efficiency of production and disease control;
- Review and assess the current status of environmental monitoring and disease management, based on data and monitoring procedures already in place;
- Select a contractor to assess the current traceability status in the shrimp and pangasius farming industry.

The PPP Task Force on Fruits and Vegetables

In the afternoon of April 11th in Ho Chi Minh city, MARD (PSAV Office) cooperated with the Netherlands Economic Trade Mission led by the Dutch Prime Minister, GrowAsia and VNU Exhibition Company organized the “HortiFuture Viet Nam: Future technologies - Today’s vision” to introduce the technological innovations that are being applied in the Netherlands, as well as build a vision and develop a roadmap of Viet Nam’s fruits and vegetables sector, ensuring the roles and rights of smallholders in the sector’s transformation and development. The conference was attended by more than 150 guests and speakers from the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Asian Pacific Seed Association, and leading businesses in the horticulture and vegetable industry in Viet Nam.



At the Conference, partners agreed on 3 solution pathways to be considered and implemented by the PPP Task Force on Fruits and Vegetables under PSAV including:

- Greater access to finance
- Greater consumer and retailer awareness
- National standards for quality and certification

On March 15th 2019, PepsiCo Foods Viet Nam Company, representing the PPP Task Force

on Fruits and Vegetables, celebrated the 10th anniversary of partnership with farmers in Don Duong district, Lam Dong province. The ceremony was attended by the leadership of MARD, the leader of Lam Dong People's Committee and over 200 farmers in Don Duong district.

The event was held to honor the important achievements of the "Sustainable Agriculture" PPP Project in potato farming supplying input materials for PepsiCo-Poca's potato snack production. The program is within the cooperation framework of the PPP Task Force on Fruits and Vegetables. This program has been recognized by the MARD as an important cooperation between the Government and private enterprises in Viet Nam's agricultural sector.

On this occasion, Pepsico Foods affirmed its long-term commitment to support Viet Nam's agricultural sector and continue to develop the program in Don Duong and other areas across the country to contribute to the common goals of the agriculture industry ■

ACTIVITIES OF PSAV SECRETARIAT

The PPP Task Force Leaders' Meeting

In the afternoon of February 20th, 2019, PSAV Secretariate organized the Task Force Leaders' Meeting chaired by Mr. Tran Kim Long, Director General of the International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and Ms. Glotin Martinez Marion Elisabeth, Managing Manager, Yara Viet Nam Ltd. The meeting was attended by 36 participants representing public and private Leaders of 8 PPP Task Forces under PSAV.



This was the first official meeting between public and private Leaders of the 8 PPP Task Forces under PSAV. At the meeting, partners had an opportunity to openly exchange and share issues and challenges faced in developing public-private partnerships within the scope of their respective Task Forces. Accordingly, partners could propose and identify appropriate mechanism and solutions to enhance cooperation and coordination effectiveness, clearly define the roles and responsibilities of partners in PSAV. The group also came

to an agreement on a plan for developing PSAV's Action Plan and Strategies of 8 PPP Task Forces in the 2019-2020 period, with a vision to 2025.

Speaking at the meeting, Mr. Tran Kim Long, Director General of the International Cooperation Department acknowledged significant improvements and contributions made by PSAV in the past years. He also noted of PSAV's need for a medium and long-term plan with a clearer vision. This

plan must address the core issues of the agricultural sector and could be propelled by public-private partnerships in agriculture. Ms. Marion Martinez, Yara Viet Nam Company, on behalf of the private sector, affirmed that PSAV should further enhance the exchange, cooperation and coordination effectiveness among members and partners. She hopes PSAV to have more opportunities to exchange and dialogue on solutions to further promote public-private cooperation in Viet Nam's agriculture.

Survey of PSAV members and partners' expectations

In order to enhance the effectiveness of public-private partnerships under the PSAV framework, PSAV Secretariat conducted an online survey on expectations of PSAV members and partners. All recommendations and suggestions were synthesized by PSAV Office. Accordingly, the main groups of activities need to be promoted by PSAV in the next period include: strengthen the

effectiveness of PPP Task Forces, promote coordination mechanisms among Task Forces; increase learning and experience sharing opportunities in implementing sustainable projects and policy dialogue. The survey results and contents will be reported to MARD leaders of at PSAV General Meeting to develop PSAV's orientation and priorities in the future.

Co-chair of the PPP Task Force on Fruits and Vegetables

Acknowledging fruits and vegetables' key role in the entire agricultural sector, in order to enhance the public - private cooperation effectiveness in the PPP Task Force on Fruits and Vegetables, the International Cooperation Department (PSAV Office) issued Official Letter No. 2017/BNN-HTQT inviting the Institute of Organic Agricultural Economics (VOAE) to take the role of Public Sector Co-chair of the Task Force on Fruits and Vegetables. VOAE

is the leading agency in strategic research, policy proposals, investor connection, trade promotion, technology transfer and human resource training in agriculture and related fields. As a Co-Chair, VOAE will actively participate in connecting, discussing with Task Force's members to setup action plans and promote Task Force's activities in the implementation of the general objectives of the industry.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

On March 27th, in Buon Ma Thuot, Dak Lak province, Bayer Viet Nam Company in collaboration with the Central Highlands Agriculture and Forestry Science Institute (WASI) organized a workshop on "Using pesticides through irrigation systems" ("Drip protection" Solution). The workshop was attended by representatives of Plant Protection Department (PPD), Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARDs) in Dak Lak,

Lam Dong, Gia Lai and Dak Nong provinces, and other stakeholders in the coffee industry such as non-governmental organizations, local traders, farmers ...

Viet Nam is the second largest coffee exporter in the world but the coffee industry is facing a critical matter of ensuring coffee rejuvenation success as replanting area accounts for 20% of total coffee area. With the average age of



25-30 years, the coffee trees in Viet Nam is entering the aging stage which might probably result in 30%-40% yield decrease. It is not only a challenge for coffee growers but also a concern for the sustainable growth of the coffee industry in Viet Nam.

“Drip Protection” is the combination of Bayer’s Much More Coffee and Velum technology solutions, a soon-to-be-launched nematode treatment solution. The solution is developed

for drip irrigation system. With Drip Protection, water and crop protection products are distributed throughout the field via the drip irrigation system and delivered directly to the roots of the crop. The results of the “Drip Protection” test results showed that 100% coffee trees were successfully re-planted, significantly saving replanting time (it took only about 2 years for the first harvest comparing to a period of 4 years in conventional practices) ■

World Economic Forum - WEF - Davos 2019

From January 22nd-25th, 2019, the World Economic Forum 2019 was held in Davos, Switzerland under the theme “Globalization 4.0: Shaping a Global Architecture in the Age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution”. The forum included many discussions on the need for public-private partnerships to overcome global challenges - from climate change to economic inequality.

The Vietnamese delegation led by Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc attended 37 successive activities. In particular, the Prime Minister spoke at a discussion session themed “Meeting of Leaders on Ocean Action Agenda”, attending Informal Gathering of World Economic Leaders (IGWEL) with the theme “The World in Globalization 4.0”, and the dialogue session with WEF President – Mr. Borge Brende, which was streamed online on the WEF global website with the theme “Viet Nam and the World”. This was the first time WEF organized a separate session on Viet Nam to promote Viet Nam’s development and integration.



The Prime Minister also had meetings with leaders of some countries, heads of major international organizations; met and talked with the leaders of the world’s leading corporations. With WEF Executive Chairman and Founder, Professor Klaus Schwab, the Prime Minister also witnessed the signing ceremony of the cooperation agreement on the construction of the 4.0 Technology Revolution Center in Viet Nam and the Protocol of Reducing Plastic Waste Initiative between WEF and Viet Nam ■

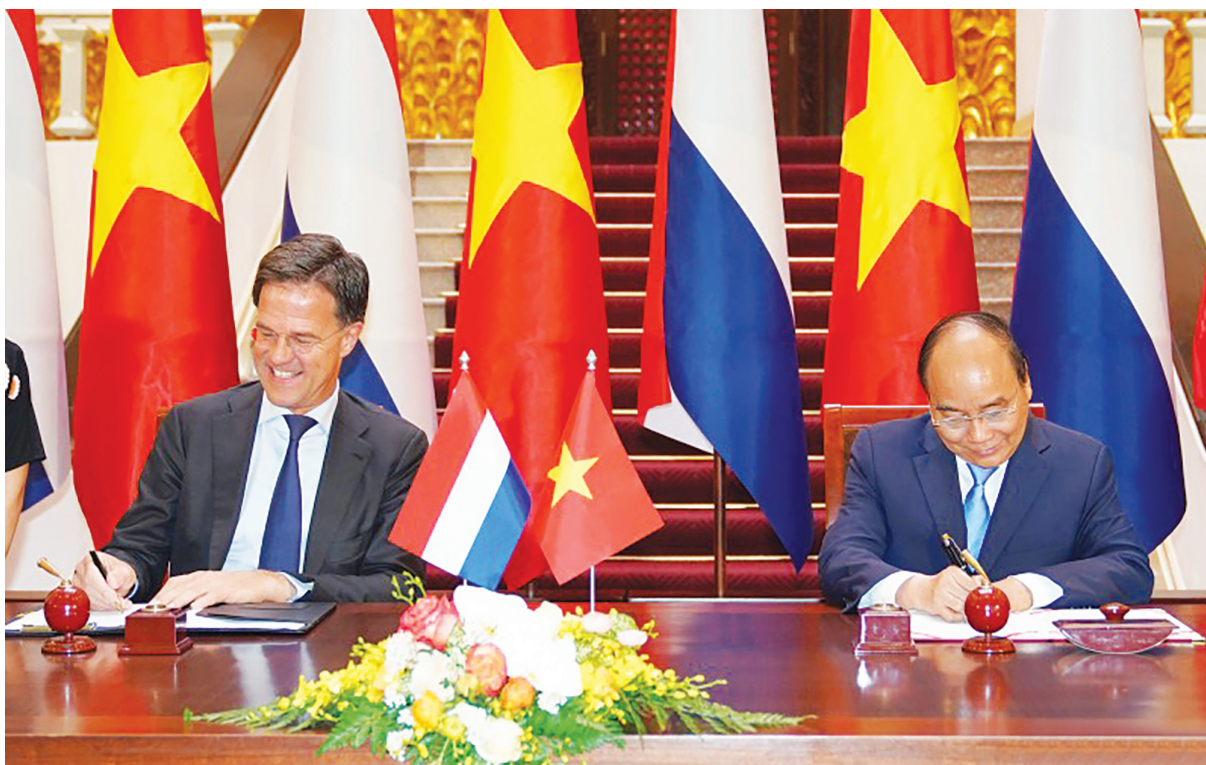
ASEAN Digital Directory

On March 15th, 2019, the ASEAN Digital Directory was launched by Grow Asia in partnership with the WEF and iBAN. Digital solutions are key enablers of sustainable and inclusive value chain development. However, these technologies are limited in reach today. The potential is only going to be realized if investors, agribusinesses and development actors know what solutions are available. The directory will

be an useful tool to find and connect with providers of solutions to traceability, finance, trading and other technologies.

Information on the Digital Directory can be accessed at <https://growasiadirectory.org>. PSAV members and partners can contact PSAV Secretariat or Grow Asia to publish digital solutions on the above Directory.

Viet Nam - Netherlands cooperates in agricultural transformation



On April 9th, 2019, during the official visit to Viet Nam led by Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte, the governments of the two countries signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in agricultural transformation in the Mekong Delta.

Under this memorandum, Viet Nam will apply the knowledge and expertise of leading universities, especially Wageningen University of the Netherlands, to conduct high-quality technical support and start a number of value chain development projects. The two sides emphasized the links between water resources, water quality, agricultural transformation and welcomed the cooperation on the basis of strategic partnership between Viet Nam and the Netherlands to deal with these challenges.

Currently, the strategic partnership between the two

countries on climate change adaptation and water management, partnership on sustainable agriculture and food security are entering the implementation phase of specific programs and projects.

According to the joint statement signed on the same day, the two countries agreed to implement cooperation programs based on the priorities and strengths of the two countries, in the fields of crop production, animal husbandry, food safety management, smart agriculture, adaptation to climate change, water quality... Programs will emphasis on cooperation in developing smart agricultural areas and improving value chains of agricultural products in Viet Nam, focusing on technology transfer and support from Dutch partners to increase business cooperation opportunities.

Agro-Forestry-Fishery trade surplus of 1,55 billion USD in the first quarter of 2019

According to official statistics, the export turnover of Vietnamese agricultural, forestry and aquatic products in March 2019 reached 3.3 billion USD; bringing the total export value of the first quarter of the whole industry to 8.8 billion USD.

There are currently four largest export markets of agriculture, forestry and fishery products, in which China accounts for 19.3% of the total export market share; America accounts for 17.6%; Japan accounts for 9.7%; South Korea accounts for 6.3%.

While export volume of many other agricultural products and industrial crops is decreasing, those of rubber, wood and meat products increased sharply. In particular, the export turnover of livestock products in March 2019 was estimated at 47 million USD, bringing the total export value of this commodity group in the first quarter of 2019 to 129

million USD, up 1.4% over the same period of 2018. The seafood export turnover in March 2019 was estimated at 645 million USD, bringing the seafood export turnover in the first 3 months of the year to 1.8 billion USD, up by 0.5% year-on-year. Japan, the United States, China and South Korea are among the top 4 import markets of Vietnamese seafood, accounting for 52.8% of the total seafood export value.

Imports of agricultural, forestry and fishery products and agricultural materials in March 2019 was estimated at 2.55 billion USD. Accumulated in the first 3 months of the year, total agricultural import turnover was 7.25 billion USD, increasing by 4.6% compared to the same period in 2018. Thus, up to this point, the agricultural sector has reached the surplus trade value of 1.55 billion USD ■

NEW POLICY ON AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

The list of 13 National key agricultural commodities

On December 25th, 2018, MARD issued Circular No. 37/2018/TT-BNNPTNT on the list of national key agricultural products. Accordingly, 13 national key agricultural products are supported under the Government's Decree No. 57/2018/ND-CP dated April 17th, 2018 on mechanisms and policies to encourage enterprises to invest

in agricultural and rural areas include: 1- Rice; 2- Coffee; 3- Rubber; 4- Cashew Nuts; 5- Pepper; 6- Tea; 7. Vegetables and fruits; 8. Cassava and cassava products; 9- Pork meat; 10- Meat and eggs of poultry; 11- Pangasius; 12- Shrimp; 13- Wood and wood products. The Circular takes effect from February 8th, 2019.

Plan to implement the Law on Crop Production and Law on

The Law on Crop Production No. 31/2018/QH14 and the Law on Livestocks No. 32/2018/QH14 were passed at the 6th session of the 14th National Assembly meeting on November 19th, 2018 with a majority of yes votes. In order to implement

the Law on Crop Production and the Law on Livestocks in a timely, synchronous and effective manner, on February 14th, 2019, the Prime Minister issued the Decision No. 182/QD-TTg on the implementation of the Law on Crop Production and Law on Livestocks.

List of conventional and single-ingredient animal feeds allowed to circulate in Viet Nam

On February 11th, 2019, MARD issued Circular 02/2019/TT-BNNPTNT promulgating the list of conventional and single-ingredient animal feeds allowed to circulate in Viet Nam. Accordingly, conventional animal feeds permitted to circulate in Viet Nam are divided into four groups: (i) Food of plant origin; (ii) Food of animal origin; (iii) Milk and dairy

products; (iv) Oil and grease products. In addition, single-ingredient products used for animal feeds, which are allowed to circulate in Viet Nam, are also stipulated in the List attached to this Circular.

This Circular takes effect from 11/02/2019, replacing Circular 26/2012/TT-BNNPTNT dated June 25th, 2012.

Detailing a number of articles and measures to implement the Law on Fisheries

On March 8th, 2019, the Government issued Decree No. 26/2019/ND-CP detailing a number of articles and measures to implement the Law on Fisheries, including 9 chapters, 75 articles on the implementation of administrative procedures; regulations on co-management in the protection of aquatic resources; management of endangered, precious and rare aquatic species; regulations

on marine protected area management; aquatic resource protection and development fund; aquatic breed management; aquatic food, aquaculture environmental treatment products; aquaculture; management activities of Vietnamese organizations and individuals exploiting aquatic resources in sea areas ... This Decree takes effect from April 25th, 2019. ■

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Viet Nam Livestock Outlook and Introduction of PPP Task Force on Livestocks

Recognizing animal husbandry as an important economic sector in agriculture, with an aim to strengthen public-private cooperation in the development of sustainable livestock value chains linked to environmental protection, on January 25th, 2019, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development agreed with the proposal by the International Cooperation Department (PSAV Office) in Report No. 29/HTQT-TTr dated 17/01/2019 on the establishment of the PPP Task Force on Livestocks under PSAV. Accordingly, the PPP Task Force on Livestock will be established with 04 sub-groups including dairy cows, pigs, poultry, and animal feeds.

Besides, it is expected that in the 2nd quarter of 2019, MARD will organize the Viet Nam Livestock Outlook and a Workshop to introduce the PPP Task Force on Livestocks. The event will be an open forum for industry partners to exchange experiences and lessons, analyze and assess

the challenges of Viet Nam's livestock industry and develop effective cooperation mechanisms between public and private sectors to develop a livestock industry towards sustainable exports.

PSAV General Meeting

In order to evaluate, summarize the performance of PSAV, and discuss on solutions to promote public-private cooperation in the agricultural sector and prepare for the Grow Asia Forum (WEF-GAF), MARD will hold the PSAV General Meeting in Quarter II/2019. The meeting is expected to be attended by more than 80 delegates of co-chairs of PPP Task Forces under PSAV, multinational corporations/companies, relevant agencies and associations, domestic and international trade associations, Grow Asia Secretariat and other relevant national and international enterprises and organizations. The 2019 PSAV General Meeting will focus on discussing strategies and operational plans of PPP Task Forces in each sector for the period of 2019-2020 as well as public - private dialogues between MARD and members/partners of PSAV ■

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