

UNFSS National Briefing Session for the Philippines
Jointly Organized by UNFSS and the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards,
Department of Agriculture of the Philippines
October 25, 2013

UNFSS Mission Statement: The UNFSS is a platform created to provide information, analysis and capacity-building assistance on voluntary sustainability standards (VSS) with a particular focus on the potential value of VSS as tools for developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals. Key decision-makers from governments and the private sector in developing countries should be sufficiently informed about the strategic importance and main policy requirements of VSS in order to develop proactive strategies that maximize the developmental contribution and export market access benefits of those standards, while reducing their potential problematic impacts.

Briefing Session Theme: Seizing the opportunity to approach voluntary sustainability standards in a coordinated and strategic way to help achieve sustainable development goals and facilitate market access

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| 8:30-8:50 | Registration |
| 9:00-10:30 | <p>Welcome and Introduction: Present perspectives, experience and view of VSS - Nexus between regulatory and private standards: discussion on governmental concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome speech by Under Secretary of DA or Director BAFPS, DA - Presentation on UNFSS objectives, added value and priority activities for 2014-2015 - National experience on VSS implementation: the government and private sector perspectives (Mr. Leo P. Cañeda, Director, BAFPS, Department of Agriculture, Mr. Roberto C. Amores, President, PHILFOODEX and Trustee for Food Sector, PHILEXPORT) - Presentation by UNFSS partner organizations (FAO, ITC, UNEP and UNIDO) on relevant VSS activities in the Philippines |
| 10:30-10:50 | Q & A session |
| 10:50-11:10 | Coffee break |
| 11:10-12:30 | <p>Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) programmes and commercial GAP standards: Their coexistence and modular approaches to serve different domestic and international market segments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introductory presentation (UNCTAD representative, based on GAP study for Asia) - Lessons to be learned from the Thai approach to GAP. Presentation by Mr. Chusak Chuenprayoth, Board of Trade and ThaiGAP Institute - The role of the national GAP programme and ASEAN GAP (Mr. Leo P. Cañeda, Director, BAFPS, Department of Agriculture) - The private sector perspective on GAP programmes and commercial GAP standards (speaker: Mr. Roberto C. Amores, President, PHILFOODEX and Trustee for Food Sector, PHILEXPORT and Ms. Kerstin Uhlig, Manager Corporate Relations, GLOBALG.A.P. c/o FoodPlus GmbH). |
| 12:30-12:50 | Q & A session |

- 12:50-14:10 Lunch break
- 14:10-15:10 **An ASEAN organic standards scheme: Key opportunities and challenges in developing regional organic standards and a system for recognizing conformity assessment**
- Introductory presentation (some generic lessons to be learned from the GOMA-Asia and harmonization of standards schemes for the ASEAN Economic Community, speaker: Ms. Diane Bowen, UNFSS support team)
 - Vision and objectives in developing the ASEAN organic standard (Mr. Leo P. Cañeda, Director, BAFPS, Department of Agriculture, Chairman of the Task force on the ASEAN Organic Standard)
 - The private sector perspective on developing an ASEAN organic standard (Mr. Patrick Belisario, Organic Producers' Trade Association Philippines)
- 15:10-15:30 Q & A session
- 15:30-16:00 **Emerging biodiversity-friendly farming certification schemes: Key issues and challenges** (speaker: Ms. Diane Bowen)
- 16:00-16:15 Q & A session
- 16:15-16:30 **The specific contribution of UNFSS to national and regional management of VSS: Seeking feedback on UNFSS priority activities and their relevance for the Philippines**
- Introductory presentation by UNFSS representative
- 16:30-17:00 Q & A session
- 17:00 Summary of the discussion and closure of the meeting