

Workshop Agenda

Thursday, 14 December 2017 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Vientiane, Lao PDR

7:00 – 8:30	Pre-session: Organic Market Fair (<i>Outside of hotel at King Fa Ngum Park</i>)
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government of Lao PDR United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
	Keynote Speech <ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
9:30 – 10:30	Session 1: Status of Organic Agriculture in Lao PDR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction and background of LOAF by Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MoAF) & Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MoIC) Recap from LOAF 5 and update of Organic Agriculture Strategy for Lao PDR by Standard Division, Department of Agriculture (DoA), MoAF Standard and Certification Development in Laos by Standard Division, DoA, MoAF
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break (<i>In Pre-function Area</i>)
10:45 - 12:15	Session 2: What are Voluntary Sustainability Standards (VSS)? Part I: Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VSS and global market trends by International Trade Centre (ITC) Approaches to VSS by other developing countries by UNCTAD Part II: How are VSS certified? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organic vegetable certification through Participatory Guarantee Systems by FAO - tbc Using Sustainable Rattan certification to improve forestry management by WWF Q&A and Discussion
12:15 – 13:30	Lunch (<i>At Mosaic Restaurant on the 1st floor</i>)
13:30 – 15:00	Session 3: Can VSS Improve the Marketability of the Lao organic label? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrading Lao GAP to meet international standards by GIZ Challenges of expanding markets for Lao Organic products Lao Farmer's Products - tbc Q&A and Discussion
15:00 – 16:15	Session 4: Breakout Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group discussions on VSS and organic exports
16:15 – 16:30	Coffee Break (<i>In Pre-function Area</i>)
16:30 – 17:00	Session 4: Breakout Discussion (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation from each group
17:00 – 17:30	Conclusion and Way Forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MoAF, MoIC, UNCTAD