

# Diffusion of Global GAP Standard in Asia

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# Questions and Policy Suggestions

- ◆ Global GAP is diffused to Asia in a variety of ways.  
Diffusion occurs mainly through trade and supply chain linkages of private firms, but sometimes backed by explicit policy supports.  
⇒ Why does the diffusion happen?  
⇒ What is the consequence in Asia?
- ◆ Some countries decide to **modify the requirements** of Global GAP to better fit to **local conditions**.
- ◆ This creates complexity of requirements for firms that produce agriculture products for international trade.

- Under globalization, complex requirements imposed by diffused Global GAP create a higher hurdle for all firms along global value chains (GVC).
- Inclusive trade needs efforts of regulatory/standards coordination on levels of countries/firms/industries so that requirements to participate in trade/GVC is easy to understand for everybody.

# Motivations behind Global GAP Diffusion

The **FEAR**: if you are not certified, you are excluded from the export market→this could lead to spread of the private standard.

**High costs** for obtaining Global GAP certification, **language** are another important motivation for creating local GAPs.

Standard Adopter or Developer	To Improve Domestic Practices	For Export	To Harmonize Domestic Regulations	For Importation Control
Private Sector	AEON A-Q (Japan)	Thai GAP (Thailand)	JGAP (Japan)	
Public Sector	GAPs (Japan)  Q GAP(Thailand) SALM(Malaysia) GAP VF(Singapore) PhilGAP(Philippines) IndonGAP(Indonesia)  ChinaGAP(China)	IndGAP (India)  VietGAP(Vietnam) MyGAP (Malaysia)  ChinaGAP(China)	ASEANGAP (ASEAN)	Global GAP (Indonesia)

# Observation

- ◆ There are farmers that simply adopt Global GAP as it is.
- ◆ Private firms' concern over losing market access drives **governments/industrial associations** to create standards that are similar to Global GAP. => Global GAP was initially created by private entities but it became public after diffusion in Asia.
- ◆ Some of the diffused Global GAPs are **not standards** but just collections of **best practices**. Others are standards with different ways of certification (self certification, second party certification, third party certification).
- ◆ A country like Indonesia uses Global GAP as part of **government regulation for importation of certain agricultural products**.

# Challenges

- While various private food safety standards are developed, GFSI is a platform to benchmark various standards.
- However, government-owned standards without third party certifications may not be benchmarked.
- We continue to have many country versions GAPs that are both private and public and that vary in quality.
- This creates complexity for global value chains. Especially SMEs lacking finance and capacity experience difficulty to meet multiple standards.
- A harmonized simple set of standards that achieve food safety is inevitable for inclusive trade.
- *Is adaptation of Global GAP meaningful in Asia?*<sup>5</sup>

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.