Would Asian economies benefit from adopting GlobalGAP?

John Humphrey Geneva October 2015

I



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3

Suppliers Obligations: Company K

"All prospective suppliers to ... must now have achieved, or be working toward:

- Certification to the BRC, IFS or ISO 22000 standards for Quality Management.
- Certification to ISO14001, be preparing for it, or pass an independent inspection for responsible environmental management.
- Certification to the GAA standards for BAP conducted by an authorised ACC inspector.
- Successfully complete a third party inspection against the ETI Base Code."
- IN ADDITION:
- "Successfully satisfy an inspection covering all aspects of GMP, GAP, GEM, and Social Accountability, conducted by one of the [company] technical team."

Two factors in private standards adoption

- Risk perception
 - > Brand risk among large companies
 - Legal liability
- Buyer power
 - Concentration in retail in northern Europe
 - > Large number of potential suppliers in Africa

4

Private standards in Europe — fresh produce production

- Not so prevalent in Eastern Europe
- Much less widely adopted in southern Europe
- Not important for small retailers
- Irrelevant for many wholesale operators

6

Implications for Asia

- GlobalGAP not relevant for most exporters
- Not relevant in US or Japanese markets
- Good Agricultural Practices may be desirable and have benefits for farmers as well as consumers
- A variety of different types of GAPs adopted or in development in ASEAN
 - See presentation by Michida

7

Key questions for adopting governments

- What type of GAP?
 - GlobalGAP or other private standard
 - ➤ A benchmarked national variant of GlobalGAP
 - > A similar national but not-benchmarked standard
 - Codex-based recommendations to farmers
 - Promoted through education and encouragement
 - Promoted through encouraging retailers/processes to require
- Domestic/export market relationships
 - Uniformity
 - Compartmentalisation

8

Choice of Enforcement mechanism

- Encouragement promote best practice
- Legal requirement but with presumption of innocence
- Certification
 - > By private certifiers
 - > By government
- Harmonisation, benchmarking or mutual recognition?
- US initiative on food safety Food Safety
 Modernisation Act might be a better template for
 action than GlobalGAP

9