

UNAPCAEM Expert Group Meeting

“Development of a sustainable agricultural machinery and farm implements testing network in the Asia-Pacific region”



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Introduction to UNAPCAEM



- Based in Beijing, P.R. China
- One of 5 ESCAP regional institutions serving 62 ESCAP members / associate members
- Initiated operations in 2004
- Centre's Governing Council proposed three thematic cluster programmes
 - agricultural engineering
 - food chain management
 - agro-enterprise development & trade
- Repositioning itself as a “centre of excellence” promoting agricultural technology transfer for food security / environmentally sustainable agriculture in the Asia-Pacific region through South-South Cooperation



UNAPCAEM'S Strategic Focus



Vision

- A greener, more efficient mechanized agricultural value chain system contributing to poverty reduction in the Asia-Pacific region

Mission

- A UN regional institution of excellence in agricultural engineering & machinery promoting economically, environmentally & socially sustainable agricultural systems & agro-business development in the Asia-Pacific region by acting as a platform for capacity building, technology transfer & information networking
- Provides policy advice / recommendations to governments based on agricultural engineering developments & facilitates multi-country collaboration on development & implementation of innovative agro-engineering technologies



Asia-Pacific Backdrop

UNAPCAEM requested by its Technical Committee & Governing Council to set up an Asia–Pacific network for testing agricultural machinery and farm implements...an “ANTAM”



Why?

- Asia has become a major player in agricultural machinery manufacturing & inter-regional trade
- Occupational safety & health of farmers remains a concern
- Agriculture must become more environmentally sustainable



UNAPCAEM Agricultural Mechanization Study 2010 (1)



- Proposed a step by step pathway to establish an “ANTAM”
- Request formal expressions of interest from member countries
 - Prepare comprehensive document of existing national standards / agricultural machinery testing codes
 - Seek governments mutual recognition of each other’s national standards/test codes
 - Survey existing testing centres & prepare test facilities capability matrix
 - Evaluate test centers for consistency and credibility



UNAPCAEM Agricultural Mechanization Study 2010 (2)



- Authorize use of region-wide accepted “ANTAM” certified logo by evaluated test centers
- Formulate / popularize region-wide standards & test codes to enhance agricultural machinery testing uniformity
- Implement regional capacity building / expert exchange in building / updating / upgrading test facilities of popular agricultural machinery
- Implement voluntary / enforced standards in agricultural machinery trade & corroborate with other regional / international testing networks



“Flagship Project” The Goal



- Enhance trade flows of quality farm machinery and farm implements via development of a regional network on testing standards & mutually agreeable & acceptable testing protocols for Asia-Pacific countries & improve farmers’ access to quality, safe and affordable agricultural machinery and farm implements



Responding via increasing trade



- Trade can play a part by increasing the agricultural machinery options available to farmers, improve quality via increasing competition in the market and stimulate innovation as manufacturers look to garner increasing market share



EGM Goal

- Our EGM is an initial step of a phased project which aims to establish an “ANTAM”, a virtual network linking agricultural machinery testing stations across the region
- Discuss the modalities of developing an economically, environmentally and socially (pro-poor) sustainable agricultural machinery and farm implements’ testing network for farmers in the Asia-Pacific region
- Establish a task force made up of EGM participating experts from agricultural machinery testing centres and the private sector from across the region to formulate a concrete action plan to for the formal establishment of “ANTAM”



Issues for consideration (1)



Experience of ENTAM, OECD and others generated key issues to consider going forward realizing a functioning “ANTAM” by 2013

First...need for member countries to agree to accept test results of testing centres of other member countries for quality assurance of farm machinery and highlight benefits of ANTAM for enhancing agricultural mechanization

1. ANTAM membership (“critical mass”)
 - authorized, government-affiliated testing centres in member countries
 - manufacturers recognized by Government
 - OECD, ENTAM, ENAMA, others
 - countries with no testing facilities
 - other private sector entities



Issues for consideration (2)



2. ANTAM critical functions
- adopt uniform testing standards by member countries
 - facilitate machinery acceptance by member countries regardless of where tested
 - harmonize testing protocols / parameters / standards for different machines across countries with different agricultural machinery testing standards
 - establish standard specifications / test procedures / performance indices for agricultural machinery
 - training for students, engineers and technicians on standards development
 - publishing and dissemination of standards and test results
 - capacity building of test engineers on methods and procedures for testing of different machinery based on the harmonized test procedure
 - certification and institutional authority
 - facilitate machinery export / import without need for retesting



Issues for consideration (3)



3. **ANTAM priorities**
 - what should be tested
 - ensuring value for money
 - trade facilitation
 - environmental concerns
 - compulsory vs. voluntary testing
 - safety
 - consistent / harmonized standards
 - others
4. **ANTAM financial sustainability**
 - expectations of institutional support from APCAEM
 - longer term basis through manufacturers of agricultural machinery
 - manufacturers associations of agricultural machinery
5. **ANTAM beneficiaries**
 - agricultural machinery manufacturers in member countries
 - member country governments / departments involved in promotion of farm mechanization
 - farmers
6. **UNAPCAEM role post-ANTAM establishment**



Thank you

