

Strengthening post-harvest management practices through Post-Harvest Management platform (Addis Ababa, 20-21 October 2016)

Background

FAO in partnership with Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resource (MoANR) took the initiative to develop a project GCP/ETH/084/SWI entitled 'Reducing Food Losses through Improved Postharvest Management in Ethiopia'. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to improved food and nutrition security through the reduction of postharvest losses of major food grains in Amhara, Oromia Tigray and SNNP regions.

Launching

The platform was launched at Adama, Ethiopia. The event was organised by MoANR and FAO as part of the activities of the above mentioned project. The workshop was opened by Ato Abdulsemed, Director of the Crop directorate at the MoANR, pointed out that the need for establishing post-harvest platform that will bring a coordinated and concerted efforts to bring the desired change in reducing post-harvest losses at different level. A total of about 35 participants represented from various institutions including SDC representatives took part in the event



Mission

The mission of the platform is to bring all relevant stakeholders together in order to facilitate interventions pertaining to postharvest management through identification, evaluation and compilation of available knowledge and technologies pertaining to research, extension and development in postharvest management so as to improve the livelihood, food security and sustainable development in Ethiopia. Moreover, the platform would provide advisory service to the government on issues pertaining to postharvest management. The scope of the platform shall cover the postharvest management and value addition of durable crops (cereals, pulses and oil crops), perishables (fruits, vegetables, root and tubers and ornamental crops) and animal products (livestock and fisheries).

Objectives

The Platform is established in order to achieve the following major objectives:

- Strengthen and coordinate PH loss reduction program interventions and advocate for its sustainability
- Identify bottlenecks and develop plans to address priority gaps of the postharvest sector,
- Facilitate public-private partnership dialogue on postharvest management
- Serve as a forum for networking stakeholders through mutual use of postharvest demonstration sites, facilities, laboratories and data resources generated and owned by stakeholders under Federal Government & Regional States, academic institutions and industries

Management

The National Platform shall be chaired by the Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resource (MoANR) and at regional level chaired by Bureaus of Agriculture at all levels via Farmer's Training Centres (FTC). It shall comprise of: the General Assembly of the Members, the Executive committee, Sub-Committees/ Working Groups/Task Forces/Ad Hoc Committee and the Secretariat.