



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
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of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
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pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная  
организация  
Объединенных  
Наций

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## CONCEPT NOTE

### Training Workshop on Development of Pesticide Residue Monitoring Programme in Asian Countries

Organized by

**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Food Safety and Quality Unit  
and Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with the Institute of  
Quality Standard and Testing Technology for Agro-products of Chinese Academy of  
Agricultural Sciences  
21-22 July 2015, Beijing, China**

#### **Background**

One of priorities of Asian countries' agricultural policies is increasing productivity. The use of pesticide together with other technologies can realize pest control. During the past decade, the use of pesticides is increasing in Asian region. The intensive and often insufficient-controlled use of pesticides in the agriculture sector leads to increasing food safety problems. The increased attention has been focused on chemical residues in food. Consumers are very concerned about pesticide residues on agro-products.

Agro-products, especially fresh agro-products, are the important food and export goods for many Asian countries. It is often reported that overuse of pesticides is causing pollution and food safety problems. In addition, due to insufficient research backup and lack of regular and effective pesticide residues monitoring system, many Asian developing countries find it difficult to meet the today's market demand on safety. The economic losses of trade rejection caused by high pesticide residues are considerable to farmers, industry, governments and the people of the affected countries.

In Asian region, many countries have developed food safety regulations, and some are linked to pesticide residue issues; however, the enforcement generally remains weak, and pesticide residue monitoring plans have been developing very slowly. Many countries now have been realizing pesticide residue monitoring is an important issue for food safety management. The necessity to strengthen pesticide residue monitoring is becoming more apparent. Many countries, such as Bhutan, Nepal, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Timor Leste, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Indonesia, have been asking for support to develop residue monitoring plans.

An effective food safety management and reducing the risk of hazards from pesticide residues require not only adequate skills but also systems and institutions to develop policies, regulate, enforce and monitor, i.e. governance. South-South Cooperation has the potential to facilitate the sharing and adaptation of tested policies, systems, institutional arrangements and bridge the required knowledge gap.

Since 1980s, China has launched agro-food testing and monitoring programme as a part of food safety management. The Ministry of Agriculture has carried out the systematic pesticide residue monitoring plan since 2000. To date, a comprehensive monitoring program for pesticide residue has been developed and implemented regularly in China. China has accumulated valuable experiences in effectively managing the risk of hazardous pesticides and is best placed to support other countries adapt similar governance mechanisms. The

Institute of Quality Standard and Testing Technology for Agro-products of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (IQSTAP, CAAS) is the technical support for pesticide monitoring program and takes the leading role in the implementation. Expertise from China, Chinese practice and experience would be helpful for other Asian countries' capacity development on pesticide monitoring programme.

### **Workshop Objectives**

The main objectives of this training workshop are to:

- (i) increase awareness and knowledge on pesticide residue monitoring programme;
- (ii) develop the capability on pesticide residue monitoring programme design and implementation to promote pesticide residue monitoring and control and its institutionalization.

### **Expected Workshop Outputs**

The expected outputs of the workshop will be:

- (i) participants understand the facts had to be considered in the design and implementation of pesticide residue monitoring programme;
- (ii) a concise report of workshop containing international requirements on pesticide residue monitoring, good practices in some countries, participants' common problems and concerns etc.;
- (iii) an assessment on existing pesticide residue monitoring system in participating countries and priorities;
- (iv) an informal network for mutual support.

### **Participants**

The 2-day training workshop will have approximately 12-14 participants from countries in the Asia-Pacific Region. Since the training programme links to both management and technical issues, the participants are mainly from the food safety and quality control departments and institutes that are responsible for residue survey, standards and food safety surveillance.

### **Organizers**

The workshop is being organized jointly by FAO Food Safety and Quality Unit of the Headquarters, Rome, Italy and FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAORAP), Bangkok, Thailand, in collaboration with the Institute of Quality Standard and Testing Technology for Agro-products of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Beijing, China.