

Editorial – Preparation of 2016 outcomes review and know-how transfer

The end of the year getting close, all stakeholders - national facilitators, local facilitators/animators, farmers and leaders, technicians, etc. - involved in SFOAP have begun to prepare end of year outcomes review workshops, which are a highlight of the program. Indeed, they allow producers' organizations, in particular, to adopt approaches and tools designed to support the organizations in providing sustainable tailored economic services to their members.

SUPPORTING FARMERS ORGANIZATIONS' INTEGRATION INTO VALUE CHAINS

EGYPT – A new step for a better access to export

After the successful missions of the exporting companies to Sohag, onions' associations worked on establishing direct marketing cycle between their producers and exporting companies.

The exporters essentially and usually request the compliance of raw materials with safety and quality requirements. The common certification requested in Egypt towards export to EU being GLOBAL GAP standards, concepts and basic requirements of the GAP has been introduced to producers from Sohag via training sessions: certification mechanism and processes (checklists and compliance criteria) emphasizing on how the associations can be certified as producers' groups.



This step is essential in the establishment of direct links between primary producers and exporting companies. It will allow the associations to negotiate prices, which will also add value to the products through quality and safety proof.

The associations will now be technically supported to achieve full compliance with the requirements of the GLOBAL GAP and to get through the certification process by providing experts and nominating certification bodies. The whole file will consider the value chain approach and identified exporters will be integrated in the preparatory phase.

TUNISIA – Enhancing camel hair value

Formerly used in traditional Bedouin life (rope to restrict the animal movement, udder-cover, men's clothing, etc.), camel hair manual spinning (using coarse and fine hair) is gradually abandoned as it is considered as difficult.

Failing a mechanical spinning system in South Tunisia, camel hair has no commercial outlet; shearing and collection is gradually phased-out. The camel-drivers are no longer motivated in shearing the herds and hair marketing is negligible.



In such context, breeders, through their groups, has been connected to craftswomen, who are as well sometimes organized in associations; their common goal is to add value to the product and to preserve the traditional Bedouin weaving knowledge and skills.

Traditional weaving also involving wool and goats hair, breeders (who often associate camel breeding and small ruminants) could also consider partnerships with companies that directly integrate the three types of fiber. A study in northern Tunisia on the valorization and marketing of wool will also contribute to this reflection.

ALGERIA – Quality approach and labelling of Algerian honeys

In the perspective, on a long run, of setting up a labelling system for honey in Algeria, the professional beekeepers national association (ANAP) and the ADAMB organized, in collaboration with the European network APIMED and SFOAP, a training on the quality of honey (4-6.10.2016) at the head office of INRA Algeria. 150 professional and amateur beekeepers from different regional associations and from all honey producing regions in Algeria participated. This training, facilitated by V. Panieterri, who is an expert beekeeper and chairman of APIMED, highlighted the importance of the quality of honey. An internal control system for honey (production, packaging, storage and marketing), associated with an HACCP model should progressively ensure a normative certification for honey. Distinctive marks of honey, even botanical and/or geographical origins could be used as quality parameters. Laboratory analyses should support the quality process and determination of norms.



Through these diverse actions, ANAP wishes to engage a dynamic of certification within partners and players of the value chain and, in fine, a better value addition to quality honey.

MOROCCO – Fruits producers' groups enhance their capacities to ensure the sustainability of their economical services

The Green Morocco Plan, in its second pillar, offers the opportunity to farmers' groups to finance their economical, intensification or value addition projects. For instance, Takbilte cooperative (Rich), who is a member of the mountainous fruit producers' national association (ANARBOM), already benefited of a principle agreement on the financing of a project of apples storage and processing.



Nevertheless, in order to ensure the sustainability of the activity of this type of groups and the sustainable improvement of its members' income, the producers' groups of Rich and Imilchil organized a training benefiting to 20 members in the framework of SFOAP (3-4.08.2016). This training raised their knowledge in entrepreneurship, funding prospection and project design cycle. This will help them to be better prepared to hold economical projects and thus ensure the delivery of services to their members.

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lettre_paopa_an@fert.fr

AGENDA



- ⇒ **18-19 November**, training on "honey quality" (tasting, improvement, etc.) Taza (Morocco)
- ⇒ **November**, visit to sundried tomatoes facility in Qena (Egypt)
- ⇒ **November**, visit of an accredited laboratory of honey analysis (Morocco)
- ⇒ **1-4 December**, study tour to Agadir agriculture show of Egyptians farmers (Morocco)
- ⇒ **December**, training of young beekeepers / succession planning (Taza- Morocco)

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