Overview of the Food Imports Landscape and Discussion of a Systems Approach

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1. Flexibility optimizes food safety outcomes
2. Harmonization with global standards and principles
3. Utilize a holistic food safety systems approach
4. Food safety facilitates global trade
5. Role of 3rd party accredited certification
6. Food safety applies to all foods
7. Testing as a tool to verify food safety systems are preventing hazards
Partnership
Global-to-Local Food Safety Systems

Country Infrastructure

1. International Governance
   - CODEX-OIE-IPPC & WTO
   - Guidelines & Recommendations
   - ISO Voluntary Measures

2. Laws & Regulations
   - Science Based Standards
   - Nat’l to Local Regulations, Imports/Exports

3. Inspection & Compliance
   - Network of Labs & Inspectors
   - Verify Compliance

4. Business Initiatives
   - GFSI
     - Capacity Building, Benchmarked Systems
     - Food Safety Management Systems
     - Accredited Certification, Transparency

International Organization for Standardization

Diagram derived, and used with permission, from Michigan State University
Rationale

• Countries are dependent on each other for food

World Trade Organization

• Govt’s established WTO & Sanitary/Phytosanitary (SPS)

CODEX-OIE-OPPC

• “Three Sisters”
• Recognized by SPS as setting international standards
  • Codex Alimentarius - Food Safety
  • International Plant Protection Convention - Plant health
  • World Organization for Animal Health - Animal Health
Rationale

• Strong food safety systems protect consumers & affects imports/exports

Laws & Regulations

• Regulations derived from international science based standards (CODEX)
• Some may reference ISO voluntary measures

Inspections & Compliance

• Network of national/state/local labs & inspectors
• Verify compliance & investigate issues to aid prevention
Rationale

- Builds on science based standards, guidelines & recommendations.
  - Strategic partnership with WTO to facilitate market requirements
  - Does not regulate, legislate, certify, or accredit
  - 163 country national standards institute members collaborate on development of voluntary measures

Voluntary Measures

- Measures for accreditation, certification, auditing, auditor competency, FSMS
- Standardizes implementation and consistency along the food chain
- May become market requirement or referred to in regulations / legislation

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Rationale

• Food Safety is a pre-competitive issue with collaboration to mitigate risk

Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI)

• Multi-stakeholder benchmarking of food safety systems
• Requirements for food safety systems & their delivery
  ➢ “Once certified, accepted everywhere”
• Capacity building through progressive Global Markets program

Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS)

• Robust food safety systems
• Accredited Certification
  ➢ Independence
  ➢ Transparency
  ➢ Confidence
GFSI
Global Markets Capacity Building Program

Rationale

• Development of an industry-recognized toolkit of voluntary food safety requirements for Primary Production and Manufacturing

Successful pilot and UNIDO support

• Basic and intermediate level requirements have been successfully carried out all over the world, including Ukraine, Egypt, USA, Chile, Mexico, and China.

✓ Facilitating market access locally

✓ Create mutual acceptance along the supply chain

✓ Mentoring of suppliers
GFSI Global Market Program
Drives Continuous Improvement

Matching Level

100%

70%

30%

12 Months

Global Markets:
Basic Level + Intermediate Level

Global Markets:

12 Months

GFSI Guidance Document Requirements

GFSI Recognized Manufacturing Schemes:
- BRC
- Dutch HACCP
- FSSC 22000
- GRMS
- IFS
- PrimusGFS
- SQF 2000 Level 2
- Synergy 22000

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Partnership
*Effective, Efficient, Protecting Consumers*

**Country Infrastructure**
- Laws & Regulations: Nat’l to Local Regulations, Imports/Exports
- Inspection & Compliance: Network of Labs & Inspectors, Verify Compliance

**International Governance**
- CODEX-OIE-IPPC & WTO
- Guidelines & Recommendations
- ISO Voluntary Measures

**International Organization for Standardization**
- GFSI: Capacity Building, Benchmarked Systems
- Food Safety Management Systems: Accredited Certification, Transparency

**Business Initiatives**
- Primary Production
- Animal Food (feed)
- Food Manufacture
- Packaging Material
- Distribution
- Retail

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Effective Integration of FSMA Programs

High Risk, FSVP, 3rd Party, VQIP

Foreign Supplier Verification Program

High Risk Imports

Third Party Certification

Voluntary Qualified Importer Program

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• Structure & mechanism for effective global partnership are in place
  ✓ Academia, consumer groups, government, industry
• Resources efficiently applied based on science and risk
• Shared goal of safe affordable food
• Confidence in food safety enhances global trade
• Business shoulders the responsibility for safe food

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