

IN THIS BULLETIN:

The Inception workshop of the Pro-poor policy Programme

Agricultural products and food safety

- Key tasks in agricultural product quality control in May 2012
- MARĐ repealed some provisions on exported aquatic product control

Limit the transfer of Rice Land to Non-Agriculture Land

NTP on the new rural development

International cooperation and intergration

- Vietnam – Israel enhance cooperation on veterinary and fishery
- The US Agency for International Development supports avian influenza prevention in Vietnam
- Urgent supports for un-identified disease in shrimp
- Vietnam – Russia enhance technological cooperation in fishery
- Vietnam and Lao boost cooperation in agriculture

Legislation documents in agriculture and rural development issued in May 2012

THE INCEPTION WORKSHOP OF THE PRO-POOR POLICY PROGRAMME



On 26 April 2012, the International Cooperation Department (ICD) via the International Support Group (ISG) of MARĐ organized the “Inception workshop on Pro-poor policy program” with the participations of leaders from MARĐ’s agencies; representatives from international organization such as FAO, IFAD, One UN, and NGOs; private sectors and research institutes as well as representatives from some provinces project participants. This is the 2nd phase of the Regional Programme funded by FAO-IFAD.

During 2006-2010, three policy studies have been conducted. . However, the results from these studies have not been fully integrated in the issued legislation

documents. Therefore, in the 2nd phrase, the objectives of this program for four nations including Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Nepal are: (i) to identify and analyze risks and emerging issues for policy development; (ii) to strengthen capacity for the Governments on policy analysis; (iii) to promote the participation from social, civil organizations and private sectors; (iv) to share information and lessons learnt; (v) to strengthen institutional capacity for the 4 nations in order to develop appropriate pro-poor policies in risk and sensitive managements for small scale farming households.

This program shall be connected to: (i) legislation documents; (ii) policy priorities (sector’s restructuring, new rural development, climate changes, food security and food safety).

The specific program shall be implemented via agencies: (i) ISG - MARĐ/ICD: high level policy dialogues; (ii) IPSARD and other research institutes: technical assistances for policy studies; (iii) MARĐ’s departments and other Ministries’ departments: legal development, implementation of NTPs; (iv) private sector and social-civil organizations: technical assistances for policy advocacy.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND FOOD SAFETY CONTROL

KEY TASKS IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT QUALITY CONTROL IN MAY 2012

To implement the conclusions from the Vice Prime Minister Nguyen Thien Nhan in the online meeting with localities on food safety insurance held on 26 April 2012, Vice Minister Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu, with the participations of leaders from the departments, directorates under the Ministry, chaired a meeting on agricultural product quality control and food safety control for May 2012 on 16 May 2012.

MARD issued the Announcement No 2360/TB-BNN-VP dated 22 May 2012 on the conclusion of the Vice Minister Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu at the meeting on agricultural product quality control and agricultural, forestry and fishery food safety control for May 2012. Thus, there are key missions for the agricultural, forestry and fishery quality control and food safety which need to be urgently implemented: completion of the draft circular stipulating criteria for food safety and plantation quarantine for fresh vegetables and fruits exporting to EU; recommendations on the revisions of the Circular No



54/2010/TT-BNNPTNT stipulating the control for usage of the banned substances; reviewing and amendment of the Circular No 16/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated 1st April 2011 from MARD stipulating the evaluation, nomination and management of ARD experiment department...

Detail of the Announcement No 2360/TB-BNN-VP dated 22/5/2012 can be obtained at the site www.isgmard.org.vn.

MARD REPEALED SOME PROVISIONS ON AQUATIC PRODUCT CONTROL FOR EXPORT



Decision No 912/QĐ-BNN-QLCL dated 25 April 2012 from MARD was issued to repeal the Circular No 09/2010/TT-BNNPTNT dated 26 Feb 2010 from MARD

Decision No 895/QĐ-BNN-QLCL dated 24 April 2012 from MARD was issued to repeal the Decision No 2568/QĐ-BNN-QLCL dated 28 Oct 2011 from MARD

Document No 664/QLCL-CL1 dated 09 May 2012 from the National Agro-Forestry- Fishery Quality Assurance Department was sent to the General Directorate of Custom and provincial/city's Custom offices repealing some Decisions on strengthening of aquatic product control for export.

Details of above mentioned documents shall be

LIMIT THE TRANSFER OF RICE LAND TO NON-AGRICULTURAL LAND

and must be remained. The Decree No 42/2012/NĐ-CP on rice cultivation land utilization and management has stipulated "strong" solutions in order to fiercely remain the rice cultivation areas. According to MARD, the total area of rice cultivation has decreased 270,000 ha in the past ten years. The key reason was the conversion of rice cultivation

land to land used for social, economic infrastructure development and plantation restructuring.

Currently there are 4.1 million ha of rice cultivation land area in the entire country. The Planning approved by the Government up to 2020 was that 3.8 million ha of rice cultivation

obtained from the site www.isgmard.gov.vn

In accordance with the Decree No 42/2012/NĐ-



CP, which come into effect from 1 July 2012, the transfer of wet rice cultivation land to other purposes needs to meet three requirements: (i) to be complied with the approved land use planning and plan, ; (ii) to have the land use plan showing the selected option is the minimum requisition, which must be approved by the authorities;; (iii) to have the plan of using surface soil layer and the compensation plan for the lost surface soil area due to the land conversion in accordance to the current regulations. For project on conversion of rice cultivation land to non-agriculture land, if the investment owner does not implement the project, or does not implement in the planned progress, the land area will be taken back in accordance with the current regulations on Land Administration.

THE NATIONAL TARGET PROGRAM ON THE NEW RURAL DEVELOPMENT Central GoV's budget for New Rural Development (NRD)



Pursuant to the key objectives and duties for 2012, the National Standing Office for the NTP-NRD has just issued the Announcement No 32/TB-BCĐTW-VFĐP on the central GoV's budget allocation plan for NTP-NRD of 2012.

The allocation's principles are: (1) to provide provision central direction for localities which have NTP-NRD budget to reach the goal of 20% of communes to be NRD communes; (2) to mainstream with local annual budget and other NTPs budgets to increase the number of NRD

communes meeting 19 criteria. Budget allocation criteria are clearly stated in the above mentioned Announcement to localities.

Details of the Announcement No 32/TB-BCĐTW-VFĐP shall be obtained from the site:

<http://nongthonmoi.gov.vn/01/342/Thong-bao-ke-hoach-phan-bo-ngan-sach-Trung-uong-cua-Chuong-trinh-MTQG-ve-xay-dung-nong-thon-moi-nam-2012.htm>.

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY COOPERATIVE MODEL IN NRD

In the afternoon of 21 May 2012, in Can Tho city, the Institute of Economic Cooperatives (under the Vietnamese Cooperatives Association), in cooperation with the Office of Friedrich Naumann Foundation For Freedom - Federal Republic of Germany, organized the workshop on “study for development of the fishery cooperative model in NRD for Mekong delta area” to seek for solutions of sustainable development for fishery cooperatives in the Mekong delta area.

Currently, there are more than 500 cooperative organizations functioning in fishery and 2 cooperative associations. Particularly in Mekong delta, there are 155 fishery cooperative organizations among 1,534 hamlets/towns with the participations of more than 336



thousand households. This number took more than one third of the total fishery cooperative organizations nationwide. However, the roles of these cooperative organizations are faded in rural activities such as: rural credit, product consumption, infrastructure development, etc. Therefore, the economic cooperation among households regarding the aquaculture and capture within these

cooperative organization is very important.

Via these cooperatives, households shall help each other s in breeding, feeds, disease prevention and control, products selling. Beside the supports, cooperatives shall mobilize contribution capitals from their members to invest in animal feed production, breed production for provision to households; conduct technical instructions for aquaculture activities and other services, etc to ensure the sustainable production. Capturehouseholds, viacooperatives, shall cohere steps of the capture with the fishery logistic services such as frozen storages, ice production, processing, petrol provision, capture equipments provision, and especially products selling toward greater economic effectiveness./.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION

VIETNAM – ISRAEL ENHANCE COOPERATION ON VETERINARY AND FISHERY



Vietnam Minister of ARD Cao Duc Phat and Israel Minister of ARD Orit Noked

By receiving the invitation from the Israel Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Minister Cao Duc Phat, leading the MARD’s delegation had a visit to Israel on 15-16 May 2012.

Being authorized by the two Governments, on 15 May 2012, the Vietnamese delegation and the Israeli Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development led by the Minister/Madam Orit Noked had a discussion and a signing ceremony for the official agreement between the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Government of Israel on the Cooperation on Veterinary and Animal Quarantine.

On the same day, Minister Cao Duc Phat and the Vietnamese delegation also participated in the opening ceremony of and visited the 18th International Agricultural Exhibition (Agritech 2012 Israel)

During the trip to Israel, Minister and the Vietnamese delegation also visited a number of research institutions and agricultural production programs such as: the Research Center for Agricultural Product Preservation Technology; the Hi-Tech Dairy farm Dubi Shamir; and the NanDanJain Company which specializes in on-farm irrigation equipment

THE US AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTS AVIAN INFLUENZA PREVENTION IN VIETNAM

MARD has just approved the project on “Supports for Intellectual Management and Policy Dialogue via Avian Influenza and Human Influenza Prevention” funded by US Agency for International Development (USAID) via the United Nation Development Program (UNDP) under the Decision No 1137/QĐ-BNN-HTQT dated 18 May 2012. The MARD’s Department of International Cooperation is the project implementation agency. The USAID supports 300,000 USD to implement the project within one year, starting from May 2012 to May 2013, in nine cities and provinces, including Hanoi , Ho Chi Minh City , Da Nang , Can Tho, Khanh Hoa, Kien Giang, Thua Thien Hue, Quang Tri and Lang Son.

The project aims to improve management quality and efficiency of the national health system, ensuring more equal access to health services for vulnerable groups.

The project will help to boost the implementation of the National Coordinated Actions Programme on Avian Influenza, Pandemics Preparedness and Emerging Infectious Diseases (AIPED) in the 2011-2015 period in



order to effectively mobilize and coordinate the national and the international resources.

In addition, the project will strengthen knowledge administration and information sharing as well as create a favourable environment for strategic discussions on avian influenza and the epidemic; support the human resources expenditures and expenditures for office running costs for coordination of national and international activities in the frame of the AIPED.



EMERGENCY SUPPORT FOR UNIDENTIFIED DISEASE IN SHRIMP

In accordance with the Document No 630/TTg-QHQT dated 14 May 2012, the Prime Minister has approved the project category of “emergency support to control the spread of an unidentified disease in shrimp” funded by FAO for MARD with

total budget of 500,000 USD.

Currently the disease in shrimp has been appeared severely in Mekong delta causing losses for more than 30 thousand households. In certain provinces such as Soc Trang, Bac Lieu, Ca Mau, the disease has been spread to more than 60% of shrimp aquaculture areas.

The Project on “Emergency support to control the spread of an unidentified disease in shrimp” will assist 2,000 poor aquaculture households to buy new species for the next crop.

At the same time, the Project also provides study supports and technical assistances to identify the causes of the disease, improvement of bio-security in shrimp breeding, completion of manual coping with urgent disease occurrence and development of fishery veterinary management for coming activities.

VIETNAM – RUSSIA ENHANCE TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION IN FISHERY

More than 50 leading experts from Vietnam and Russia participated in the workshop on Vietnam-Russia technological cooperation on 23 May 2012 in Nha Trang city of Khanh Hoa province. The workshop aims to assess and promote for enhancing the future cooperation between the two countries in fishery sector. The workshop has attracted the leading experts from the Institute of Oceanography, the Vietnam-Russia Tropical Research Centre, the Research Institute for Marine Fisheries, and the Pacific Centre for Aquatic Research (Russia), etc

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu, Vice Minister of MARD shared that both countries currently have a mutual interest in marine resources protection and fishery bio-diversification, fishery aquaculture, post harvest technologies, processing technologies and extension products from fishery materials.

The two countries have cooperated in diversified fishery technological programs since 1988 such as the Marine and Fishery Research, the Study on Changes in Fish Eggs and Fry Fish, etc. However, the current cooperation is not commensurate with the capacity of the both sides. A sustainable research cooperation mechanism for both



sides should be in place.

The workshop has recommended some core issues for fishery technological cooperation in the coming time such as: to enhance marine fishery development through fish stock assessment, bio-diversity researches and fishery exploitation; to enhance seed research in aquaculture in order to select the best species for production and epidemiology; to do research on disease prevention; to develop active substance extraction technology; to study on impacts of climate changes toward fishery production.

In addition, the workshop also recommended the post harvest technologies such as poisonous studies, preservation and processing technologies, etc

Vietnam and Russia promised to cooperate in HR training for fishery in order to meet the demands of studying, cooperation in the coming time./.

VIETNAM AND LAOS BOOST COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE



Vice Minister of the Laos' Agriculture Typhom Malak and Vice Minister of the Vietnamese MARD Bui Ba Bong

In the morning of 15 May 2012 in Vientiane, the Laos Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Vietnam MARD co-organized the Agriculture Development workshop for the two nations. At the workshop, Vice Minister Bui Ba Bong introduced achievements of Vietnamese Agriculture in recent times and condensed lessons learnt for the agriculture of the both nations. The Vice Minister also gave some comments on Laos' agriculture after his actual working visit to Laos recently.

Participants of the workshop highly appreciated the supports in Laos' agriculture development and

its poverty reduction progress, from Vietnam in general, and from MARD in particular.

Laos, with the advantages of the vast land areas which aren't only appropriate to industrial timbers/plants of high economic value such as rubber, coffee, pepper but also appropriate to husbandry, Laos should accelerate further its potentials in husbandry, industrial plants enhancement as well as its potential of the 900,000ha rice cultivation land area, especially the areas for the high value rice species and for the high productivity corn

serving for domestic consumption and export.

However, Laos also needs to restructure its agricultural production toward high technology application, particularly in processing and infrastructure development for better export promotion. In addition, a long term massive planning for the entire nation, a development of agriculture extension and service system, HRD for agriculture are all key factors toward a sustainable agriculture./.

LEGISLATION DOCUMENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUED IN MAY 2012

Date of issue	Contents
From the Government	
11/05/2012	Decree No 42/2012/NĐ-CP on utilization and management of rice cultivation land
10/05/2012	Resolution No 13/NQ-CP regarding the solutions for constraints in production and market support.
From Prime Minister	
16/05/2012	Document No 636/TTg-QHQQT approving the Policy Framework on resettlement for the loan project on "Disaster Management" funded by WB
14/05/2012	Document No 630/TTg-QHQQT approving the project category funded by FAO
10/05/2012	Decision No 21/2012/QĐ-TTg stipulating the regulations for management and utilization of the Budget for Enterprise Arrangement Supports
10/05/2012	Document No 622/TTg-QHQQT on the results of the negotiation for the supplemented budget for the loan project "Forestry Development" funded by WB.
03/05/2012	Decision No 521/QĐ-TTg stipulating the provision of disinfection chemicals from the National Preservation Storage to localities for epidemic prevention.
From the Governmental Office	
15/05/2012	Document No 3362/VPCP-QHQQT regarding the implementation of results from the ODA cooperation agreement between Vietnam and Korea
14/05/2012	Announcement No 173/TB-VPCP presenting the conclusions from the Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Thien Nhan at the online meeting with localities on the assurance of food safety held 26/04/2012.
14/05/2012	Document No 3301/VPCP-QHQQT joining the international tropical fruit network (TFNet)
11/05/2012	Announcement No 172/TB-VPCP regarding the conclusion of the Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc – Chairman of the National Committee for Traffic Safety – at the wrap up workshop for 10 years development of the rural traffic movement (2001 - 2010), implementation of the strategy up to 2030 cohering with the NRD and traffic safety assurance.
07/05/2012	Document No 3093/VPCP-KTTH stipulating the procedures on selling national preserved foods

From MARD	
22/ 05/ 2012	Announcement No 2360/TB-BNN-VP regarding on the conclusion of the Vice Minister Nguyen Thi Xuan Thu at the meeting on agricultural material quality control and agricultural, forestry and fishery food safety control for May 2012
18/05/2012	Decision No 1137/QĐ-BNN-HTQT approving the project on “Supports for Intellectual Management and Policy Dialogue via Avian Influenza and Human Influenza Prevention”
16/05/2012	Decision No 1119/QĐ-BNN-TCCB establishing the Council for Golden Rice Award of Vietnam
16/05/2012	Decision No 1118/QĐ-BNN-XD approving the revision of the basic designs for the traffic bridge of the An Phong- My Hoa – Bac Dong channels construction and cleaning project in Dong Thap, Long An and Tien Giang
16/05/2012	Document No 1440/BNN-QLCL assigning the focal agencies for food safety
15/05/2012	Document No 1431/BNN-TCLN conversing the utilization of special forest to traffic road construction
15/05/2012	Document No 1429/BNN-QLCL providing information on agro-forestry-fishery food safety
10/05/2012	Decision No 1067/QĐ-BNN-TCCB establishing the Organizational Committee for the 8th Senior ASEAN Conference on ARD and Poverty reduction (SOMRDPE 8) with partners nations (Japan, China, Korea); and for relating seminars
9/5/2012	Announcement No số 32/TB-BCĐTW-VFĐP allocating the state budget for the NTP-NRD in 2012
4/5/2012	Instruction for the application of good practices in agriculture (GAP) in cultivation
From MOLISA	
15/05/2012	Decision No 587/QĐ-LĐTBXH stipulating the criteria for extreme difficult communes for coastal cape area and islands for the period of 2012 – 2015
11/05/2012	Document No 1469/LĐTBXH-VL supporting the labors who lost their employment.
From MPI	
11/05/2012	Document No 3263/BKHĐT-PC guiding the implementation of the Instruction No 1792/CT-TTg from the Prime Minister in the transformation of investment for projects funded by state budget and Government bonds
From MONRE	
08/05/2012	Circular No 04/2012/TT-BTNMT stipulating the criteria for identification of bases which cause environmental pollution and cause severe environmental pollution.
From the National Steering Committee for Forest Protection and Development Plan	
14/05/2012	Decision No 52/QĐ-BCĐBV&PTR stipulating the working mechanisms for the National Steering Committee for Forest Protection and Development period 2011 – 2020