As the economies of the world continue to integrate, the APEC Food Safety Cooperation Forum Partnership Training Institute Network (PTIN) seeks to address issues within the food industry that can affect public health. Working across borders, the PTIN engages the food industry and academics with the regulators, to strengthen capacity building in food safety. The PTIN goal is to facilitate trade and protect public health by building the capacity of stakeholders in the supply chain in the use of international standards and best practices in food safety management from production to consumption. Through increased cooperation, the PTIN helps APEC Member Economies anticipate, prevent, and manage incidents, and thus better assure the safety of the food chain in the Asia Pacific Region.

Welcome

October 2012

Bilateral Training Program on Food Safety Prerequisite Programs and HACCP Systems

Michigan State University (MSU), in partnership with the World Bank and the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum, Food Safety Cooperation Forum Partnership Training Institute Network (APEC/FSCF/PTIN) conducted a training program on general food safety management and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) concepts in China in May and June 2012. This training program featured blended learning techniques and included a one-month eLearning phase (May, 2012) followed by a six-day practical training phase that was conducted face-to-face in Beijing during the week of June 11-17, 2012.

Subsequently, Shanghai University expressed interest in replicating the program for use at their institution. UNIDO has also expressed interest in incorporating the HACCP program into an 18 month program they have established in Malaysia and Africa with potential replication in Indonesia as well. By December, the HACCP modules will be translated in Turkish and replicated in Turkey. The HACCP program will be the first program to be placed on the Global Food Safety Partnership IT platform to be made freely available and will also be available on the PTIN website.

The HACCP program is being supplemented with case studies in: Malaysia, Turkey, and Indonesia.
APEC Food Safety Multi-Year Project Proposal Approved

With the APEC region accounting for 41% of world population and nearly 50% of global food production, steps are being made to ensure that food safety capacity building is a priority. The APEC Budget Management Committee has approved a multi-year project proposal that will implement food safety projects under the APEC FSCF and PTIN starting in 2013 and ending in 2015. This multi-year project will include workshops, forums, and informational toolkits that will enhance food safety capacity measures.

The timeline for the multi-year project is as follows:

- Mid-April 2013, Indonesia- Food Safety Cooperation Forum, Food Safety Incident Network Seminar, PTIN Steering Group meeting, and risk analysis discussion
- May/June 2013 Indonesia- Best Practices in Educating Food Safety Standards to SMEs
- TBD 2013- Laboratory capacity building activity/workshop
- 2014 Korea- Workshop on Improved Food Inspection Capacity Building Based on Risk Analysis
- 2014 China- Proficiency Testing of Veterinary Drug Residues in Food
- 2015 Philippines Food Safety Cooperation Forum and PTIN Steering Group meeting

PTIN Laboratory Capacity Building Trainings

From June to August 2012, the FSCF PTIN held Sub-Regional Laboratory Capacity Building training sessions in Lima, Peru; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; and Hanoi, Vietnam. As part of the 2010 APEC laboratory capacity building initiative, these sessions trained administrators and technicians in good laboratory practices in order to enhance food safety facilitation throughout the APEC region. The trainings included sessions on: analytical methods, validation, import-export trade facilitation methods, regulatory requirements, Codex principles, and good laboratory practices. With comprehensive presentations by established senior laboratory technicians, the trainings promoted the importance of international standards and effective laboratory capacity building measures.
World Bank Global Food Safety Partnership

The World Bank will hold a Global Food Safety Partnership (GFSP) conference in Paris December 10-12. Building off of the APEC FSCF and PTIN, the Word Bank Group seeks to create a multi-stakeholder platform that can address food safety capacity building. The GFSP is funded through a combination of private and public sources, and the program plan will be implemented through a 5 year project that will create an open sharing collaborative structure for food safety officials. If you have any questions, please contact: GFSP@worldbank.org

Scientific Technical Advisory Group (STAG)

New lab work is currently underway as part of a joint USDA - APEC PTIN partnership to guide the development of a lab initiative, focusing on technical matters. STAG seeks to address a holistic evaluation of food safety lab use. With the goal of creating a pilot capacity building template by next year, STAG aims to create a “lab in a box” approach that can be applied to all APEC economies. Initial meetings are expected to occur in November.

Upcoming events:
November (TBD) STAG Laboratory Capacity planning meeting
December 10-12 World Bank Global Food Safety Partnership annual conference in Paris
April 2013 FSCF/PTIN Steering Group/Incident Management in Indonesia
Concerns about food safety in the Asia Pacific region have risen sharply, and spurred a high level, collective mandate from APEC Leaders to improve food safety standards and practices. In 2007, after the establishment of the APEC Food Safety Cooperation Forum (FSCF), APEC Leaders agreed on the need to develop a more robust approach to strengthening food safety standards and practices in the region, using scientific risk based approaches and without creating unnecessary impediments to trade. To this end, they called for increased capacity building to improve technical competence and understanding of food safety management among stakeholders in the supply chain, which include regulators, growers, packers, handlers, storage providers, processors, manufacturers, retailers and food service providers.

The Food Safety Cooperation Forum’s Partnership Training Institute Network (FSCF PTIN) was created specifically to address the need to engage the food industry and academic food safety experts with the regulators, to strengthen capacity building in food safety.

Aquaculture training modules

Michigan State University in partnership with the World Bank and PTIN is expected to release a set of aquaculture training modules by the end of 2012. The training modules will cover best practices in supply chain management in the aquaculture sector and is expected to be rolled out under the GFSP in Indonesia and China in 2013 and Malaysia in 2014. As with the HACCP training modules, the aquaculture modules will be freely available on the GFSP and PTIN platforms upon completion.

Laboratory capacity building training modules available soon

JIFSAN has prepared five short training modules for laboratory analysts targeting areas such as sample preparation and chromatography, mass spectrometry, tolerances, validation and verification, and introduction to pesticide analysis that will be freely available on the PTIN and GFSP websites in November.

About APEC FSCF PTIN

Website:

http://fscf-ptin.apec.org/