

# Achievements under Component 3: Initiative for the Arab-GAP implementation

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# Outline

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- Component 3: Objectives, activities & outputs;
- GAPs around the world: overview & characteristics;
- Arab-GAP scheme: overview, areas covered and control points;
- Setting up the Arab-GAP.

# Component 3: Objective

## EA: Enhanced capacity for efficient, safe & quality food products in the Arab region

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- Encourage farmers to produce safe and quality products (esp. fresh fruits & vegetables);
- Encourage retailers to seek safe products;
- Lessen concerns from consumers
- Ensure food safety at local level
- Promote regional trade through implementation of common GAPs
- Enhance acceptability of Arab products in international markets

# Component 3

## Expected Activities & Outputs

Mapping of available GAPs in the region

Report outlining the suggested Arab GAP framework

Consultative meetings with stakeholders to finalize the framework

Development of training manuals

Assist member countries to align or develop national GAPs schemes corresponding to the Arab GAP

Training of trainers

Awareness raising materials and campaigns (potential GAPs participants, general public, policy-makers, etc.)

# Component 3

## Progress Achieved

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Coordination meetings to introduce the concept

Draft report mapping of GAPs and laying out options for an Arab-GAP framework

Consultative meeting with experts to review the draft report (Cairo May-June, 2016)

Meeting with selected stakeholders

# GAPs

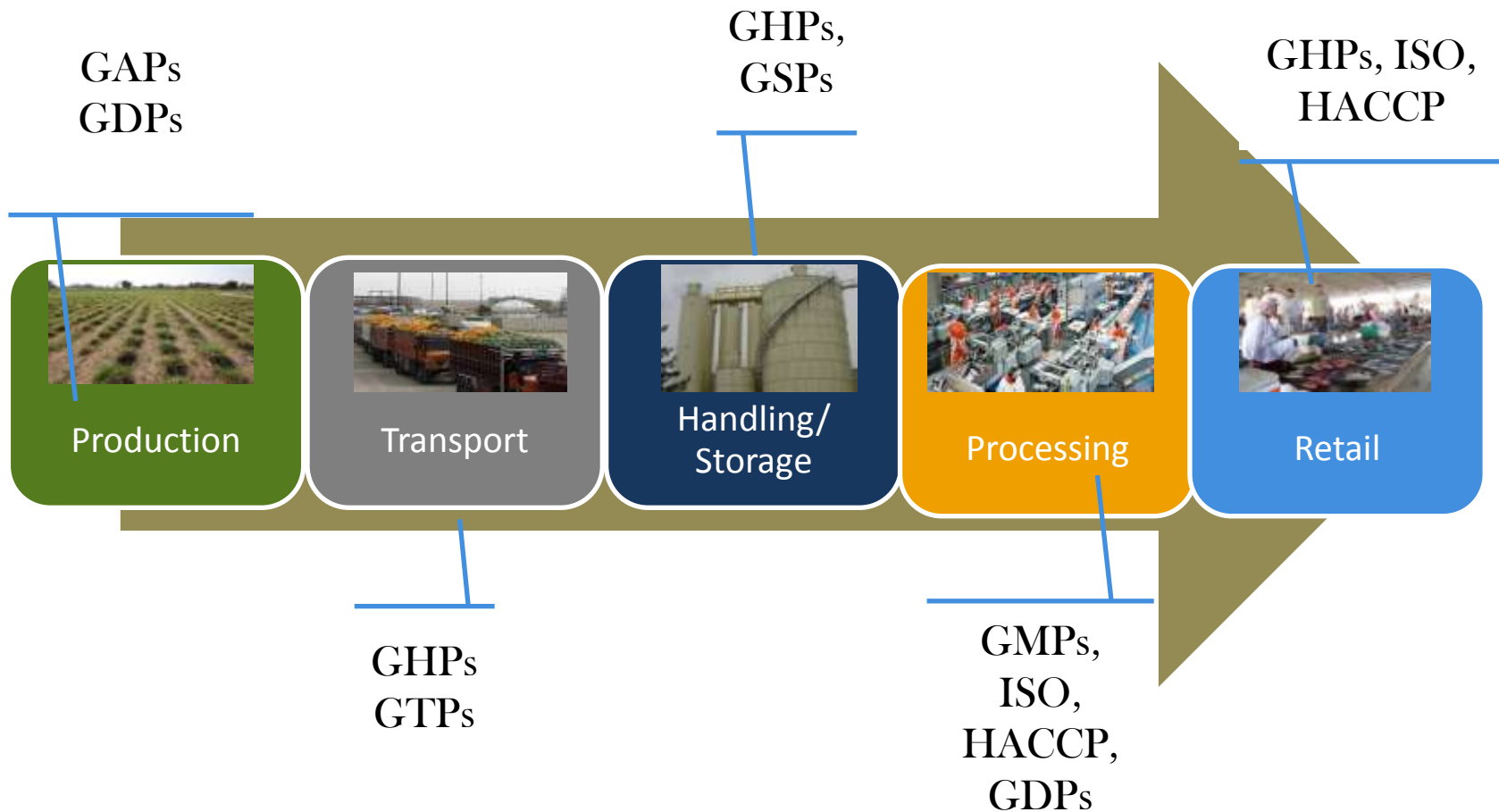
## Background

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- GAPs are a collection of principles implemented on-farm and post-production
- To improve food safety (reduce contaminations) which might arise at various stages of the supply chain;
- GAPs are preventive approaches such as GMP or HACCP
- Takes into account economic, social & environmental sustainability

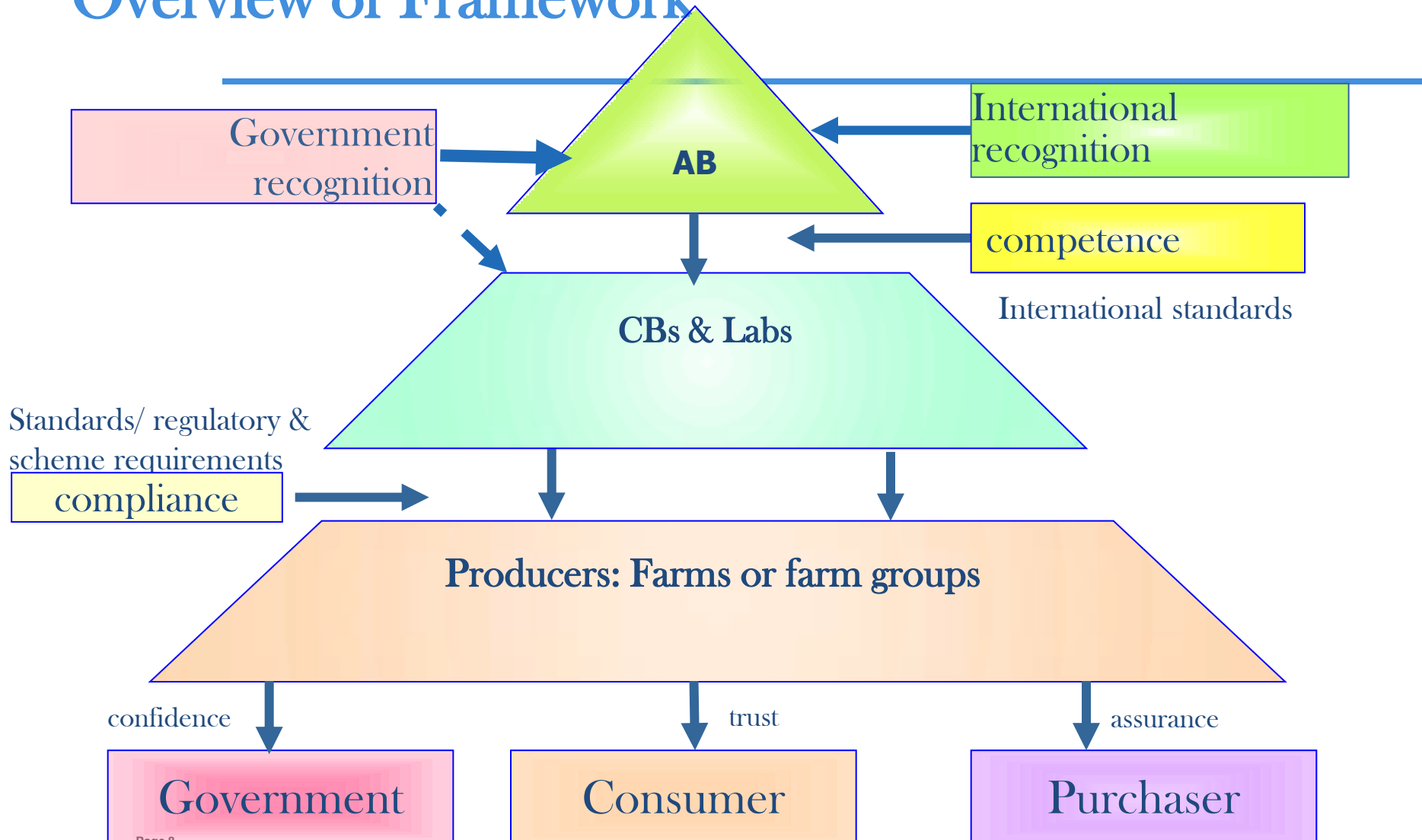
# GPs along the food supply chain

## GAPs complemented by other good practices



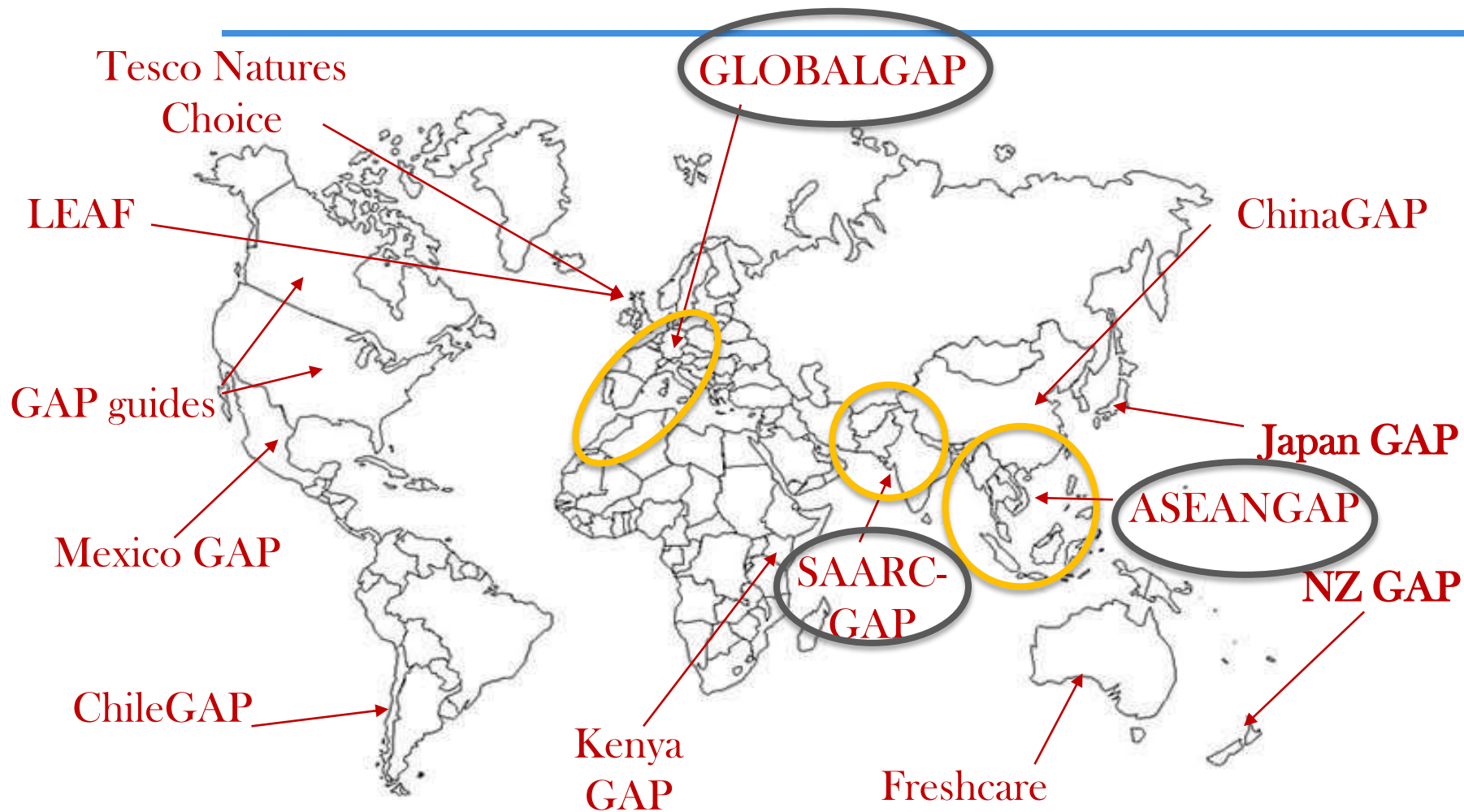
# GAPs around the world:

## Overview of Framework





# GAPs around the world



# GAPs around the world:

## Major characteristics

GAPs	Membership	Major characteristics
<b>GLOBAIG.A.P.</b>	Europe but expanding to become a global standard. Benchmarked with others: BRC, GFSI, CanadaGAP, ChinaGAP, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Started as EUROPGAP &amp; changed to GLOBALGAP in 2007</li> <li>• Private sector-led (European supermarkets &amp; major suppliers)</li> <li>• Governance: Board (producers &amp; retailers), Secretariat, Technical Committees (crops, aquaculture, etc), Certification Body Committee, NTWG, Integrity Surveillance Committee</li> </ul>
<b>Freshcare</b>	Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owned by up to 20 crop/agricultural associations/organizations (e.g., Apple &amp; Pear Association, Banana Growers, etc.)</li> <li>• Provides administration, training, auditing &amp; certification</li> </ul>
<b>ASEANGAP, SAARC GAP</b>	ASEAN Countries (South-East) SAARC countries (South Asia)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modeled on Freshcare (Australia)</li> <li>• One regional (base document only) and national GAPs modeled on regional</li> <li>• Voluntary but managed by government services (administration, training, auditing &amp; certification)</li> </ul>
<b>USDA/Canada</b>	United States, Canada: GAPs/GHPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administered by Dep't of Agriculture at federal &amp; state levels</li> <li>• Voluntary: US linked to Good Transport Practices which is mandatory; Canada linked to funding assistance</li> <li>• Governance: e.g., USDA-AMS is accredited as a certification body and provide administration, training, auditing &amp; certification</li> </ul>

# Arab-GAP Scheme

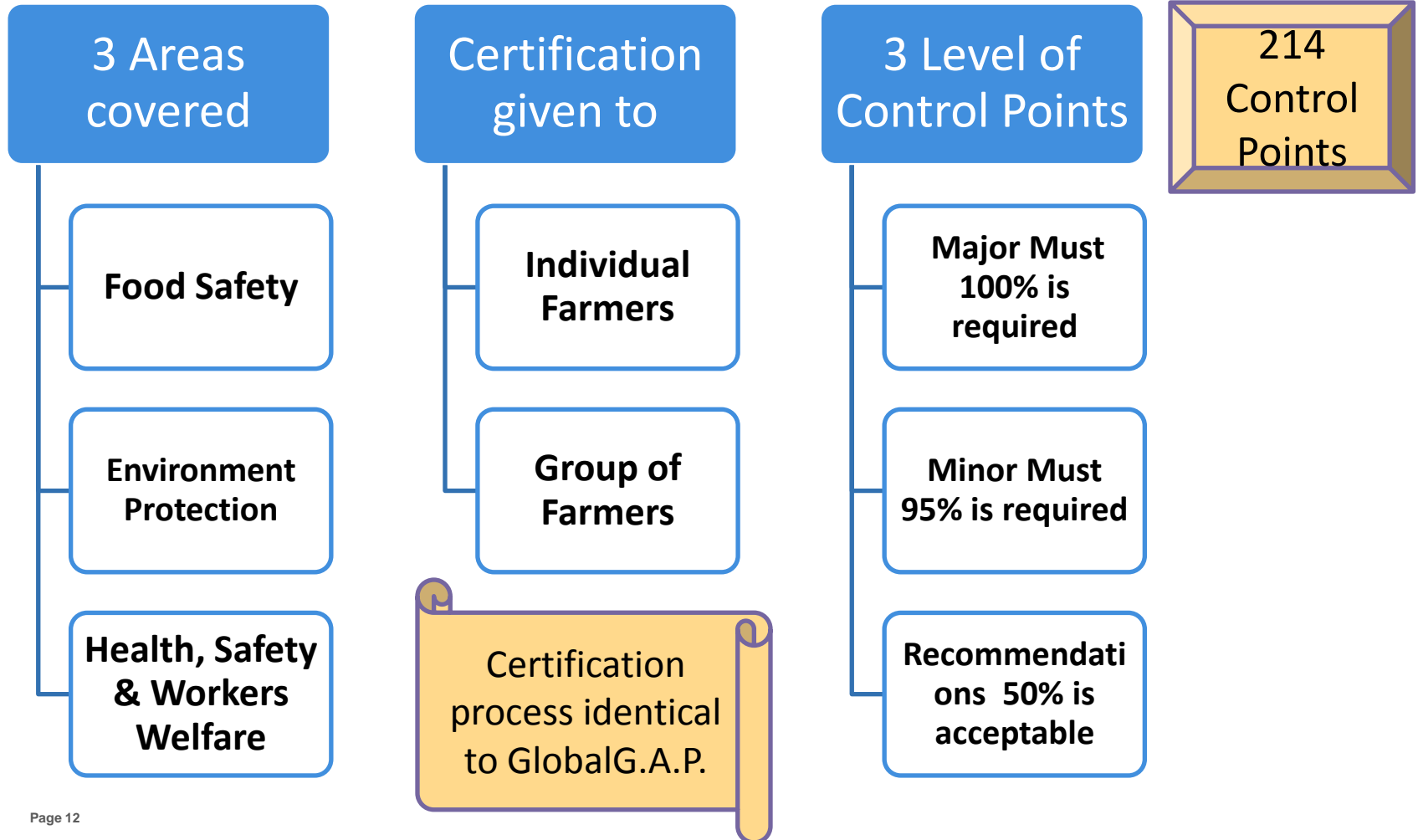
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There is a need to develop & implement a credible  
Regional GAP;  
an Arab regional standard and certification system.

However, .....  
at a pace acceptable for local stakeholders and  
especially farmers

# Arab-GAP Scheme

## Overview



# Arab-GAP Scheme

## Control Points grouped in 14 sub-areas

1- Traceability

2- Record Keeping and Self Inspection

3- Varieties and Rootstocks

4- Site History and Site Management

5- Soil and Substrate Management

6- Fertilizer Use

7- Irrigation / Fertigation

8- Crop protection

9- Harvesting

10- Produce Handling

11- Waste Management and Pollution Control

12- Worker Health, Safety and Welfare

13- Environmental Issues

14- Complaint form

# Arab-GAP Scheme

## Distribution of GAPs in the 3 areas

	Food Safety and Quality	Environment	Social
Traceability	X		
Record Keeping and internal self inspection	X	X	X
Varieties and RootStocks	X	X	
Site History and Management	X	X	
Soil and Substrate Management		X	
Fertilizer Use	X	X	
Irrigation / Fertigation	X	X	
Crop Protection	X	X	
Harversting	X	X	
Produce Handling	X	X	
Waste and Pollution Management		X	
Worker Health, Safety and Welfare			X
Environmental Issues		X	
Complaint form	X	X	X

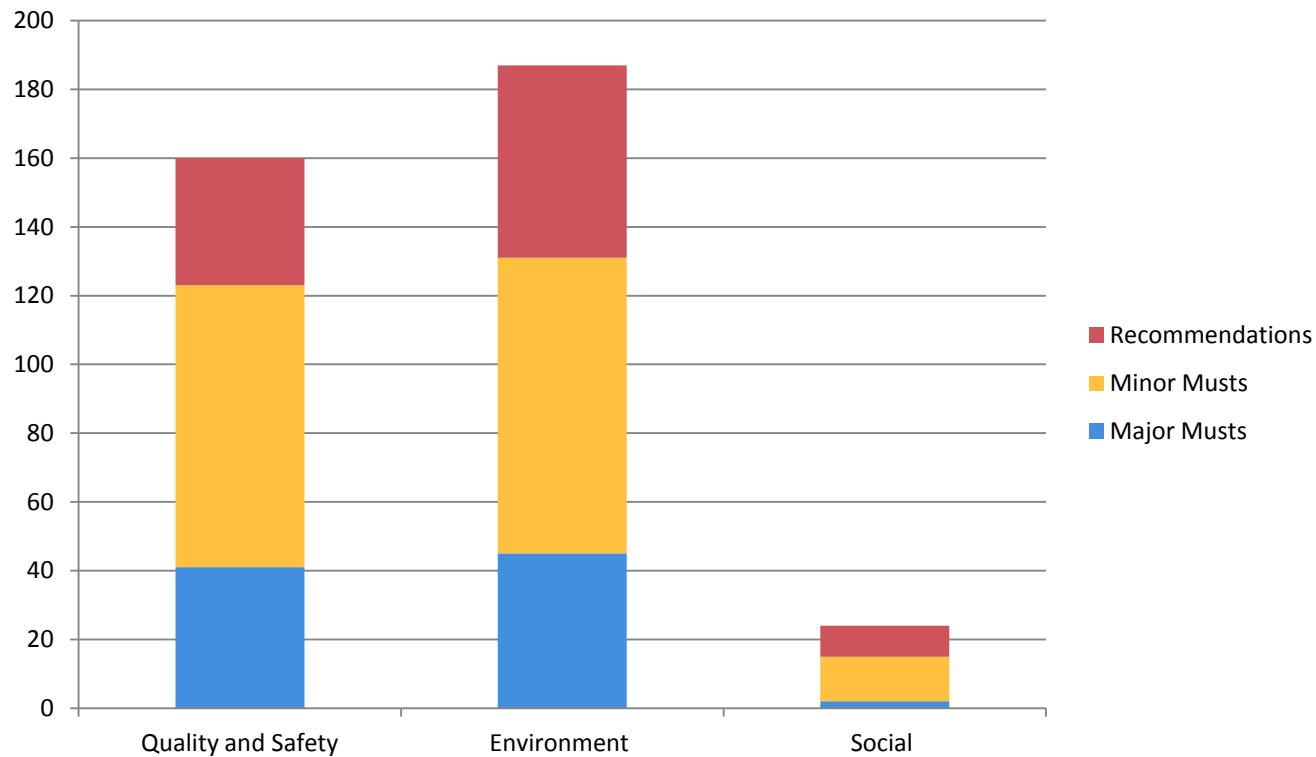
# Arab-GAP Scheme

## Distribution of GAPs by level of CPs

	Major Must	Minor Must	Recommended
Traceability	1		
Record Keeping and internal self inspection	3	1	
Varieties and RootStocks	1	6	4
Site History and Management	2	2	1
Soil and Substrate Management	1	3	6
Fertilizer Use	1	8	2
Irrigation / Fertigation	2	7	17
Crop Protection	14	43	5
Harversting	6	1	2
Produce Handling	13	14	5
Waste and Pollution Management			6
Worker Health, Safety and Welfare	2	13	9
Environmental Issues		1	8
Complaint form	2		
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>65</b>

# Arab-GAP Scheme

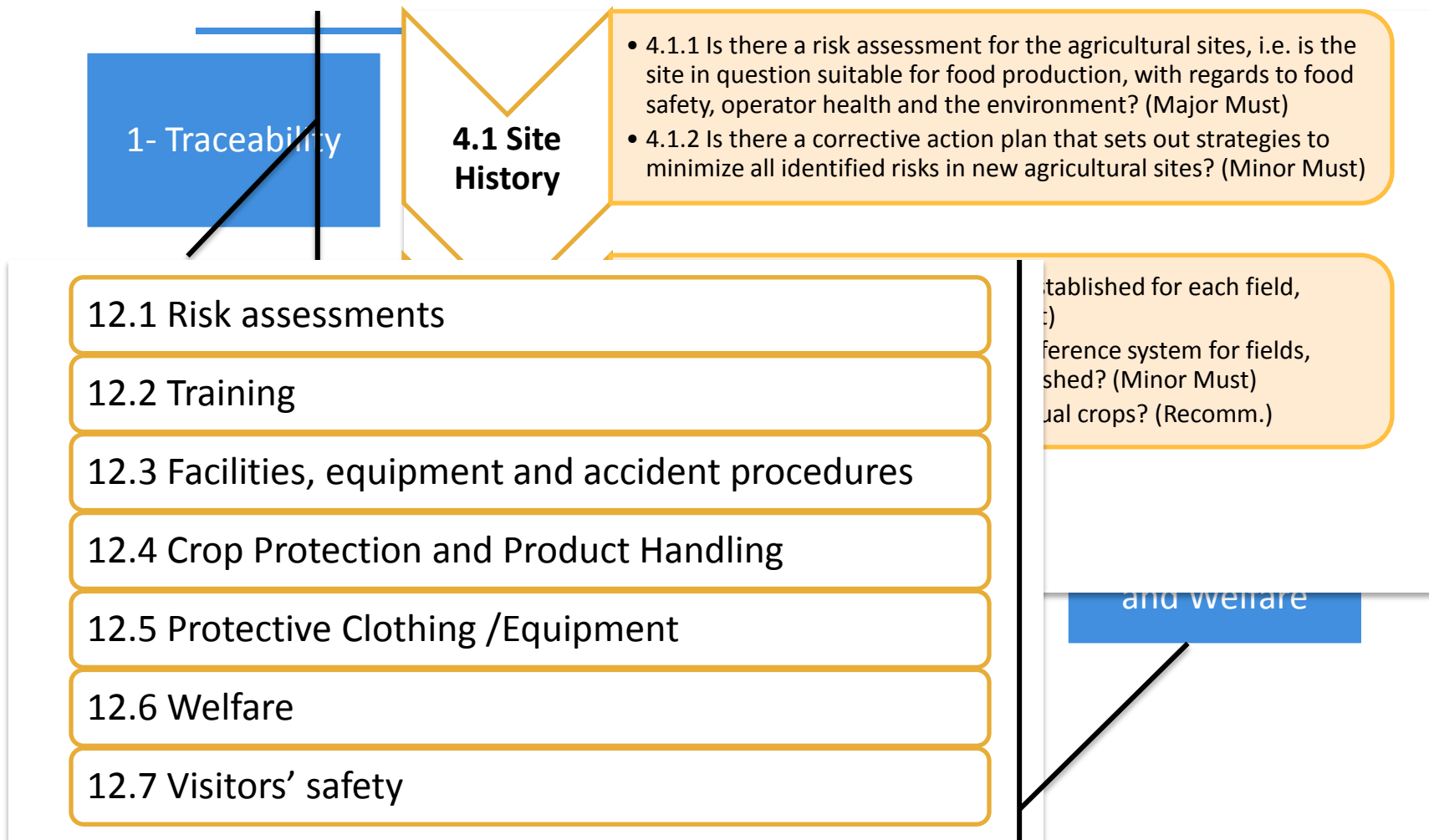
## Distribution of GAPs by sub-areas & level of CPs





# Arab-GAP Scheme

## Control Points grouped in the 14 sub-areas



# Setting up the Arab-GAP

## Options

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- Arab-GAP may be:
  - ✓ Private sector driven – buyers/retailers coming together as an association or inter-professional body (collective organization or group);
  - ✓ Public sector driven – housed within a governmental department (agriculture/food or health or both); OR
  - ✓ A mix of both private-public partnership

# Setting up the Arab-GAP

## Public vs. Private Arab-GAP: Pros & Cons

GAPs	Pros	Cons
Private sector-led association or inter-professional body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Owned by farmers &amp; retailers</li><li>• Flexible &amp; able to respond to new risks</li><li>• Promote compliance better than regular food safety inspections because they provide market incentives &amp; management-based regulations</li><li>• Possibility of being sued or prosecuted in case of negligence is a good incentive</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No public mandate</li><li>• Lack of transparency</li><li>• Reliability of third party certifiers</li><li>• Limited enforcement as no government oversight</li><li>• System can be hacked/stolen/defrauded</li></ul>
Public sector-led (dep't of food, agriculture or health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Might be mandatory through an appropriate legislation</li><li>• More reliable funding, staffing and other resources</li><li>• Compliance ensured by the inspection department and non-compliance could result in fines</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Inefficient in globalized markets</li><li>• When mandatory participants might cheat or cut corners</li><li>• Might result in inefficiencies (e.g. overstaffed, slow, underfunded, etc.)</li><li>• Blurred line with enforcement and extension services</li><li>• Might be subject political pressure</li></ul>

# Setting up the Arab-GAP

## Structural setup at regional level

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- Board & secretariat: standalone or in regional institution or at national level (roving every few years)??
- representatives by country
- Criteria for Certification bodies
- Accreditation body
- Technical Committees (for standards)
- Decision on other functional modalities
- Design of Arab-GAP logo or mark

# Setting up the Arab-GAP

## Potential roadblocks in the Arab region

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Lack of awareness & knowledge on/about GAPs

Lack of pressure from consumers

Lack of supporting regulations or not enforced

Small holdings, high costs and market uncertainty

Frequent update of standards

Insufficiency of experts on GAPs and no continuous training and awareness raising

# Setting up the Arab-GAP

## Best practices

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- Promote sharing experiences and exchange visits among countries
- Allow a transition period for new GAPs participants
- Prominent use of logo or statement indicating that produce comes from a GAP certified farm
- Attract big retailers paying membership fees to keep costs low for farmers
- Keep it in line with international GAPs to facilitate future harmonization

# Setting up the Arab-GAP

## Key questions for the national level

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- What leadership: public, private or a mix?
- If private, what would be the role of the government? And what kind of governance structure?
- Would countries establish their own bodies (Certification, Labs, etc.) or would they rely on regional ones?
- What kind of governing rules and certification processes?
- Who would bear the costs (esp. if private) and how to sustain it financially?
- What support would be required from a regional GAP?

# THANK YOU!

Economic And Social Commission For Western Asia



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