

Foreword

This Review of Agricultural Policies: Viet Nam is one of a series of reviews of national agricultural policies undertaken by the OECD's Committee for Agriculture (CoAg). It was initiated in response to a request from Mr. Bui Ba Bong, then Viet Nam's Vice Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD), and has been prepared in close co-operation with the Ministry.

The Review examines the policy context and the main trends in Viet Nam's agriculture. It classifies and measures the support provided to agriculture using the same method the OECD employs to monitor agricultural policies in OECD countries and a growing number of non-member economies, such as Brazil, China, Colombia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Russia, South Africa and Ukraine. On request from the Vietnamese authorities, the Review includes a special chapter on the policy environment for investment in agriculture, drawing from the OECD Policy Framework for Investment in Agriculture (PFIA). The Review is a precursor towards regular OECD engagement with Viet Nam on agricultural policy issues through the annual monitoring and evaluation of agricultural policy developments.

The study was carried out by the Development Division of the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate (TAD) in co-operation with the Investment Division of the OECD Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs (DAF). Andrzej Kwieciński co-ordinated the report and was one of the authors together with Darryl Jones and Coralie David. Chapter 1 benefited from a background report delivered by Richard Barichello (University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada) as well as from contributions by Claire Delpuch and Gaëlle Gourin (both from TAD). Dao The Anh (Centre for Agrarian Systems Research and Development, CASRAD, Viet Nam), Tran Cong Thang and Dinh Bao Linh (both from the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agriculture and Rural Development, IPSARD, Viet Nam) provided valuable background information for Chapter 2. Chapter 3 drew from answers to the PFIA questionnaire submitted by Ta Kim Cuc (Center for Informatics and Statistics, MARD) and benefited from inputs from Bishara Mansur (DAF). The database for Producer Support Estimates was developed by Florence Bossard and Andrzej Kwieciński in close co-operation with Hieu Phan Sy (Center for Informatics and Statistics, MARD). Statistical support was provided by Florence Bossard. Anita Lari provided administrative and secretarial assistance. Anita Lari and Michèle Patterson provided publication support. Ken Ash, Carmel Cahill, Jared Greenville, Shingo Kimura, Iza Lejarraaga, Silvia Sorescu, Frank Van Tongeren, Trudy Witbreuk (all from the OECD Secretariat), Chris Jackson and Steven Jaffee (both from the World Bank office in Hanoi), Marlo Rankin (FAO), MARD's delegation participating in the peer review, but also Hieu Phan Sy (MARD), Dao The Anh (CASRAD), Nguyen Trung Kien (IPSARD) and many other colleagues in the OECD Secretariat and member country delegations furnished valuable comments on earlier drafts of the report.

The Review benefited from support provided by MARD. Pham Thi Hong Hanh and Dinh Pham Hien, both from International Cooperation Department of MARD, were the main contacts and liaison persons on all aspects of the study. The study also benefited from the input of staff from MARD and its related entities, from other Ministries and from participants at preparatory meetings and consultations in Hanoi, including researchers from academia.

The study was made possible through voluntary contributions from Australia, Japan and the United States. It was reviewed at an in-country Roundtable meeting with Vietnamese officials and experts in Hanoi in March 2015. Subsequently, the Vietnamese delegation led by Tran Kim Long, Director General of the International Cooperation Department of MARD, participated in the peer review of Vietnamese agricultural policies by the OECD's Committee for Agriculture at its 164th session in May 2015. Steve Neff (ERS-USDA, USA), Matthew Worrell (DFAT, Australia) and Kunimitsu Masui (Permanent Delegation of Japan to the OECD) kindly agreed to lead the discussion during this peer review. Vietnamese officials and experts have been involved from the initial discussions of the study outline through to the peer review and final revisions, but the final report remains the sole responsibility of the OECD.



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