

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE ON LEGAL ASPECTS OF CONTRACT FARMING

Project Members – Projects and Activities

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Enabling the Business of Agriculture (World Bank Group)

Website: <http://eba.worldbank.org/>

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Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA) is a World Bank Group initiative that identifies and monitors regulations and policies that affect agriculture and agribusiness markets. Globally comparable data and scored indicators encourage regulations that ensure the safety and quality of agricultural inputs, goods and services, and discourages those that are too costly and burdensome. The goal is to facilitate the operation of agribusinesses and allow them to thrive in a socially and environmentally responsible way, enabling them to provide essential agricultural inputs and services to farmers and agribusinesses in order to increase their productivity and profits.

EBA has so far developed eight scored topics, namely seed, fertilizer, machinery, markets, transport, finance, water, and information and communication technology (ICT), defining regulatory good practices to assign scores. Two additional topics—land and livestock—are under development but initial results are presented in the 2017 report. Two overarching themes—gender and environmental sustainability—are also included to ensure that these important linkages are captured and the good practices encouraged by EBA are inclusive and sustainable. Data for 62 countries is available in the EBA 2017 Report and on the website (<http://eba.worldbank.org>).

Regulations that impact the production and marketing of agricultural goods directly, for example price controls, licensing and membership requirements, and phytosanitary certification procedures, are assessed under the EBA Markets topic. In addition, the Markets topic presents data on laws that have a direct or indirect impact on contract farming governance. For example, information on the existence of a specific contract farming law, whether written form or a mandatory minimum duration applies to agricultural contracts, and whether a special administrative mechanism exists to resolve disputes, is presented on the EBA website (<http://eba.worldbank.org/data/exploretopics/additional-indicators>). Although this data is not scored, contract farming remains an areas of importance to the EBA project given the significant role of contract farming structures in modern value chains. As such, it will continue to be covered in future cycles of the project.

PROJECT: Enabling the Business of Agriculture

2017 Report

Enabling the Business of Agriculture (EBA) published its third report in February 2017. This report covers 62 countries and presents good regulatory practices across 12 topics (Seed; Fertilizer; Seeds; Machinery; Finance; Markets; Transport; Water; ICT; Land; Livestock; Environmental Sustainability; and Gender). The team is currently engaged in disseminating the 2017 findings and continues to explore opportunities to partner with other multilateral organizations and interested parties, both in the public and private sector, in order to maximize outreach. Dissemination will take the form of presentations, webinars, and workshops across the globe. The project will scale up to cover 80 countries in its 2019 report, data collection for which will begin in early 2018.
