THE Asian Network of Testing Agricultural Machines
ANTAM
Bangkok, 15 and 16 May 2012

During the UNAPCAEM Technical Committee Meeting in Bali (27° of October 2011) the following “Priority Focus Areas and Responsibility Country Assignements” were decided:

Primary Focus Areas
- Agricultural Tractors (all sizes/types 2 – 4 wheel) – China, India, Russia;
- Paddy Threshers – Sri Lanka, Philippines, Bangladesh, Viet Nam, Myanmar;
- Knapsack Sprayers – Sri Lanka, Viet Nam;
- Mechanical/Combine harvesters – Malaysia, Russia, India (?);
- Post harvest Machinery, Milling and Dryers etc. – Indonesia, Philippines;
- Hand tools – Nepal, PNG;
Secundary Focus Areas

- Self-propelled Machinery
- Field/Boom Sprayers
- Transport-related Machinery
- Engines
- Soil Tillage Implements, Drills
- Power Tillers
- Water Pumps
DECISION:

every country should prepare a document based on the following template for all primary focus areas:

- General information
- Information related to the use of agricultural machinery according to the scheme that was sent.
At present time the following countries have sent a Report:

Bangladesh
China
India
Indonesia
Malaysia
Nepal
Papua N. G.
Philippines
Russia
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Vietnam
• General information concerning all machines being used in every country:

Tractors: more than 25 million
Other machinery: more than 50 million
Hand tools: more than 3000 million
Injuries: difficult to estimate but only China reported an official cost of 1.3 million US $
Investment: only China 3 billion US $ for 2012
To give an idea of the date displayed:

1 the Equator is 40,000 km long
   a tractor size is an average 2.5 m long*
   25,000,000 tractors x 2.5 m
   =
   more than 1.5 time the Equator

2 billions US $ are spent to improve mechanisation

3 billions US $ are spent as a social cost for injuries
   and damages (erosion, bad use of chemicals etc.)
ANTAM can give a high positive balance in improving all data displayed offering benefits to involved parties.

But how can it work?
The best example may come from OECD and ENTAM that have a well established international testing activity according to the international procedures.

- Following international procedures is the best way to have a clear system (duties, responsibilities etc.).
- On the technical side different levels may be used.
  - Therefore let’s see the procedures:
Procedures for checking and controlling the system should be developed and adopted.

The manufacturers should pay for the tests

Governments should give subsidies to tested machines = cost benefit optimization
Proposal for the fourth joint SC/TWG Meeting

1 Steering Committee
   - develop procedures
   - contact (together with country Members) national Authorities

2 Members
   - develop inside the TWG the methodologies according to the priorities
GOOD PRACTICES = GOOD MACHINES

ANTAM for a smiling future of agriculture!