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For Immediate Release

JICA SUPPORTS FOOD VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) organizes the *Seminar for provincial attraction for investment and business opportunity for food value chain development* on January 14 in Hanoi, and on January 16 in Ho Chi Minh City.

Under the framework of “*Medium to long-term vision for Japan-Vietnam agricultural cooperation (2015-2019)*”, the Government of Japan and the Government of Vietnam have closely cooperated and contributed to the comprehensive development of agricultural sector in Vietnam.

In the seminar, followings are reported and shared with the representatives of relating ministries, provinces/cities, cooperatives and enterprises and concerning agencies of both countries:

- The potential and support policy for investment in food value chain development of target provinces/cities of medium to long term vision for Japan-Vietnam agricultural cooperation;
- Japanese enterprises’ experiences in and lessons learnt from doing agribusiness in Vietnam;
- The current situation of food value chain in provinces involving in medium to long term vision for Japan-Vietnam agricultural cooperation and future prospects.

In the selected model regions, following action plans have been implemented for the last five years:

- (1) Improvement of food value chains
 - a. Enhancement of productivity and value added (Nghe An Province)
 - b. Food processing and product development (Lam Dong Province)
 - c. Improvement of distribution and cold chains (suburbs of large cities such as Hanoi and HCMC)
- (2) Consideration of climate change (Mekong Delta)
- (3) Developing highly-skilled manpower (Can Tho University etc.)

JICA has been supporting the food value chain development in Vietnam, such as improvement of reliability of safe crop production in the northern region, contract-based



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farming and irrigation system rehabilitation in Nghe An Province, saline water intrusion countermeasures in Ben Tre Province, support for strategy development for agricultural promotion in Lam Dong Province, joint research for climate change with Can Tho University and promotion of Japanese private enterprises' investment in agriculture sector.

The “*Data collection survey on cooperation in overseas business expansion strategy of small and medium-sized enterprises in agriculture sector*” has been carried out with the objectives of analyzing challenges and needs of Japanese companies in Vietnamese agricultural sector and Food Value Chain (FVC); evaluating previous JICA programs in agriculture/FVC sector, especially from the point of view to promote investments from Japanese SMEs in Vietnam to contribute improvement in Vietnamese FVC; and recommending the future directions of JICA’s various assistance programs in agricultural sector, and in public-private cooperation schemes to promote Japanese companies’ investment in Vietnam.

JICA will continue to support comprehensively in regard to agricultural infrastructure development, promotion of private investment and introduction of advanced technology and policy and strategy support and human resource development for productivity and value-added of Vietnamese agriculture.

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