



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION



XCP

EXPORT COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

FOOD & SPICES VALUE CHAINS



A project funded by the European Union

EU - Sri Lanka Trade-Related Assistance Project



WHAT IS **XCP** FOR SMES IN PROCESSED FOODS & BEVERAGES AND SPICES & CONCENTRATES VALUE CHAINS?

The Export Compliance Program (XCP), an initiative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) within the framework of the EU-Sri Lanka Trade-Related Assistance project, aims to enhance the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) along the processed food & beverage and spices & concentrates (PFBSC) value chains to improve their access to regional and EU markets. XCP provides non-financial assistance in the form of training, coaching, skills development, transfer of know-how, technical services, and consulting services. It may also include access to shared services and procurement of technical equipment on a limited, case-by-case basis.

WHAT DO WE OFFER UNDER **XCP?**

The objective of XCP is to maximize the quality of value chain development, preempt potential food safety hazards and minimize the risk of rejection due to technical regulations and controls.

XCP concentrates on providing attentive support to implement technical standards, food safety systems, quality systems, and to improve capacities on packaging and labelling according to EU market requirements.



THE PROGRAM DELIVERS CAPACITY BUILDING TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF CERTIFICATIONS, SUCH AS:

- GLOBAL G.A.P. (Good Agricultural Practices)
- SL – G.A.P. (Good Agricultural Practices)
- GMP (Good Manufacturing Practices)
- HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points)
- ISO 22000 (Food Safety Management Systems)
- Organic (Restricted use of chemicals, substances and conditions potentially harmful for human health or the environment)

XCP also provides training to improve best practices on pesticides, pre/post harvesting techniques, productivity, efficiency, business skills, management skills, IT skills, and marketing & branding.



GENERAL TRAINING COURSES COVERED BY XCP INCLUDE:

- Internal Auditing as per ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems
- Training on “Kaizen” - Continual Improvement
- Training on Six Sigma - Methodology for Eliminating Defects
- Training on 5S Applications in Productivity and Quality Improvement
- Training on Continual Business Improvement
- Training on SL GAP/Global GAP
- Training on Role of Junior Managers or Supervisors in the Implementation of ISO 22000:2018 standard
- Training on Team Work and Role of Quality Circles in Total Employee Participation
- Workshop on Application of Food Labeling Regulations in Industry
- Workshop on Basic Concepts of Quality and Productivity
- Workshop on GMP for Food/Spices Industry
- Workshop on HACCP/ISO 22000:2018 Food Safety Management Systems
- Workshop on Internal Audit as per HACCP/ISO 22000:2018 Food Safety Management Systems
- Workshop on ISO 9001: 2015 Standard and Implementation of Quality Management Systems
- Workshop on Quality Control for Product and Service Improvements

To access the updated schedule of training programs please visit:

<http://bit.ly/2Y8WqG8>





WHO CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE XCP?

Eligibility criteria for SMEs to participate in the program are:

- Registered business entities who are members of an association/ chamber in Sri Lanka having a minimum of two (2) years of operations
- Local ownership (Sri Lankan investment has to be over 51%)
- Product sectors and service providers included in the spices & concentrates and processed foods & beverages value chains
- Annual sales turnover should be above 5 million Sri Lankan rupees
- Number of employees should be between 5 and 200
- Presented and endorsed by an institutional partner

In addition to SMEs, this program will also support government and non-government institutions to expand their knowledge in value chain development and develop their capacity to support and provide services to SMEs.

WHO ARE OUR INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS AND HOW TO APPLY?

Any application should be endorsed by an institutional partner listed below. You can apply for this program by contacting any of the following institutions:

- Department of Agriculture (DOA)
- Department of Export Agriculture (DEA)
- Export Development Board (EDB)
- Industrial Development Board (IDB)
- Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC)
- National Chamber of Exporters (NCE)
- National Enterprise Development Authority (NEDA)
- Small Enterprises Development Division (SEDD)

Please send us your business profile in the following template:

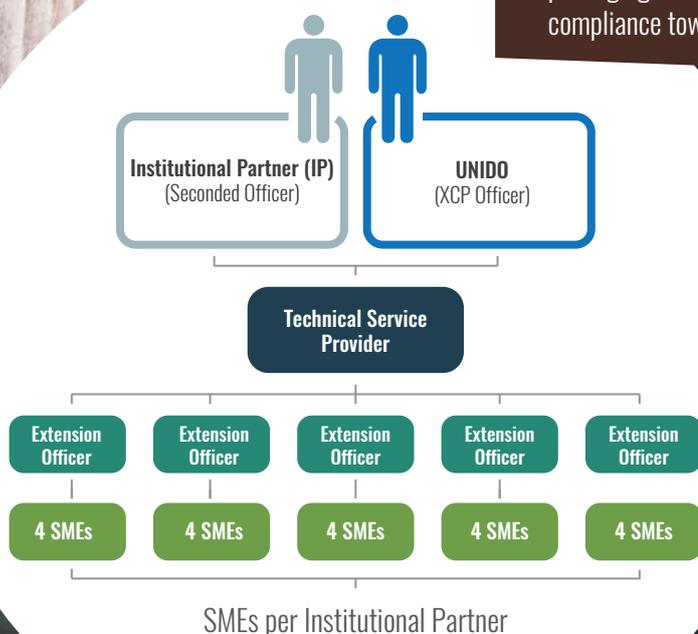
<http://bit.ly/2Jqe0q2>



HOW DOES THE XCP OPERATE?

The general training series are designed for SMEs and institutional partners on food safety assurance and quality management systems to adopt best practices/corrective processes to sustain a high level of compliance with international food safety and quality standards. UNIDO and institutional partners jointly select SMEs as per the selection criteria and assess them to identify their needs for training under the general training series. The training sessions will be held in identified districts and will include an exam and a certificate of attendance. The SMEs can contact the respective Institutional Partner to register for free.

A core group of SMEs will be evaluated, coached, and monitored by a technical service provider (TSP) along with extension officers (EO) from institutional partners and UNIDO on specific system certifications for food safety, quality, packaging, labeling, and other relevant areas to facilitate the strengthening of compliance towards certification.



UNIDO with the assistance of the extension officer from the institutional partner assigned to the SME and the technical service provider will carry out the following activities:

- Carry out an initial diagnostic assessment of the SME, including food safety, quality, packaging, and labeling management, governance, human resources, finance, marketing to generate a diagnostic report with recommendations for to consider in an action plan to level up export compliance.
- Provide consultancy on preparing for certification, including documentation and structural changes if any, and develop an action plan to bridge compliance gaps identified during the diagnostic assessment and audit for each SME.
- Revise the action plan, including defining key performance indicators (KPI), and select areas to receive technical support.
- Each SME will participate in XCP activities and will receive tailored support according to their action plan. (The XCP will provide mainly guidance and coaching. Some support towards light equipment may be considered on a case-by-case basis.)
- XCP will monitor the progress and provide feedback based on the KPIs.
- Final assessment will be conducted to evaluate the progress and the impact of the intervention and certification.



WHY ENROLL IN THE XCP?

Within the framework of the EU-Sri Lanka Trade-Related Assistance project, an expected result is improved market access to the EU and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) region. The project envisages to strengthen the capacity of SMEs along the PFBC value chains and of the undergirding institutional partners, including their extension officers, who are integral to the effective implementation of the XCP. By facilitating the adoption of best practices and the achievement of certification on food safety and quality systems, XCP beneficiaries would enjoy greater access to new markets.

Finding of the upstream and downstream value chain analyses of the PFBC conducted by UNIDO highlight the areas of need and common challenges faced by SMEs. In light of these findings, the XCP was designed to promote inclusive and sustainable value chain development.

WHO IS UNIDO?

UNIDO is the specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes industrial development for poverty reduction, inclusive globalization and environmental sustainability. UNIDO's mandate, within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), hinges on SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

WHEN & WHERE?

Launched in January 2019, the XCP will conclude in May 2020. The program is available to competitively selected SMEs island-wide.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT & SUSTAINABILITY?

The XCP will train and provide technical guidance to 100 SMEs, among which 30 will receive tailored advisory support to facilitate the achievement of system certifications. Thirty extension officers representing eight institutional partners will act as integral members of the XCP monitoring staff to keep track of progress against a bespoke action plan for the core group of SMEs. Access to shared service centers and procurement of light equipment will also be provided on a limited, case-by-case basis.

At the conclusion of the program, it is expected that the core group of SMEs will have achieved an export-ready level of compliance and that institutional partners would be ready to embed, adapt, and continue this program within the framework of their own institutional mandate.

WHAT IS EU-SRI LANKA TRADE-RELATED ASSISTANCE PROJECT?

The XCP takes place within the framework of the European Union (EU) funded EU-Sri Lanka Trade-Related Assistance project implemented by UNIDO and the International Trade Centre (ITC). The project aims to increase the competitiveness of Sri Lankan SMEs in SAARC and EU markets to support inclusive, trade-led growth. It focuses on export strategy, trade policy and facilitation, national quality infrastructure (NQI) and value chains in the spices, food and information technology (IT) / business process outsourcing (BPO) sectors.

In particular, UNIDO facilitates the strengthening of NQI services to meet quality and sanitary & phytosanitary standards requirements at home and abroad and enhances the value chain performance of SMEs that depends on these services. Specific attention is given to strengthening core NQI pillars, which constitute standardization, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment, and enhancing export compliance along the spices and processed food value chains.





IF YOUR INSTITUTION IS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN OR ESTABLISHING A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE XCP, PLEASE CONTACT US.

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IN COLLABORATION
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