

Introducing GMP in the raw milk supply chain to catalyze the commercialization of the dairy sector

Context

A study on raw milk supply chain, supported by Samarth-NMDP and conducted by Dairy Industry Association (DIA) and Central Dairy Cooperative Association Nepal (CDCAN), confirmed the need for improvement in the quality of raw milk for the commercialization/industrialization of the dairy sector. Key stakeholders of the sector were unanimous on the necessity of Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) across the entire value chain of milk production as a prerequisite to maintain the quality of milk. Samarth recently supported Nepal Dairy Development Board (NDDB) - a body that works on the policy level in the dairy sector - to draft a GMP for raw milk supply chain.

Project inception and stakeholder consultation workshop

A one-day project inception and stakeholder consultation workshop was held on 06 March, 2016. The objectives of the workshop were to orient key stakeholders of the dairy sector about the GMP¹ project; and discuss mechanisms for the engagement of multiple agencies in piloting the draft GMP in the field level. The event was chaired by Dr Keshav Premy, the Director General of the Department of Livestock Services (DLS) under Ministry of Agriculture and attended by 40 participants who represented the key stakeholders of the dairy sector: DLS², DFTQC³, NDDB⁴, DDC⁵, NDA⁶, DIA⁷, CDCAN⁸, NGOs and INGOS working in the sector.

The following six technical papers were presented by the key stakeholders:

1. GMP project overview and implementation process in M4P approach - Samarth-NMDP
2. Status of current practices and role of dairy industries in application of GMP to milk processing - DIA
3. Challenges of maintaining milk quality in smallholder settings and role of cooperatives in improving quality of raw milk - CDCAN
4. Policy and legal provisions in milk and its product standards: role of NDDB in GMP application and governance - NDDB
5. Meeting quality standards for raw milk: DLS's role in adoption of GMP for clean milk production and marketing - DLS
6. Raw milk standards: role of DFTQC in GMP application, auditing and certification - DFTQC

¹ Good Manufacturing Practices

² Department of Livestock Services

³ Department of Food Technology and Quality Control

⁴ National Dairy Development Board

⁵ Dairy Development Corporation

⁶ Nepal Dairy Association

⁷ Dairy Industry Association

⁸ Central Dairy Cooperative Association Limited Nepal

Key Takeaway / What next

The event was successful in developing a common understanding and possible roles of the key stakeholders in implementing the GMP across the sector. The excerpts of the presentation and recommendations will be compiled and circulated for future reference.

The event set an enabling environment for the selection and finalization of potential pilot sites. DIA, NDA, CDCAN and DDC has already selected six chilling centers and their milk-sheds in Kavre (2), Makwanpur, Bara, Tanahun and Nawalparasi districts for piloting the draft GMP. DLS will mainstream pilot results in production, marketing and supply of raw milk up to the chilling center level. CDCAN will take the key role in backstopping smallholders in adopting GMP. DFTQC has proposed a central level technical committee of government agencies for next level of policy action on quality setting of raw milk, including mandatory and voluntary provisions on raw milk standards, auditing systems and regulation, once pilot results are available.

Development impact

After piloting the GMP in six districts, a standard for raw milk will be formalized and endorsed at the national level. This will encourage all the stakeholders to follow the principles of GMP in the supply chain of milk production. Chilling centers and associations such as CDCAN will develop trainers to sensitize farmers on GMP. Milk produced hygienically based on GMP will not only be preferred by the processors for its quality, it will protect the smallholders from the loss incurred through damaged milk due to lack of hygiene.

Pictures



Figure 1: Dr. Keshav Premy, Director General of DLS chairing the event



Figure 2: Participants at the workshop



Figure 3: Mr. Bimal Kumar Nirmal, Program Director, Directorate of Livestock Production, Presenting his paper on "Meeting Quality Standards for Raw Milk: DLS's role in the adoption of GMP for clean milk production and marketing"



Figure 4: Participants engaging in group work activities