

Strengthening Health and Safety in Peru

Supplier and retailer
collaboration opportunity

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GROUP

Background

- Peru has become one of the most important sourcing countries globally for many international food retailers
- Peruvian agricultural exports increased from \$645 million in 2000 to an estimated \$7.8 billion in 2020
- Optimal weather conditions in the Peruvian coastal region and significant investment means that Peru is likely to continue to grow as a sourcing region for many products
- However, the fast growth of the agri-export sector has not been always matched with improvements in labour standards that meet international expectations
- Main Crops: Grapes, Mangos, Blueberries, Asparagus, Avos, Citrus, Figs, Peas, Pomegranates, Onions, Garlic

The Challenge

- Significant number of health and safety incidents have led to serious injury of worker and/or fatalities in the last few years
- Increasing number of critical Non-conformances from SMETA audits
- Non-conformances are often reoccurring due to poor management systems to maintain important procedures
- Incidents at a wide range of growers as well as data on non-conformances has shown that this is an industry wide challenge rather than associated with a particular product or supply chain
- In many farms and packhouses both workers and employers lack the knowledge and/or capacity to carry out extensive health and safety risk assessments, set up effective management and control systems, and outline clear responsibility structures to ensure consistent implementation

What is needed -

Strengthen health and safety practices in farms, packhouses and in transportation of workers to and from the worksites, reducing serious injuries and fatalities.

OBSERVATORY:

Anonymised inventory of serious accidents including details about the accident, root causes, and new preventive measures and procedures taken. **Sharing learnings.**

TRAINING:

The establishment of a collaborative training programme to improve workplace safety procedures and management in Peru

Training informed by the insights from the Observatory.

Outcomes

- **Increased visibility and understanding of serious incidents and root causes –**
 - An inventory of serious accidents which resulted in worker hospitalisation or fatality, the causes of the accidents as well as suggested measures for all work sites.
- **Improved H&S practices and management systems –**
 - providing training on health and safety governance, management and best practice.
- **Reporting trends and sharing best practice –**
 - Opportunity for annual reports on best practices identified in Peruvian farms and packhouses to help inform work-related risks and actions which can be taken.
- **COLLABORATION - We welcome expressions of interest, feedback and any questions**
- Please contact naomi.pendleton@amfresh.com

