

Crowne Plaza, Vientiane, Lao PDR, 27 July 2023



FINAL REVIEW MEETING

**Contribution of the Hungarian TAL programs to
agriculture development in the Lao PDR**

Dr. Laszlo Varadi

DG, Vitafort Agro Asia

Strategic partnership between Hungary and Laos

Supportive political and social environment



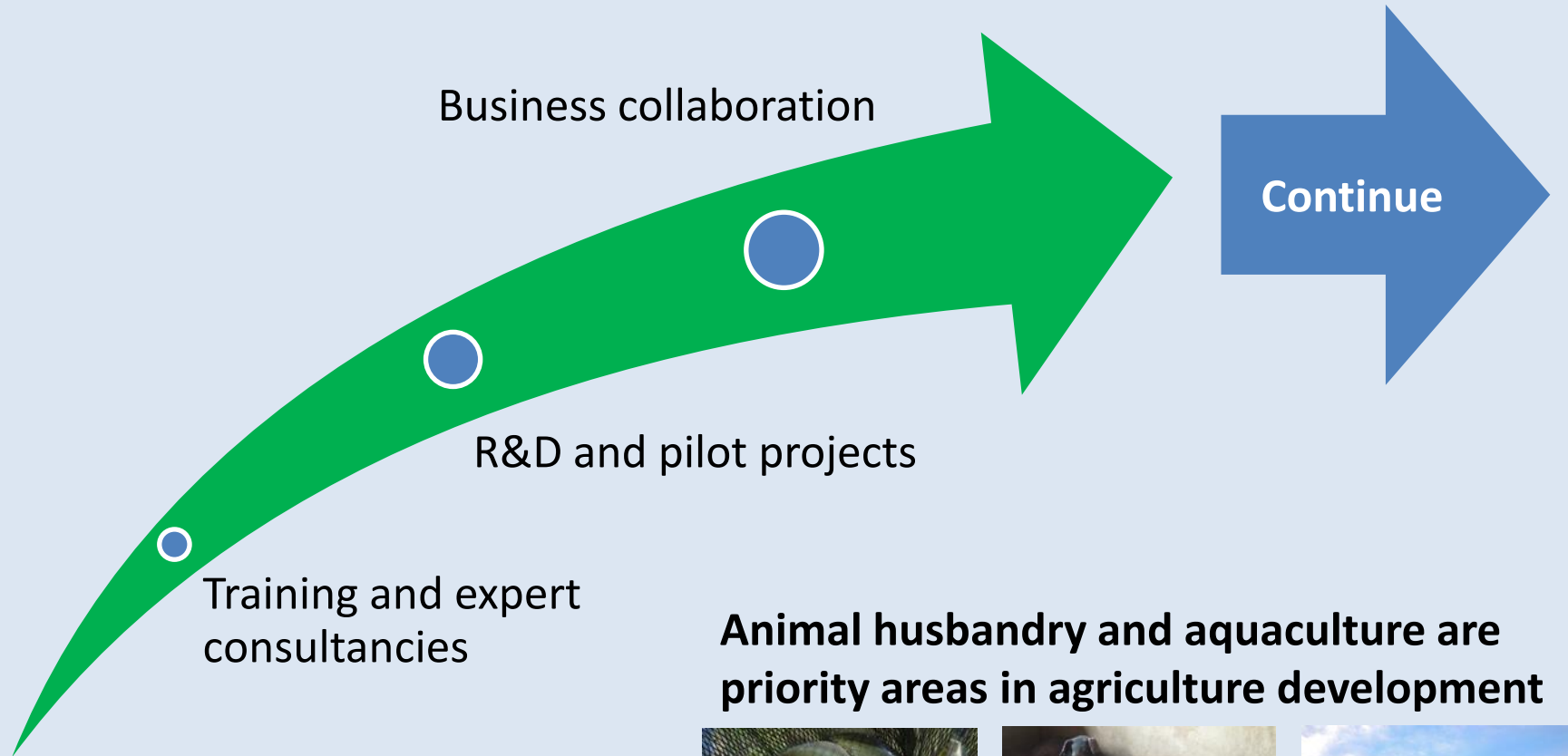
- Regular mutual high-level visits
- Partnership Agreement between Hungary and Laos since 11 March 2019
- Close and constructive relationship between the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Lao Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Reopening of the Lao and Hungarian embassies in Budapest and Vientiane
- Active Friendship Associations in both countries

Agriculture and food production is a key area of bilateral collaboration

- Agriculture is an important sector of the economy both in Hungary and Laos
- Available valuable green resources offer good opportunities for agriculture development in Laos
- Hungary has developed sustainable agriculture systems and technologies that can help the exploration and sustainable use of the soil and water resources in Laos
- Traditional collaboration and good professional and human relations provides excellent basis for joint agriculture development projects on long-term



Continuous development of agriculture collaboration towards business collaboration



Animal husbandry and aquaculture are priority areas in agriculture development



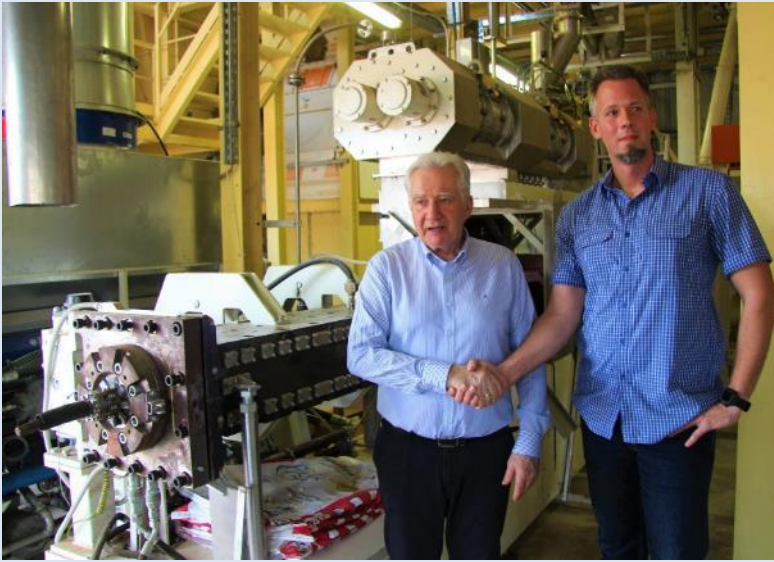
Agriculture development along the value chain

Modern slaughterhouse, Namxuang



7th of June 2016.

Modern feed mill, Nongteng



22nd of January 2019

Aquaculture Development Center, Namhoum



25th of October 2019

Vaccine Production Center, Nongteng



11th of September 2020

Fish processing plant, Tha Ngon



27th of April 2023

Success of agriculture collaboration is acknowledged by Hungarian and Lao governments



27th of April 2023, Vientiane

H.E. Saleumxay Kommasith, DPM, Minister of Foreign Affairs in a press conference with H.E. Peter Szijjarto, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade emphasised that **agriculture and animal husbandry are key areas** of bilateral collaboration.



4th of July 2023, Budapest

H.E. Peter Szijjarto, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade signed an **„Important Exporter Partnership Agreement”** with Mr. Zoltan Kulik, CEO of Vitafort Co.

Huge potential in agriculture cooperation for mutual benefit

The three tied aid loan programs give a **momentum** to agriculture collaboration. Results clearly show the **great potential** in the modernization and commercialization of agriculture and food supply in Laos. However, it is also a reality that to increase the supply of locally produced high quality and healthy food and decrease the dependence on food import requires **further efforts** and takes **longer time**.

The Hungarian government, business and institutional partners are **ready to continue** collaboration after the completion of the three tied aid loan projects. We do hope that Lao public and private partners are also ready to collaborate and **explore jointly new opportunities** not to lose the momentum generated by the tied aid loan programs.



Thank you for your attention!

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Köszönöm!