Analysis – Chain Governance (Coordination, Regulation and Control)



Learning Outcomes

By the end of this session, you should have a good understanding of:

- Concepts and dimensions of chain governance
- The central importance of governance analysis in value chain research
- Steps in chain governance analysis



What is Chain Governance?

Set of internal and external, formal and informal, rules, norms and standards operating in a value chain

System of regulation, coordination and control in which value is generated along the chain

Distribution of power within a chain

Chain structure is a major determinant of rules, norms, standards, coordination and control mechanisms, and value creation and distribution along the chain



Source: (Gereffi, Humphrey et al. 2003)



Incentives and transactions are shaped by laws, regulations, standards, information rules and norms



Pro-poor Chain Governance Analysis: Dimensions and Steps



Step 1 – Determining Chain Coordination Systems

- Coordination systems for delivery of quality standards and other market requirements (e.g. quantity and consistency of supply)
- Role of lead or coordinating firms
- Formal (contractual) or informal?



Step 2 – Assessing Participation

- Functions undertaken by different chain participants (including the poor and women)
- Formal coordination systems involving different chain participants (e.g. contracted input provision, marketing, certification, contract farming, final product sales)





Question!

Taking the diagram in the previous slide as reference, how would you characterize the following chains in Myanmar in terms of coordination systems?

- Rubber Sugar Sesame
- Vegetables Poultry







Step 3 – Identifying Rules and Regulations

- Formal and informal
- Official and commercial
- Set by actors within and outside the chain



Rules and Standards	Example	Enforcement and Sanction
Official (legal) standards	Maximum pesticide residues on imported vegetables	Ban of non-compliant produce from destination market
Voluntary Standards	Production requirements for organic certification and labelling	Ineligibility for certification or value-added labeling
Commercial Requirements or Norms ("rules of trade")	Tangible product requirements, such as volume, size, color, composition, or freshness, which may be codified or not	Spot rejection of product by buyer at delivery or collection, or reduced price paid to seller (downgrading)

Step 4 – Analyzing Impacts of Rules and Regulations

- Actors that monitor compliance with the rules
- System of incentives: rewards and sanctions
- Effectiveness of rewards and sanctions
- Effects of existing rules on chain participants
- Does the inability of poor producers to comply with rules limit participation in higher-value activities?
- Does it prevent upgrading of the value chain as a whole?

Step 5 – Analyzing Knowledge and Awareness of Rules / Regulations

Transmission of information about rules and standards, both externally and through the chain

Provision of services within the chain and externally to support "compliance"

Do the poor receive (or lack access to) adequate forms of support to comply with norms?



Step 6 – Analyzing Information and Services

- Do market participants (including the poor and women) know and understand existing rules and standards?
- Are rules and verifiable parameters clearly set in contracts? Are they enforced informally? Discretionally?



What should you know after completing your pro-poor chain governance analysis?

- 1. Value chain (vertical) coordination systems
- 2. Role of lead firms in chain coordination
- 3. Position of the poor in chain coordination systems
- 4. Systems for monitoring and enforcing chain rules
- 5. Access to information about formal and informal rules
- 6. Services to support compliance by chain participants