



Food Safety in China

-Challenges and Solutions

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Incidents and Reforms

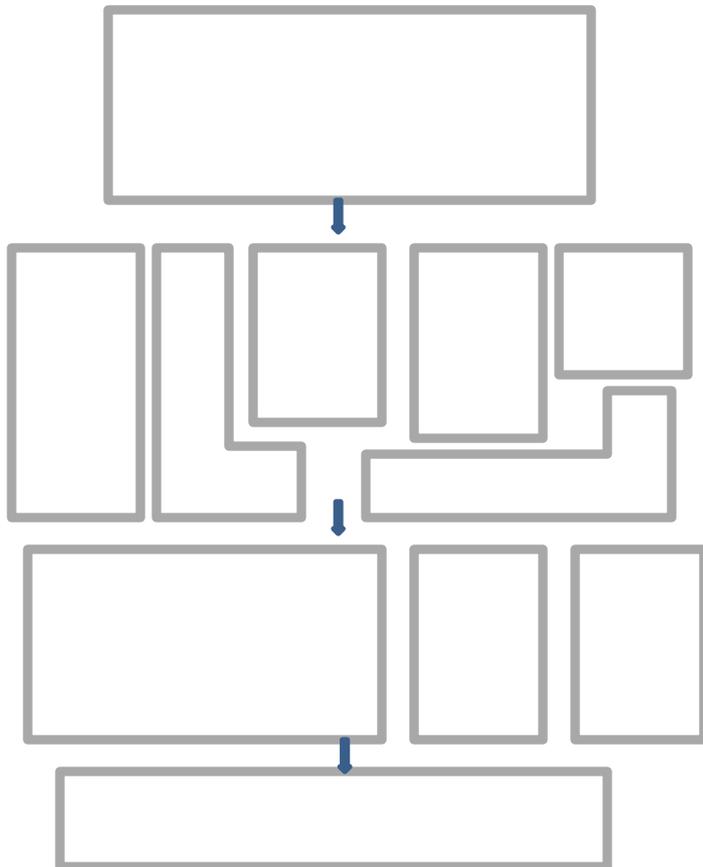
Food Safety Incidents



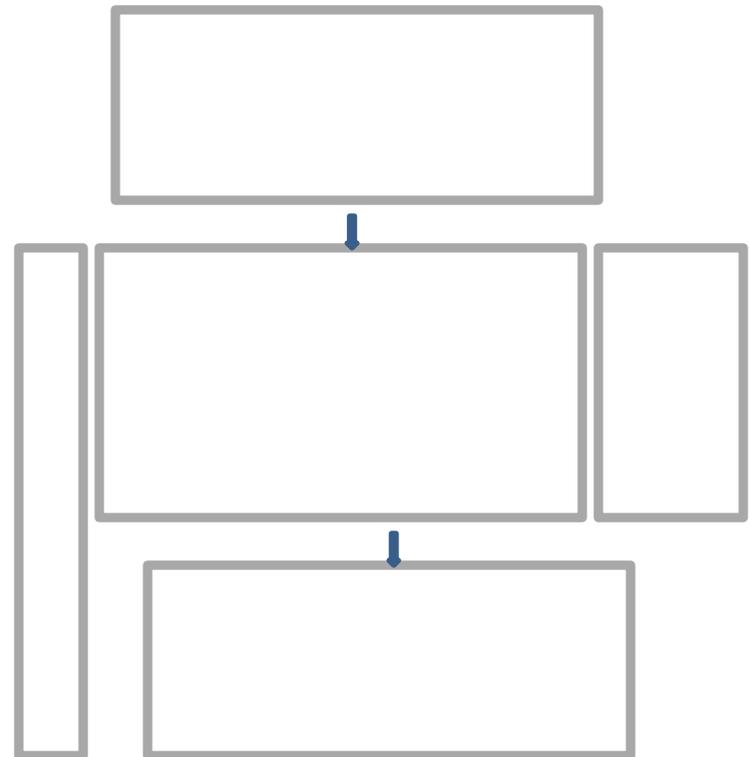
Streamline Domestic Food Safety Oversight in 2013



Fragmented



Consolidated

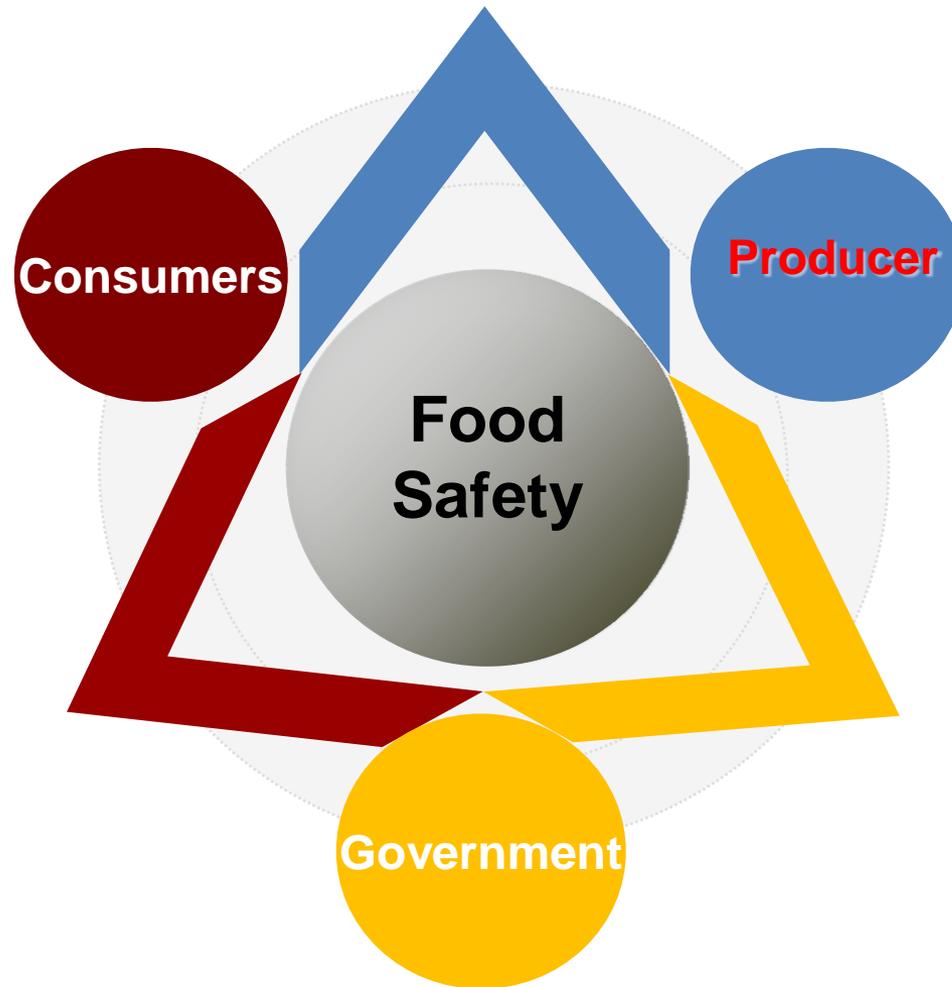


Food Safety Regulatory Reforms

- Amendment to the 2009 Food Safety Law
 - Producer assigned primary responsibility for food safety
 - Government oversight integration enhanced
 - Increased punishments for food safety violations
 - Strengthened traceability requirements (domestic and imports)



“Three in One” Food Safety Regulatory System



Food Safety Regulatory Reforms - Domestic



- Massive sanitary/hygiene standards review and development
 - Since 2009, released 400+ national food safety standards
 - Basic Standards
 - Food products standards
 - Food additives
 - Test methods and procedures
 - Food-related products
 - Code of practice
 - Pesticide Residues
 - Objectives: resolve problems of conflicting, repetitive and missing standards



China's Food Imports

Trends and Challenges

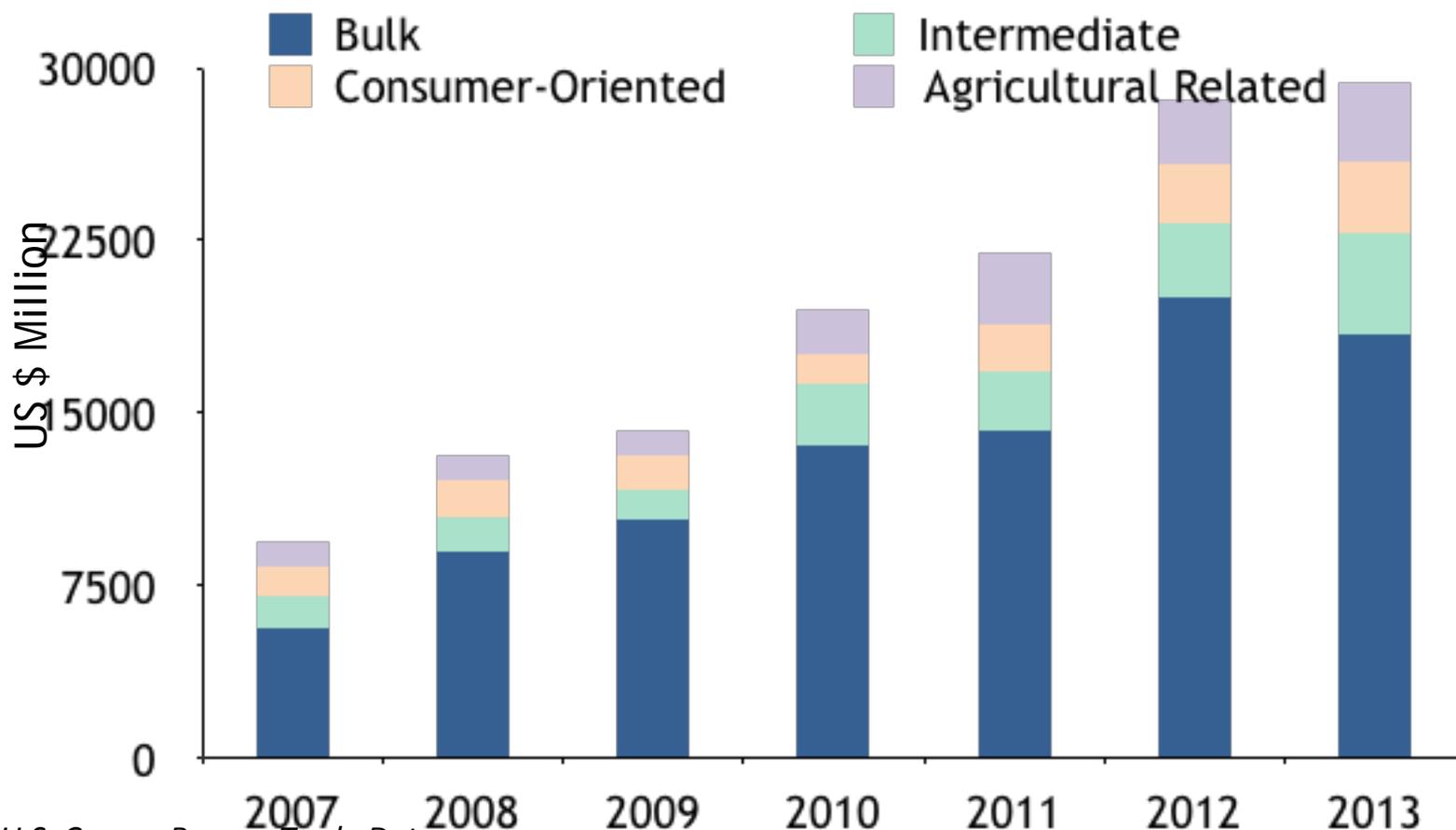
China's Food Import Trends

- Two-digit growth over the past decade
- Major imports: bulk commodities; great potential for fruits, aquatic products and processed foods
- The U.S. is China's largest overseas food supplier



U.S. Agriculture Exports to China

- 2013 total exports of agricultural and related products was \$29.366 billion



Source: U.S. Census Bureau Trade Data

Prepared by: Global Policy Analysis Division/OGA/FAS/USDA

Import Food Safety Management System



- Imported foods are scrutinized at 3 points for compliance with the Chinese food safety standards and regulations:
 - Access before entry
 - Inspection at entry
 - After entry

Challenges for Imports: Specific

- Unclear risk assessment methodologies
 - Phthalate in wine
 - Fumaric acid: AQSIO implementation of standard
- Arbitrary enforcement of standards
 - Despite historical trade
(processed meats, enriched flour...)
 - Despite world trade standards
(ractopamine, GMO's)





Challenges for Imports: Systemic

- Resolution of import trade issues frustrated by lack of links/communications between standards makers and enforcers
 - NHPFC, MOA: develops standards, technical experts
 - AQSIQ: enforces, very conservative, risk averse
- Unclear Chinese decision makers: who really decides within the Chinese government?
- Lack of transparency for regulations



How to Respond to These Challenges?

Support China to Achieve Food Safety Management System Goals



- Support exchanges with Chinese food safety regulators to increase understanding of the U.S. system
- Encourage greater participation in international organizations
- Support training outreach to the U.S.
- Pro-active in-country industry outreach programs

Public Private Partnerships to Address Import Challenges



- Key message:
 - Share responsibility as world partners
 - Coordination to achieve food safety vision



Thank you!