

# Short food chain and quality assurance

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## Abstract

Within the new rural policy is a key element the shortening of food chain between primary producers and consumers. This requirement is a high challenge in the new EU members, because in the new EU- members due to the changing of production systems the new producers yet not educated about the quality systems providing high level of quality assurance.

The new Rural Development Program provide specific program to the shortening of food chain. The 1305/2013 EU legal acts below article 7 starts a so called short supply chain thematic subprogram. Thematic subprograms may also address specific needs relating to the restructuring of agricultural sector with a significant impact on development of a specific rural area. Within this system the producers will participate in a consortium leading with a non-profit organisation.

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The EU supported producers' groups in the last 10 years, according to the EU rules highly concentrated to develop these capacities related quality. HANGYA Co-operative Association, as umbrella organisation, based in this experiences improved a quality system which is conform with EUROGAP systems and in the next future ready to provide this knowledge to the small farmers incorporated within the short food chains. Above this the HANGYA Co-operative system - based on their co-operative character- fulfill the requirement related to the non- profit organisation.

The HANGYA quality system includes all elements of quality aspects and farms' activities from farm to primary consumer (especially in the fresh product directly to the final consumers, respectively to the primary food processors).