

The Future of Cold Chain - China & Asia

There are new investments in China to develop the port of Nansha, in the south of the country, as an international port offering cold storage facilities.

The buying power in China has increased for the average family which now has easier access to a broader range of food. The consumption of fresh food and the demand for foreign food from various origins are increasing. In parallel, fresh food e-commerce in China is also growing remarkably. As a result of this evolution in habits, the protein trade in China is expected to double in the next year. Meanwhile, cold chain infrastructure and outlets in the country is little developed, multi-modal options are limited. The refrigerated transport rate today is 30% of the overall transport – compared to 90% in Europe; food loss in the last mile is estimated to be over 10%. The Chinese government aims at increasing the rate of refrigerated transport to over 50% and reduce food loss in the last mile to 8% in the next years.

Opportunities to develop cold chain further in the region are multiple. Through its development programmes, GCCA actively contributes to such development and creates opportunities for its

members to gain foothold in new markets. Since 2019, GCCA has been carrying out a government-funded assessment project in South-East Asia specifically Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam – focusing on capacity building recommendations and plan including regional collaboration. In Cambodia, the project aims at feeding the future market systems and partnerships. The work consists in supporting the operations of LM17 cross-docking cold chain and logistics facility through high-level activities procurement of materials equipment support; advisory services for two facilities; hiring and training of staff; and customer outreach and



public relations. Projects in other regions include trade facilitation in Bangladesh, local development for employment in Burundi, agricultural sector competitiveness and export diversification support in Benin, rural agribusiness strengthening in Egypt, cold chain network study in Ghana, cold chain market assessment and training in North Africa, Trade Safe (TraSa) project in Dominican Republic.

To learn more about these projects and collaboration opportunities, click here