

International Cooperation Bureau

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Ministry of Agriculture
INDONESIA

Newsletter



Extraordinary Agriculture Ministers
Virtual Meeting

21 April 2020



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"The G20 with the support of international organizations needs to initiate global food system recovery, encourage sustainable investment and public-private partnership, as well as increase transfer of technology and capacity building. Indonesia calls on all G20 member countries to work together to face the challenges of COVID-19 in the spirit of global solidarity", the Minister of Agriculture told the G20 Extraordinary Agriculture Ministers Meeting held virtually on 21 April 2020.



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Jatiluwih Rice Terraces, Tabanan, Bali
(Image credit: Darcey Beau)

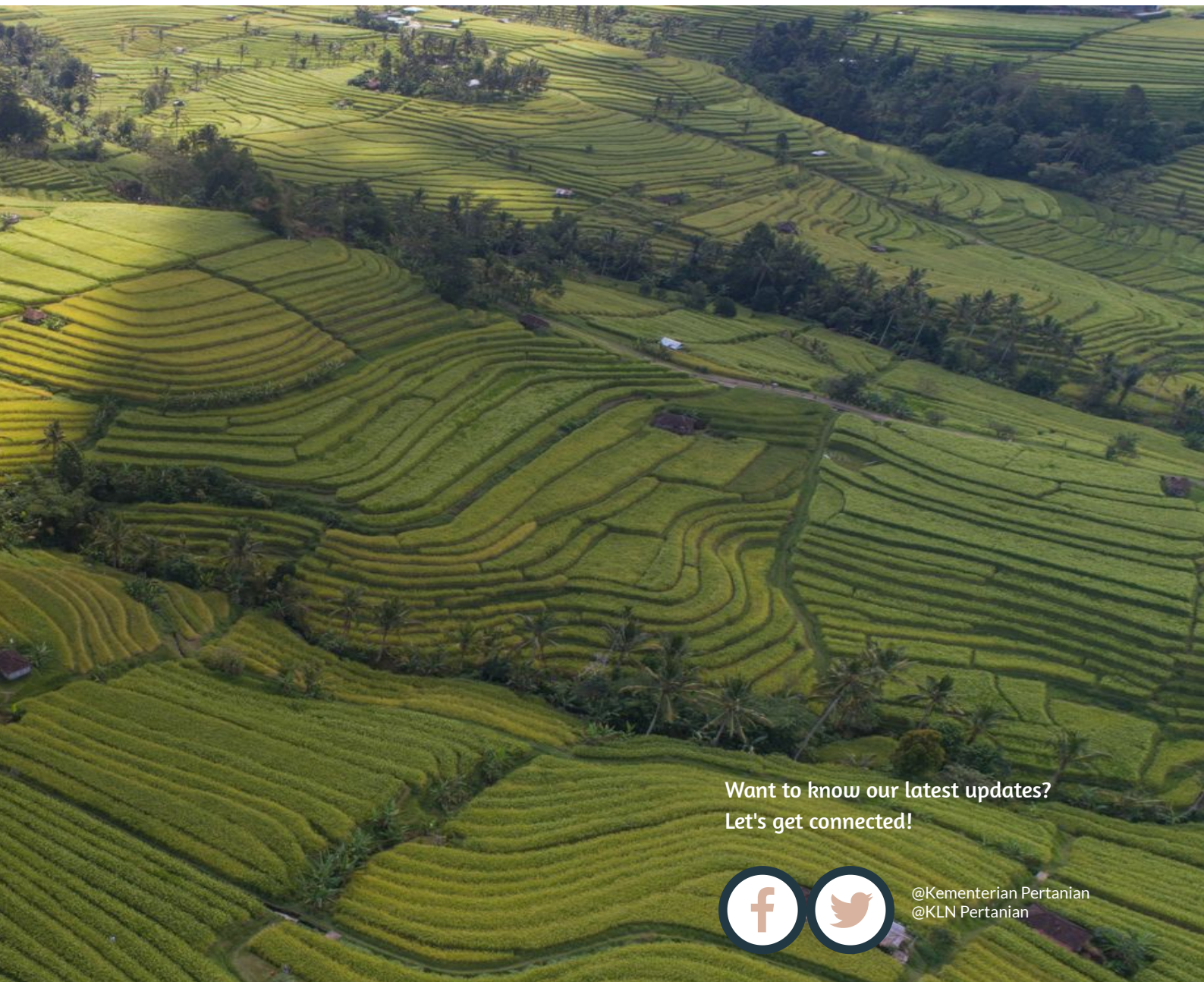
Foreword

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter. We strive to keep you updated on how the Ministry of Agriculture, through the International Cooperation Bureau, is ensuring the achievement of national food security and hence contributing to the attainment of the SDGs.

In the midst of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry of Agriculture, with various adjustments, continues to strive to accelerate exports of agricultural commodities through a series of cooperation programs and activities to facilitate market access and mobilization of technical assistance and investment. Several major activities have been summarized in this first issue.

We would appreciate it if you let us know what you want to hear from us, what updates you would like to see and what kind of content you are expecting from us. Any feedback can be sent to our International Cooperation Bureau.


Happy reading!



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"One thing that continues to exist and be in demand under any critical situation is food. Thus, agriculture is essential."

Minister Syahrul Yasin Limpo

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INDONESIAN AGRICULTURE

BY THE NUMBERS (in 2019)

Indonesian agriculture provides livelihoods for **more than half** of the total population

Agriculture contributes

14%
to the **GDP**

29%
of **labor forces** is in
agriculture

32%
of **Indonesian land** is
used for agriculture

93%
of farmers are **small**
family farms

60.7%
of Indonesia's **140** million
farmers are **aged 45 or**
above

11%
of family farms are
headed by women

Top agricultural commodities produced

1 Palm oil fruit

(45.8 M tons)



2 Sugar Cane

(2.2 M tons)



3 Rice

(2.2 M tons)



Top destination countries for agricultural exports

1 China



2 USA



3 Japan



4 India



Govt's Strategic Policies in Agriculture for 2020–2024

A Renstra (Rencana Strategis) is a medium-term Strategic Plan, covering a five-year period. Prepared through a participative bottom-up and top-down process, the Renstra is a compulsory planning document for all Indonesian ministries.

In the agricultural sector, food consumption is increasing in line with population and economic growth. This places greater pressure on the agricultural sector, yet the amount of farmland is declining and fewer Indonesians are working as farmers. Another issue is the impact of droughts and climate change. The current global pandemic also has significantly impacted the agricultural sector.

Therefore, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) seeks to boost agricultural production by paying attention to modernization and environmental sustainability, as reflected in the new Renstra.

The Renstra of the MoA is a state document regulating the policies for agricultural development, which are elaborated into programs/activities, indicators, targets, as well as funding and regulatory frameworks.



The Renstra serves as the basis in planning and implementation of agricultural development, and it is applied to all stakeholders of agriculture in the Central and Regional levels, including cross-sector and business sector support.

The MoA developed the current Renstra by referring to the vision and mission of the President as stipulated in Presidential Regulation Number 18/2020 on National Medium Term Development Plan (RPJMN) 2020-2024 and the National Long Term Development Plan (RPJPN) for 2005-2025. In this regard, the agricultural sector is expected to contribute to quality economic growth in Indonesia.

The MoA's 164-page Renstra 2020-2024, issued in May 2020, primarily aims to achieve an independent, modernized and prosperous agricultural sector by increasing food security and agricultural competitiveness. The regulatory framework promotes the development of sustainable agriculture by producing products of high economic value in an environmentally friendly manner.

In the face of the current coronavirus pandemic, the main strategies of the Renstra include food availability and security, welfare and productivity of agricultural human resources, and sustainability of agricultural resources.

In terms of financing, the funding framework for implementing agricultural development policies and programs cannot rely solely on the central government. This is especially the case when budget cuts are being experienced due to emergency spending on coronavirus mitigation measures. In this context, the government aims to foster resource mobilization including through domestic and foreign investments as well as other development assistance.

Data shows that domestic investment in Indonesia's agricultural sector increased significantly from Rp12.4 trillion in 2015 to Rp43.6 trillion in 2019. However, foreign investment in the sector decreased from Rp28.7 trillion to Rp13.4 trillion over the same period. Some 95.5% of both domestic and foreign investment in the sector was in estate crops, while livestock accounted for 4.02%, food crops 0.26%, and horticulture just 0.16%.

By streamlining the shared vision for improving farmers' welfare and productivity, Indonesia hopes to deliver local, national and global results to food security, nutritional consumption and environmental sustainability.

Mitigating the Impacts of COVID-19 on Food Security

In response to warnings that much of the world is on the brink of famine and food shortages, Indonesia's Ministry of Agriculture is implementing measures to ensure national food security.

"Make no mistake – if we do not act now to end this pandemic of human suffering, many people will die." That was the dire warning issued in July by World Food Program (WFP) Executive Director, David Beasley.

Food security exists when people have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life. According to the WFP, the COVID-19 pandemic is destroying livelihoods at an unprecedented rate, threatening 265 million people worldwide with famine and billions with food insecurity.

Indonesia is not among the 25 countries deemed most at-risk of famine in the United Nations' updated COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan, but it has been placed on the "at-risk and to watch" list.

There are logistical and supply challenges in sourcing imports of rice, sugar and beef during the pandemic, especially when producing countries are under lockdown and restricting exports, and their shipping is disrupted. Another factor is the forecast of an extreme dry season in 30% of Indonesia this year. Also, Indonesia's biggest rice production bowl is East Java province, which is among those hardest hits by COVID-19.

The Minister of Agriculture, Syahrul Yasin Limpo, on June 4 outlined four strategies to reduce the impact of COVID-19 in the agricultural sector and support food security for 267 million Indonesians. The four strategies are:

Indonesia's Four Ways of Actions

First, **increasing production capacity** through: (i) agricultural expansion, including conversion of swampland into farmland, as well as new cultivation areas for rice, corn, shallots and chili; and (ii) agricultural intensification through acceleration of rice planting, and increasing production of beef and garlic to reduce imports.

Second, **diversification of staple food consumption** through: (i) development of local dietary diversification beyond rice; (ii) greater consumption of local foods such as sweet potato, corn, sago, banana, potato and sorghum; and (iii) backyard and marginal land use through a home-horticulture program.

Third, **strengthening food reserves and logistics** through: (i) strengthening provincial rice reserves; (ii) village-based community empowerment through provision of low-interest loans to farmers; and (iii) improving the national food logistics system for stabilization of supply and prices.

Fourth, **development of modern agriculture** through promotion of: (i) agricultural mechanization; (ii) smart farming; (iii) screen-houses and greenhouses; and (iv) farmers' corporations.

These efforts have been considered quite successful so far in maintaining food supply and price stability amid the pandemic, including during the fasting month of Ramadan.





Minister Limpo inspects the security of rice stocks (left); and visits rice farmers in Aceh (right).

Stockholding and Resilience

While food security is imperative, the World Trade Organization has opposed 'public stockholding', in which developing countries procure, stockpile and distribute essential food at fixed prices to the needy. In view of the pandemic, Indonesia is focusing on improving food availability through productivity and resilience, rather than complete dependence on imports.

In the first half of 2020, Indonesia's rice stocks were more than sufficient to meet domestic demand, with a surplus of 6.4 million tons. However, there are concerns over rice availability toward the end of the year and early 2021. This is partly because Vietnam and Thailand have capped rice exports to focus on their own domestic supplies. Also, Indonesia's rice production in the first semester of 2020 reached 16.8 million tons, down 9.7% from the same period last year.

As of July-August, national rice stocks reached 7.83 million tons and an additional 15 million tons were forecast to be sourced from local harvests by the end of the year. Other food stocks included 66,482 tons of beef and buffalo meat, 35,291 tons of sugar, 1,786 tons of wheat flour, 22.64 tons of chicken eggs, and 2,770 kiloliters of cooking oil.

Determined to boost domestic rice production, Minister Limpo directed that productive agricultural land should not be left fallow after this year's first harvest. "I ask the farmers to continue producing, after harvesting, planting immediately. Don't leave the land idle for more than one month," he said. He further said farmers who cultivate their land in the dry season will receive assistance in the form of agricultural tools and machinery, quality seeds, and low-interest micro-credits.

Farmers are also being encouraged to choose crops that are suitable for the season, especially those that require less water. By providing farmers with guidance, they should be better able to choose the right planting time, as well as types and patterns of crops to maximize resilience and reduce the risk of crop failure and losses.

As the world faces greater food insecurity, Indonesia is doing well to avoid panic-buying and hoarding. By looking beyond the goal of permanent rice self-sufficiency and improving the production of other crops and promoting dietary diversification, Indonesia will be better equipped to avoid shortages.



Minister Limpo briefs the foreign media on June 4.



KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN
REPUBLIK INDONESIA

Maintaining NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY AMID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



As directed by the President, the Ministry of Agriculture must ensure national availability of food. Please remain calm and do not worry, our food supply is enough.

Syahrul Yasin Limpo

Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Indonesia



All ministries and government institutions should prioritize food supply for the community during pandemic

Joko Widodo

President, Republic of Indonesia



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COVID-19 International Responses

Following is a look at how Indonesia, as a member of various international groupings, is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of agriculture.

G20

The Group of 20 of the world's largest economies held an Extraordinary Agriculture Ministers Meeting on April 21. The virtual meeting agreed that emergency measures to stop the spread of coronavirus must not disrupt global food supply chains. "We agree that emergency measures in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic must be targeted, proportionate, transparent, and temporary, and that they do not create unnecessary barriers to trade or disruption to global food supply chains, and are consistent with World Trade Organization (WTO) rules," the Group said in a statement.

World Bank official Mari Pangestu of Indonesia warned at the meeting against import barriers and export restrictions, urging global cooperation to avert food crises. The G20 ministers said they would guard against any measures leading to excessive food price volatility in global markets or that threaten food supply.

ASEAN

Deeply concerned by the potential impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on ASEAN cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry, and the disruption of the food supply chain in the region, the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) issued a joint statement on 15 April reaffirming commitment to ensure food security, food safety and nutrition in the ASEAN region during the outbreak.

COMCEC

The COMCEC COVID-19 Agriculture Consultative Meeting was held on June 30 in a virtual-only format, with the theme of "The Impacts of COVID-19 on Food Security and Agriculture in the OIC Member Countries." The meeting discussed the current and potential impacts of the pandemic on food security and agricultural policies, exchanged expertise and good practices among the member countries, and deliberated on the cooperation opportunities based on the needs and experiences of member countries.

FAO, IFAD, WFP, WB

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Bank on 21 April issued a joint statement on COVID-19 impacts on food security and nutrition.

It warned that panic-driven policy responses, such as export bans and rapid escalation in food stock procurement through imports, could exacerbate market disruptions. "Countries need to work together to strengthen cooperation during this pandemic that is affecting all regions of the world. It is important to ensure that policies, such as short-term measures to restrict trade, do not distort global markets," said the statement.

IFAD

Separately, IFAD noted that effects of the pandemic can be mitigated by delivering support to needy farmers. In this regard, IFAD has taken three sets of measures to support its member countries: (i) The Rural Poor Stimulus Facility (RPSF), a dedicated fund to respond to the immediate and short-term constraints of rural producers. The RPSF was launched during the IFAD Executive Board meeting in April 2020 attended by the MoA Secretary General as IFAD Executive Director for Indonesia; (ii) Repurposing resources under IFAD-funded ongoing projects, to enable them to respond to the immediate problems that COVID-19 has created for their target groups; and (iii) Supporting COVID-19-related policy analysis in many countries, in most cases in collaboration with the other Rome-based agencies.

FAO

FAO has developed comprehensive and holistic COVID-19 Response and Recovery Programme, which is designed to proactively and sustainably address the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic. In line with the UN approach to "build back better," and in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals, it aims to mitigate the immediate impacts of the pandemic while strengthening the long-term resilience of food systems and livelihoods. FAO has identified 6+1 thematic areas of work to ensure rapid and continued support to the most vulnerable while anticipating the secondary repercussions of the virus.

Ongoing Foreign-Funded Projects Impacted by COVID-19

With the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, development assistance in the form of foreign loans and grants in Indonesia faces new challenges, including six ongoing foreign-funded projects managed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The projects have to deliver essential goals and financial assistance to help developing areas to cope with the current economic, health and societal crisis, as funding modalities may differ from regular financing cycles.

These six projects have experienced delays in the implementation of their activities, resulting in slow disbursements during the pandemic. The six projects are:

1. *Integrated Participatory Development and Management of Irrigation Program (IPDMIP)* – IFAD
2. *Flood Management in Selected River Basins (FMSRB)* – ADB
3. *Rural Empowerment and Agricultural Development Scaling-up Initiative (READSI)* – IFAD
4. *Strategic Irrigation Modernization and Urgent Rehabilitation Project (SIMURP)* – WB - AIIB
5. *Youth Entrepreneurship and Employment Services (YESS)* – IFAD
6. *Uplands Agriculture Productivity and Markets Project (UPLAND)* – IsDB and IFAD



Irrigation system at FMSRB Project

The main obstacles are related to the granting mechanism for several projects. Provision of bailout funds in regional working units that were originally allocated for project activities have been reallocated for handling the COVID-19 outbreak in their respective regions.

However, local governments remain committed to carrying out activities in consultation with the central government to overcome the current situation.

At the central level, various efforts have been conducted within the Ministry of Agriculture by involving lenders/donors and project managers to jointly formulate strategic measures to mitigate impacts on operations, including conducting supervision missions and improving the use of digital technologies.

We thank our donors' ongoing support for their flexibility to adjust to these current conditions, while keeping our focus on a development effectiveness framework to ensure the budgets are used where most needed and can achieve greatest impact.



Support Mission READSI Project in Gorontalo

Exports of Agricultural Commodities Amid COVID-19

Indonesia's exports of agricultural commodities initially declined because of disruptions caused by measures to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic, but policies to stimulate export growth are now starting to yield dividends.

Lockdown measures in many countries have limited the movement of people and transportation, disrupting logistics and exports.

Indonesia's export earnings from food crops such as rice, soybeans, taro, mung beans, glutinous rice and broken rice were down over January-May 2020, compared to the same period in 2019. The value of rice exports decreased 10.9% from USD 153,950 to USD 137,180, soybeans fell 27.1% from USD 9.7 million to USD 7.1 million, taro fell 34% from USD 3.2 million to USD 2.1 million, glutinous rice declined 52.9% from USD 67,550 to USD 31,780, and broken rice fell 25.5% from USD 162,470 to USD 120,960.

Exports of horticultural commodities are also decreasing as COVID-19 spreads. The value of Indonesia's horticultural exports for the January-May 2020 period declined when compared to the same period the previous year. The value of banana exports fell from USD 7.9 million to USD 2.7 million, legumes from USD 6.4 million to USD 5.5 million, cabbage from USD 1.7 million to USD 1.4 million, and shallots from USD 118,000 to USD 37,000.

The reduced export values are partly due to lockdowns imposed by China, which is one of Indonesia's largest export markets. Lockdowns have also caused a decline in exports of various estate crop commodities, such as rubber, palm oil, coconut, cocoa, pepper, and nutmeg. Total palm oil exports for 2019 were worth USD 16.5 billion, with a value of USD 1.9 billion in December 2019. While in January and February 2020, palm oil exports were reduced to USD 1.4 billion and USD 1.5 billion respectively. Coconut, pepper, and nutmeg also experienced respective decreases of approximately USD 7 million, USD 4 million, and USD 2 million at the beginning of the pandemic.

The pandemic has also left the livestock sector reeling from lower export values. Export values for January-May 2020 are down from the same period the previous year.

In response to the declines, the Ministry of Agriculture formulated five strategies to increase exports:

1. Raise export volume by working with local governments and stakeholders to make breakthroughs and innovations in export policy.
2. Encourage the growth of new exporters and export-oriented agropreneurs.
3. Increase the variety of export commodities. In addition to fresh products, the Ministry of Agriculture also encourages farmers and exporters to export value-added processed products by collaborating with local governments and stakeholders to explore regional potential and encourage investment growth.
4. Increase shipping frequency by accelerating export services, including improving quarantine services with electronic certification, as well as developing and strengthening information systems on export potentials.
5. Increase the number of trading partner countries through collaboration and by harmonizing quarantine protocols both bilaterally and multilaterally.

The Ministry of Agriculture's strategies for increasing exports during the pandemic have succeeded in showing positive growth, despite the initial weakening of the national economy.

Statistics Indonesia (BPS) recorded that agricultural exports in April 2020 amounted to USD 0.28 billion, up 12.66% from the same period in 2019 (year-on-year). Furthermore, in the January-April 2020 period, Indonesia's non-oil and gas exports were dominated by exports of animal or vegetable fats and oils amounting to USD 6.25 billion, representing an increase of 12.24% over the same period in 2019. In this regard, BPS has noted the agricultural sector is playing a significant role in the performance of national exports during the pandemic. This crucial role has been reflected by the Minister of Agriculture dispatching export shipments of commodities such as mangosteen, tea, coffee, kaffir lime, vegetables, cashews, vaccines and bird nests to several countries.



Welcome to Agriculture War Room (AWR)

In the battle to raise food production, it is essential to have a strong central command, backed by the latest data from real conditions in the field. The Ministry of Agriculture's Agriculture War Room has now been operating for eight months, providing information to help determine agricultural programs and policies.

Launched in February 2020, the War Room is located at the Ministry of Agriculture's premises in Ragunan, South Jakarta. It also has bases in various districts and is connected to nearly all sub-districts in Indonesia.

The War Room serves as a control center for data, monitoring and mapping, providing up-to-date and accurate information on yields and supplies of agricultural products, as well as the needs of farmers. The streamlining and processing of data makes it easier to anticipate which commodities will need to be imported. It also helps policymakers to meet needs of local and global food markets.



The AWR is launched by (left to right) Technology Assessment and Application Agency Head Hammam Riza, Agrarian and Spatial Planning Minister Sofyan Djalil, Coordinating Maritime Affairs and Investment Minister Luhut Pandjaitan, Agriculture Minister Syahrul Yasin Limpo, and House of Representatives Commission IV Deputy Chairman Hasan Aminuddin.

Online tools allow the surveying of harvest areas, crop productivity, fertilizer supplies, and livestock breeding. "We want agriculture to be more advanced, independent and modern to attain satisfying results," Agriculture Minister Syahrul Yasin Limpo said at the system's launch. "So this room will be like the Pentagon in the United States. We wage 'the war' from here."



IRRI Director General Matthew Morell visits the AWR.

The Director General of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Dr. Matthew Morell, on his visit to the AWR in February stated that "the image captured by the camera is quite detailed and the technology used is sophisticated. As a crop control system, AWR experts from head office can immediately provide suggestions to farmers in the field."

Fadjry Jufry, head of the Ministry's Agricultural Research and Development Agency, says the War Room is also strengthening the Strategic Agricultural Development Command (KostraTani) posts in each district. Some 5,733 BPP units are scheduled to be transformed into KostraTani by the end of 2020.

The War Room is having a notable impact in remote regions, such as Maluku and Papua, where the wider introduction of internet access is helping to modernize agriculture.

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the War Room and KostraTani have become of greater importance in delivering agricultural modernization and food security.

How Does It Work?

The War Room uses teleconference technology, satellite data and Android-based agricultural data applications. Further developments of the room include big data analytics, artificial intelligence and e-extension workers using online networks.

Monitoring occurs at the subdistrict and village levels. Farmers and farmers groups can input real-time data, for example, their fertilizer and seed needs, crop yields, pest attacks, animal husbandry results, and prices. Meanwhile, officials can alert farmers to plant and act to prevent animal diseases or other conditions that can influence output.

The AWR is being connected to Agriculture Extension Centers (BPP), which exist in every subdistrict and function to guide and advise farmers on a range of issues.

The aim of this synergy is to improve production and quality, enabling farmers to raise their income and allowing Indonesia to treble agricultural exports.



Agriculture Minister Syahrul Yasin Limpo with Dutch Vice Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Jan Kees Goet (center), during the Dutch Royal State Visit in March.

Central Kalimantan National Food Estate Project

In response to warnings of a global food crisis amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Indonesia is developing a new food estate in Central Kalimantan province. Some conservationists have criticized the plan, but officials point out the project will focus on intensifying the productivity of existing farmland and improving scrubland.

Minister of Agriculture Syahrul Yasin Limpo said the project, ordered by President Joko Widodo, should significantly increase agricultural production for national demand and the global market. The food estate is being developed on 164,598 hectares of land in Pulau Pisang district, some 150 kilometers from the provincial capital city, Palangkaraya.

The project area lies between the Kapuas River and the Barito River in Central Kalimantan. It will cover not just rice and corn-growing, but also production of vegetables, fruits and other horticultural crops, as well as animal husbandry. If a success, the estate could be expanded to cover 295,500 hectares.

The amount of paddy fields in Indonesia has been declining as land is converted into industrial, residential, tourism, mining and oil palm plantation areas.

According to Statistics Indonesia, the country had 7.1 million hectares of paddy fields in 2018, down from 11 million hectares in 1998. It is therefore essential to develop agricultural productivity to reduce the nation's dependence on food imports, especially as the world braces for food shortages caused by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Minister Limpo acknowledged he is fully aware the project would be a "great challenge" with regard to concerns raised by some environmentalists over possible land degradation, as conservationists noted that peat drainage might lead to floods in the wet season and fires in the dry season.

As a response, he said the development of retention basins and irrigation would be conducted in clusters, selected from careful mapping of the suitability of each area. "There will be clusters for agricultural products, animal husbandry, and so on," he said.

The project will optimize existing agricultural land and it is not about opening new land. Some 85,456 hectares of the project are paddy fields planted by local farmers, while the remaining 79,142 hectares will require clearing of scrubland.

The soil in the target area tends to be more alluvial, rather than peat swamp.

To support the overall effort to develop more land for cultivation, the President has tasked the food estate project not only to the Minister of Agriculture, but also assigned Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto, Public Works and Public Housing Minister Basuki Hadimuljono, and State-Owned Enterprises Minister Erick Thohir, to also manage the project.

The Defense Ministry will mobilize young Indonesians equipped with agricultural technology skills to work on the estate. Production from the food estate is expected to become part of strategic logistics reserves, which can be handled by military personnel to ensure food availability during the pandemic crisis. The Public Works and Public Housing Ministry is tasked with improving irrigation channels, while the State-Owned Enterprises Ministry is assigned to provide fertilizer through state enterprises.

In the initial phase of the project, some 30,000 hectares will be planted from October 2020 to March 2021 during the wet season. The agricultural land will be developed using modern agricultural machines and tools, and hence would improve the farming productivity. The food estate is expected to contribute to the improvement of local farmers' welfare and should help to bolster Indonesia's food reserves.

The fertility of the province's soil varies, but much of it is acidic with low nutrient content. However, degraded peatland can be reclaimed for agricultural use through better irrigation systems and land management involving application of fertilizers and technology.

Central Kalimantan has already developed new varieties of green super rice: Inpari 42 and Supadi hybrid rice. Corn production in the province increased from 8,940 tons in 2015 to at least 71,000 tons in 2019.

Large-scale agricultural estates managed by the government could prove better than big businesses with leaseholds, as the government can focus on ensuring long-term sustainability rather than just maximizing profits by exploiting the land. The government expects to provide expertise to farming families about cropping methods that protect soil fertility for the long term. Minister Limpo said the project should inspire neighboring provinces to increase their crop production.

While any agricultural undertaking carries an environmental impact, through careful planning, consultation and development, the new food estate in Central Kalimantan will raise Indonesia's food security, agricultural sustainability and the welfare of farmers.



President Joko Widodo conducts a working visit to Pulau Pisang Regency, Central Kalimantan, accompanied by Agriculture Minister Syahrul Yasin Limpo, Defense Minister Prabowo Subianto, Public Works and Public Housing Minister Basuki Hadimuljono, and State-Owned Enterprises Minister Erick Thohir.

Agri e-Commerce for Market Access Facilitation

The COVID-19 pandemic has created challenges and unprecedented changes in all sectors, including food and agriculture. There have been significant disruptions to food production, agricultural and fishery/aquaculture supply chains and markets. The situation has placed pressure on the farm-to-fork process, decreasing agribusiness income, while increasing poverty and malnutrition.

In response to the pandemic, the Ministry of Agriculture aims to raise agricultural production by 7% to meet medium-term demand for food and raw materials for exports and industries. The Ministry's International Cooperation Bureau is therefore pursuing opportunities for cooperation by optimizing its participation in bilateral and multilateral negotiations, as well as international trade and technical cooperation forums.

A policy of digital integration and research has been taken to help increase the export value of agricultural products over the long term and drive economic growth.

As part of this strategic step, the International Cooperation Bureau has developed an e-commerce platform to facilitate market access for agricultural business. This platform is expected not only to enhance marketing efficiency and expand agricultural product markets, but also to facilitate the access of farmers, small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs), and exporters to export markets and destination countries.

The digital platform provides five market access facilitation services for SMEs.

1. **Introduction of their agricultural products via a product profile** in the form of an infographic and video, outlining details, harvest estimation, and price.
2. **Promotion to potential importers and buyers in various countries through diplomatic channels**, such as Indonesia's representatives or directly to partner countries during bilateral, regional and multilateral meetings.
3. **Management of export licensing documents**, in terms of both domestic licensing and licensing related to specific policies in each export country, including quality and food safety requirements and other quarantine aspects. Shipping logistics for the products can also be facilitated through agreements with transportation companies such as Garuda Indonesia and Pelni.
4. **Guaranteed security of transaction** that gives peace of mind to Indonesian exporters and importers/buyers, through agreements with financial authorities.
5. **Coaching, not just for established exporters and agricultural entrepreneurs, but also for millennials and young entrepreneurs.** They are encouraged to become exporters by taking on the role of "aggregators", so that farmers and producers can reap the benefits of this platform. Millennial Farmer Ambassadors (MFAs) are involved in managing this platform to develop export-oriented young entrepreneurs.

Given its broad facilitation role, this e-commerce platform needs to be managed through a solid and professional institutional framework. The role of MFAs as platform managers should optimize the professional facilitation of support to farmers, especially with full assistance from the Ministry of Agriculture. The MFAs were inaugurated by the Agriculture Minister in April 2020 to advance modern and export-oriented Indonesian agriculture.

Efforts to Promote Mango Exports to Japan

Mango has tremendous potential to become one of Indonesia's top fruit exports, but so far less than 0.1% of production is exported because of strict quarantine requirements against fruit fly.

In response to this issue, the Ministry of Agriculture is encouraging market access for fresh mangoes to various countries, including Japan, by developing an export protocol that involves the treatment of fruit fly.

Indonesia is the world's fifth-largest mango producer after India, China, Thailand and Mexico. Domestic mango production grew from 1.8 million tons in 2016 to 2.8 million tons in 2019. However, only 0.03-0.04% of mango production was exported including to Singapore, UAE, Malaysia, Qatar, Kuwait, and Oman.

The Agriculture Ministry has been applying for Japanese market access for native Indonesian mango varieties, such as *Grafit* and *Gedong Gincu*. In order to export fresh mangoes to Japan, Indonesia must meet several requirements to pass quality checks and clearance. Part of this involves adopting disinfestation techniques by vapor heat treatment (VHT) against fruit flies on fresh mango.

VHT is preferred to chemical fumigation treatment methods, as it helps to protect consumer health. Indonesia has sought to find domestic and foreign investors for VHT machines, which expose the fruit to heated air to eliminate fruit fly.

Currently, two domestic investors and one Japanese investor have expressed interest in investing in VHT machines. The process of drafting a mango export protocol requires comprehensive technical phytosanitary measures, including treatment to mitigate six types of fruit flies in mangoes.

In the latest round of negotiations with Japan, there was still one species of fruit fly, *Bactrocera occipitalis*, on which the Japanese requested further research.

According to monitoring by the Indonesian Agricultural Quarantine Agency, this type of fruit fly is only found in a very small population on the island of Kalimantan, whereas Java island is the center of fresh mango fruit production. The Indonesian Agricultural Quarantine Agency has therefore conducted correspondence to convince the Japanese that the type of fruit fly that is of concern to Japan is not found on fresh mangoes to be exported to Japan.

Fruit fly is a major issue in Indonesia's tropical fruit exports to developed countries with strict quarantine regulations, such as Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. That being the case, the Ministry of Agriculture continues to strengthen a sustainable national program for fruit fly control in all production centers and improve post-harvest technology for Indonesia's leading export fruit, as well as conduct national and international scientific publications on the program. In addition to synergizing internally, the Ministry of Agriculture also involves various stakeholders to provide input to help actualize the program of fresh mango exports to Japan. Through the Indonesia-Japan Business Network, both parties have formulated an action plan that focuses on synergy between stakeholders for the success of this export realization.

Short-term follow-up to be carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture involves negotiating applications for market access, finalizing export protocols, and providing technical guidance and assistance to farmers in on-farm and off-farm production so that Indonesian mangoes are export quality. In the long term, Indonesia will continue a series of interventions, particularly in relation to the transfer of appropriate post-harvest technologies, the provision of strategic export market information, as well as the facilitation of business links with importers in current and potential markets, and also linking exporters to traders in assisted districts.

As global mango supply chains are hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, Indonesia aims to be well placed to benefit by developing its capacity to export this sweet, aromatic, and healthy fruit.

Voices from the Field: Farmer Card to Help Smallholders Make Ends Meet

The Ministry of Agriculture is continuing to distribute Farmer Cards to help millions of small-scale farmers to make ends meet amid disruptions to supply chains and fluctuating prices exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Farmer Card provides access to subsidized fertilizer and other forms of assistance, and will be expanded to provide access to financial transactions and small loans.

Agriculture Minister Syahrul Yasin Limpo in September launched the latest rollout of the Farmer Card, which has been introduced in four regions: Java, Madura, Sumbawa, and West Sumbawa. The card is expected to be issued throughout the country in 2021.

The Ministry of Agriculture's Director General of Infrastructure and Facilities, Sarwo Edhy, says the card enables farmers to receive subsidized fertilizer, and will help authorities to ensure the fertilizer is distributed appropriately.

Minister Limpo says the card will in future be able to be used to help farmers apply for small loans from government-appointed banks and financial institutions.

The main requirement to obtain a card is to be a member of a farmers' group that has completed a Definitive Plan for Group Needs (RDKK), which will form part of an online database. Field officers will then check each group's fertilizer requirements and enter the data into the online system.

At least 9.3 million cards had been printed by mid-September and 6.2 million had been sent to the first four regions, and 1.2 million are already in use. For many small farmers, improved access to fertilizer and loans will help them to become more productive.

Tough Times

Mijam (45) grows fruit and vegetables on 0.39 hectare of land owned by his parents in Bogor regency, West Java province. He previously worked on larger farms and owned a small truck, which he used to transport the produce to markets. However, high costs of vehicle registration, maintenance and fuel, coupled with low prices for farming produce, made it uneconomical to continue his transportation business.

On his parents' land, he now grows bananas, limes, mango, durian, and cassava. But farming is no longer his main occupation. As a result of declining prices in 2020, he has started doing part-time construction work. With a wife and three children to support, he was not earning enough from agriculture.

Mijam says it is getting harder to earn money during the pandemic, making it difficult to afford seeds, fertilizer and transport costs. He says high-yielding cash crops such as wheat, coffee, and rubber are only for wealthier farmers with larger landholdings. "It is nearly impossible to make a living only from farming, unless you're a wealthy businessman who owns many hectares of land."

Despite the challenges, Mijam is grateful to the government for providing social assistance. In recent months, he has received five care packages of social assistance from various state institutions and agencies. He says the government's distribution of assistance is well organized and helping farmers to make ends meet.

Mijam used to focus on growing banana trees, which bear fruit only once and then have to be re-grown. He earns IDR 40,000 to IDR 50,000 for a multi-tiered bunch of bananas. He says bananas are barely profitable for smallholders, as trees take up a lot of space and have to be re-grown, so he therefore diversified to other fruit trees and cassava.

The nearby subdistrict of Gunung Putri in Bogor was once a predominantly rural area, but in recent decades many of the farms have been replaced by housing estates and industrial sites. One of the remaining farmers is Badri (47), who farms 1 hectare of land alongside the Kota Wisata complex of residential clusters.

Badri works the land by himself, growing lemon grass, turmeric, papaya, Javanese ginger, cassava, and jicama. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Badri has faced hardship caused by declining market prices.

He says that while the pandemic has not affected his health or his farming production, he is earning less, which makes it harder for him to meet his daily needs. Consequently, he now spends several hours each day working as a scavenger of recyclable trash to augment his meager earnings. However, he says prices for scavenged trash have also fallen during the pandemic.

Badri has received social assistance from the government in the form of IDR 150,000, as well as rice, cooking oil, and face masks. He says it is getting harder to earn money from farming, and that last year was much more financially rewarding than 2020. In 2019, he was able to earn up to IDR100,000 a day but he now earns barely IDR 30,000 a day.

Sometimes, he takes home some of the food he has grown so his family can eat. Despite his situation, he enjoys his farming work and is hopeful that the agricultural sector will continue to be further improved so that farmers can enjoy greater financial security.

He notes that many young rural people prefer to work in construction or as motorcycle taxi drivers, as the income from farming is so low and success of harvests can be unpredictable.

With the issuance of Farmer Cards, the Ministry of Agriculture is now better placed to be able to better serve farmers, encouraging them to remain the vital sector of food production.



Mijam, 45 (above); Badri, 47 (below)

News Highlights

Courtesy Call between the Minister of Agriculture of Indonesia and the Ambassador of Switzerland to Indonesia, 18 August 2020



The Minister of Agriculture of Indonesia received a courtesy call from the Ambassador of Switzerland to Indonesia on 18 August 2020 at the Ministry of Agriculture office in Jakarta. The Minister asked for facilitation of market access for Indonesian agricultural commodities to the Swiss market as a hub for countries in the European region. Minister Limpo also invited Swiss companies to invest in the horticulture, estate crops, food crops and livestock sectors. The Ambassador of Switzerland, H.E. Kurt Kunz, expressed hope for the Minister of Agriculture to support a policy framework based on the principles of legal certainty, transparency, increasing competitiveness through Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), and improving and accelerating policy processes and procedures.

G20 Extraordinary Agriculture Ministers Meeting, 21 April 2020

The Minister of Agriculture attended the Extraordinary Agriculture Ministers Meeting G20 of the Saudi Arabian Presidency, which was held virtually on 21 April 2020. The meeting was attended by the agriculture ministers of all G20 members, as well as international and regional organizations.

The meeting was held as a form of joint commitment to respond to the impact of food security and nutrition in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting succeeded in formulating joint efforts in responding to the impact of the global crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic on food and nutrition security in affected countries.



News Highlights

State Visit of the King and Queen of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, 10 March 2020

The Indonesian Minister of Agriculture, Syahrul Yasin Limpo, accompanied President Joko Widodo, in receiving a state visit from the King of the Netherlands, Willem-Alexander, and Queen Máxima, at the Bogor Presidential Palace on 10 March 2020. Bilateral meetings were held in order to strengthen cooperation between countries. Both countries agreed to increase bilateral export value, including through facilitating market access for Indonesian estate crops products, particularly spices.

As part of a series of visits by the King and Queen of the Netherlands, the Vice Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality of the Netherlands, Jan-Kees Goet, also made a bilateral visit on 11 March 2020 to the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture in Jakarta.



MoU Signing and Bilateral Meeting Indonesia and Italy, 20 January 2020



The Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture has strengthened cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry of the Republic of Italy by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on agriculture.

The signing ceremony was carried out during a bilateral meeting between the Indonesian Minister of Agriculture, Syahrul Yasin Limpo, and the Italian Minister of Agriculture, Food and Forestry, Teresa Bellanova, on 20 January 2020 in Rome, Italy. The MoU is expected to further foster the agricultural cooperation that has been conducted between the two countries, including the implementation of Italian water buffalo development in Indonesia, considering that Italy is a leading country in the development of water buffalo breeding.

News Highlights

Official Visit to FAO Headquarters, 21 January 2020



The Indonesian Minister of Agriculture paid an official visit to the head office of the World Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome, Italy, on 21 January. The Minister of Agriculture conveyed some points for strengthening cooperation between Indonesia and FAO, including: (1) appreciation of FAO's commitment to support the Agriculture War Room and modern agricultural digitization; (2) the importance of FAO's assistance in encouraging increased South-South Cooperation with FAO and among developing countries; (3) the importance of eliminating discriminatory market access for agricultural products in developing countries, especially with regard to palm oil, which tends to harm developing countries as producers; (4) support a Hand-in-Hand Initiative to encourage partnerships between developed and developing countries in order to enable growth together in various aspects of the agricultural business value chain.

Berlin Global Forum for Food and Agriculture, 16-18 January 2020

The Indonesian Minister of Agriculture, Syahrul Yasin Limpo, attended the Berlin Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA) held over 16-18 January 2020. GFFA is an international conference that focuses on central issues regarding the future of the global food and agriculture industry, with this year's theme being "Digital Farming, Smart Solutions for Future Agriculture".

On the sidelines of the GFFA meeting, the Indonesian Minister of Agriculture held bilateral meetings with partner countries, such as South Korea, Serbia, Saudi Arabia, Japan and Ukraine. The bilateral meetings resulted in agreements to mutually encourage market access facilitation, especially related to the aspects of food safety (sanitary and phytosanitary) and joint promotion of Indonesian agricultural products in these respective countries.



News Highlights

MoA and Elite Agro Group LLC, UAE Sign MoU, 12 January 2020

Indonesia and the United Arab Emirate agreed to strengthen agricultural cooperation after the official signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Agricultural Research and Development Agency and Elite Agro LLC, PEA regarding Research and Development Collaboration for Agricultural Crops Commercialization.

The signing and exchange of the MoU was witnessed by the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Mr. Joko Widodo, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and the Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Armed Forces on January 12, 2020.

The signing and exchange of the MoU document was carried out on the sidelines of the President's working visit to Abu Dhabi which resulted in 11 business agreements with projects worth USD 22.89 billion, including PEA participation of around 33% or USD 6.8 billion.



G20 Agriculture Deputies Meeting – Food & Water, 26 – 27 January 2020



Exchanging best practices to set food loss and waste targets, promoting responsible investment in agriculture and fostering resilient water systems were the main topics discussed at the first G20 agriculture deputies meeting, hosted by the Saudi G20 presidency.

The G20 Agriculture Deputies Meeting (ADM) held on 26-27 January 2020 in Riyadh - Saudi Arabia discussed a draft of Ministerial communique.

During the two-day meeting, agriculture deputies from the G20 members and invited guest countries and representatives from international organizations addressed the main challenges to food security.

Strengthening Market Access to Partner Countries

The Ministry of Agriculture continues to make efforts to strengthen market access for Indonesian agricultural commodities in partner countries, even though the COVID-19 pandemic has limited some activities and bilateral forums. The International Cooperation Bureau (ICB) is conducting online meetings with relevant institutions in partner countries including Australia, Chile, China, Colombia, India, and Taiwan.

Through the **Preliminary Meeting of the Indonesia-Australia Working Group on Agriculture, Food and Forestry Cooperation**, held online on 11 June 2020, ICB facilitated market access for several Indonesian agricultural commodities to Australia. These highly traded commodities are tropical fruits, such as pineapple, mangosteen, salacca (snake fruit), and dragon fruit. This effort aims to improve the trade performance of Indonesian agricultural commodities to Australia, which experienced a deficit of USD 669 million in 2019. In addition to horticultural commodities, Indonesia has also begun to encourage market access for chicken meat to Australia. In 2019, Indonesia produced 3.83 million tons of chicken meat and this year the government is considering a chicken cull to shore up prices.

Turning to South America, the Agriculture Ministry is seeking **market access for Indonesian horticultural and plantation commodities to Chile**. In 2019, only three Indonesian plantation commodities were exported to Chile: candlenut, essential oil, and cashews. Through a coordination meeting with Chile, the Ministry is seeking market access for leading plantation commodities, such as palm oil, rubber and cocoa. The Ministry is also pushing for market access for tropical fruits, particularly pineapple and banana, to Chile.

ICB has facilitated a **coordination meeting with Colombia to discuss market access for Indonesian horticultural and plantation commodities** in order to improve bilateral trade. The Agriculture Ministry encouraged the opening of market access for five commodities: rubber, oil palm, cocoa, pineapple, and banana.

The aim is to increase the value of Indonesia's exports to Colombia, which reached USD 11 million in 2019. Colombia has provided market access for the five commodities. As a follow-up step, the Ministry will submit a Pest Risk Analysis process to Colombia for the tropical fruit commodities.

The Agriculture Ministry also encourages **market access to China**, one of the largest markets in the world. After the signing of a dragon fruit export protocol between the two nations in 2019, the first exports of Indonesian dragon fruit to China are expected during the October–November 2020 harvest period. The Agriculture Ministry is also striving to open access to the fresh pineapple market in China by fulfilling requirements regulated by the Chinese Government, such as a Pest Risk Analysis.

Although Indonesia experienced a surplus of USD 80 million in its agricultural commodities trade balance with Taiwan, the Ministry continues to encourage **greater access to Taiwan's horticultural market**. This is because the trade balance in the horticulture sub-sector is relatively low, amounting to USD 3.3 million, which could be increased. The Ministry is negotiating requests for market access for horticultural commodities, especially mangosteen, to Taiwan.

The International Cooperation Bureau also has participated in the **3rd Biennial Trade Ministers Forum (BTMF) Indonesia-India meeting** on 29 June 2020. Indonesia expressed its concern regarding market access for two agricultural commodities: (1) areca nut and (2) Refined Palm Oil (RPO). Indonesia experienced a surplus in the agricultural commodity trade balance of USD 2.4 billion. Indonesia hopes India will provide better market access through trade negotiations, such as the ASEAN-India TIGA and the bilateral PTA forum, which is planned to be initiated soon.

Furthering Technical and Investment Cooperation with Partner Countries

The International Cooperation Bureau (ICB) has recently assisted the Ministry of Agriculture in technical cooperation and investment with South Korea, Denmark, Fiji, and the United Kingdom.

Two current projects between the Indonesian Ministry of Agriculture and the **South Korean Government** are **'Modern Agricultural Development in Way Kanan District, Lampung Province'** and **'Establishing Real-Time ASEAN Food Security Information System and Developing Human Resources in Indonesia (Phase 2)'**.

The former aims to provide policy recommendations and action plans to support innovative agricultural modernization so that it can be used as a model for improvement in other regions in Indonesia. Meanwhile, the latter is creating an information system for sugarcane production and increasing the capacity of officers involved in agricultural data and information. This activity will focus on developing applications made in Phase 1 to be online-based, as well as a pilot project on measurement of sugarcane areas and productivity estimates using spatial analysis.

Indonesia and **Denmark** have agreed to cooperate in developing an organic dairy farming system through a **Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) project** in the Agriculture and Food Safety Sector through a Danish grant of DKK 8.5 million (around IDR 18 billion). This cooperation is the result of one of the agreements at the 4th Joint Agriculture Working Group (JAWG) between Indonesia and Denmark held over 4–6 December 2019 in Denmark. The SSC project is expected to become a national scale pilot project that will have a significant impact on Indonesia's organic dairy industry. This cooperation should also improve animal protein resources in Indonesia, as well as increase dairy farmers' income.

Indonesia and the **UK** have agreed to a **'Fleming Fund Partnership on Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance in Indonesia'** project in the form of grant assistance worth GBP 8 million (around IDR 49.8 billion) to Indonesia. This collaboration aims to strengthen the antimicrobial surveillance system in Indonesia's human and animal health sector. The project uses a One Health approach through cross-sector activities involving the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, and the Ministry of Health. The focus of the cooperation is to share knowledge and expertise for the development of Indonesia's health sector, covering healthcare services, disease prevention and control, health technology and medical devices, human resources for health development, as well as health research and development.

Indonesia is playing an **increasing role in assisting partner countries, especially in the Pacific and African regions**. Fiji has received grant assistance worth IDR 5.8 billion for the procurement of 100 hand tractors from Indonesia. The Fijian Government had procured the first 40 hand tractors by February 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic situation and Tropical Cyclone Harold that hit Fiji in April prompted the Fijian Government to consider using the remaining grant funds for the procurement of agricultural equipment and machinery for mini-combine harvesters and rice rippers to develop agriculture in post-disaster and pandemic Fiji. In order to support Fiji's food security during the pandemic and natural disasters, the Agriculture Ministry is discussing the possibility of amending the grant agreement.

Furthering Technical and Investment Cooperation with UN Agencies for Food and Agriculture

The International Cooperation Bureau has facilitated a number of ongoing technical cooperation and investment initiatives between the technical Directorates General within the Ministry of Agriculture and UN Rome-based agencies as follows:

- **Joint Collaboration UN Rome-Based Agencies (FAO, IFAD, WFP)** (with ICB). This initiative aims to develop a reference model for integrated agricultural programs by using the comparative advantage approach of each institution.
- **FAO - Development of the National Strategy on e-Agriculture** (with the Center for Agricultural Data and Information Systems). This project aims to support the Ministry of Agriculture in the development of e-agriculture, including through the Agriculture War Room and agricultural digitization.
- **FAO - Regional Project "Livestock Emergency Preparedness and Response for Areas at High Risk of Volcanic Eruptions"** (with the Directorate General of Livestock and Animal Health Services). This regional project aims to reduce the impact of volcanic eruptions in Yogyakarta and Bali on health and livestock production through improved emergency preparedness.
- **FAO - Multi-Regional Project "Governance Innovations for Sustainable Development of Food Systems"** (with the Food Security Agency). The project aims to support efforts to improve the food system, particularly policy and management of the food system.
- **FAO - "Technical Support on Strengthening the Inclusive Indonesia's National Action Plan of Family Farming for Multi-Stakeholders Participation"** (with the Food Security Agency). The project aims to support the Indonesian Government's efforts in contributing to the United Nations Decade for Family Farming, including through the Sustainable Food Reserve Garden Program.
- **Cooperation to Strengthen South-South and Triangular Cooperation (KSST)** within the Framework of FAO (with ICB). This initiative aims at strengthening South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) in the agricultural sector with FAO member countries.
- **FAO-GEF-7 STAR Project: 'Crop Diversity Conservation for Sustainable Use in Indonesia'**. The proposed project aims to improve conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to support the strengthening of the food and agriculture sectors. Executing agency: Indonesian Center for Agricultural Biotechnology and Genetic Resource Research and Development
- **UNDP-GCF Project: 'Building the climate resilience of smallholder farmers in East Nusa Tenggara'**. The project aims to strengthen the resilience of small-farmer households in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) which are vulnerable to the extreme impacts of climate change. The project will focus on 12 districts in NTT with a focus on: (1) coffee, (2) cocoa, (3) cashew, (4) coconut, (5) corn, and (6) rice. Executing agency: Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs; with Responsible Ministry/partners: (1) Ministry of Agriculture; (2) the Meteorological, Climatological, and Geophysical Agency (BMKG); and (3) the NTT Provincial Government.
- **UNDP/FAO-GEF's Project: 'Strengthening Sustainability in Commodity and Food Systems, Land Restoration and Land Use Governance through Integrated Landscape Management for Multiple Benefits in Indonesia'**. The project aims to ensure the sustainability of the commodity value chain through the application of a comprehensive land use approach. The project will focus in Aceh, North Sumatra, West Kalimantan, South Sulawesi, West Papua and focus on: (1) coffee, (2) cocoa, (3) oil palm, and (4) rice. Executing agency: Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs; with implementing Ministry/partners: (i) Ministry of Agriculture; (ii) Ministry of Environment and Forestry; (iii) Ministry of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning; and (iv) local governments in five regencies in five provinces.

Furthering Technical and Investment Cooperation with International Financial Institutions and International Organizations

The International Cooperation Bureau also has facilitated technical cooperation and investment between the technical Directorates General within the Ministry of Agriculture and International financial institutions and international organizations. Below are a number of current initiatives and projects:

World Bank Project: 'Integrated Corporation of Agricultural Research, Development and Empowerment (I-Care)'

The project aims to develop an innovative, integrative and collaborative agricultural research and development system to achieve food security and increase the added value of agricultural products (model area for leading agricultural commodities based on corporation and agricultural innovation).

The project will focus on 11 provinces: North Sumatra (chilies, shallots and lamb), Lampung (coffee), South Sumatra (rice), West Java (sheep and shallots), Central Java (oranges), East Java (mangoes and oranges), South Kalimantan (oranges and rice), Southeast Sulawesi (cocoa), South Sulawesi (rice), East Nusa Tenggara (maize), and West Nusa Tenggara (maize and shallots).

Total project financing: USD 100 million (foreign loans) and USD 10 million (Pure Rupiah Companion). The project will be implemented for 60 months. Executing agency: Research and Development Agency, Ministry of Agriculture.

Asian Development Bank Project: 'Dryland Agriculture Development Project'

This project aims to optimize underutilized dry land for modern agriculture by conducting precise intervention programs of land and water conservation to transform arid land into potential land for growing food in the future.

The project's targets are: (a) Dry land owned by smallholder farmers, who remain classified as poor because of suboptimal yields; therefore, it is necessary to make efforts to make their land more productive; and (2) Dry land owned by local governments and cultivated by farmers as agricultural laborers or tenants, so that they can act as business supporters of other farmers.

Total project financing: USD 125 million (foreign loans) and IDR 176.6 billion (Pure Rupiah Companion) for five years. Executing agency: Directorate General of Agricultural Infrastructure and Facilities, Ministry of Agriculture.

Strengthening South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Agriculture Sector

Indonesia's position as a member of the G20, an OECD observer, and emerging Middle Income Country (MIC), has increased the demand for technical cooperation from fellow developing countries to be able to share capacity and knowledge in various fields, including the agricultural sector.

With the principle of "giving while receiving", South-South Cooperation (SSTC) is expected to increase the promotion and market penetration of Indonesian agricultural products to countries in the African and Pacific regions. SSTC is one of the modalities for development cooperation between developing countries through mutual learning mechanisms, sharing the best experiences and transferring appropriate technology to achieve mutual prosperity.

The Indonesian government places SSTC as a national development priority.

Until 2019, there were at least 8,726 participants from 96 countries who had participated in 671 programs (training, internships, workshops, and sending experts). From this number, more than 50% of SSTC partner countries are related to agriculture, while the rest represent the marine and fisheries, energy, good governance, MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises), and infrastructure sectors.

Some of the best practices of the Ministry of Agriculture's SSTC program include Training on Beef Product Processing for Border Communities of Indonesia and Timor Leste; and Training on Agricultural and Animal Husbandry Processing Technology for countries in the African region held at the Ministry of Agriculture's Animal Husbandry Training Center (BBPP) Work Unit in Malang.



SSTC AGRICULTURE

2009 - 2019



INDONESIA
SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION
better partnership for prosperity

Countries

50/96

52% SSTC partner countries in agriculture

Program

79/671

12% SSTC program in agriculture sector

Beneficiaries

967/8726

11% SSTC beneficiaries directly engaged in agricultural sector

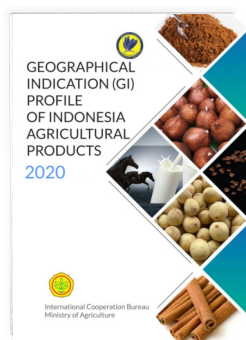
Source: Foreign Affairs Ministry's Directorate of Technical Cooperation, April 2019

Ensuring Food Safety through Agricultural Standard in ASEAN

The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) is playing an active role in the development of ASEAN Agricultural Standards consisted of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Animal Husbandry Practices (GAP), and Good Aquaculture Practices (GAqP). International Cooperation Bureau (ICB) facilitated the cooperation activities of the various technical, experts, and sectoral working groups of ASEAN as follows:

- ASEAN's concern on developing agricultural standards is reflected in the implementation of Key Deliverables 2020. Indonesia as the Lead Country of the establishment of Manual for Good Manufacturing Products (GMP) for Slaughterhouse and Meat Processing Plant Developed reported to the manual's progress to the 41st Spec-SOM AMAF virtually held on 5 August 2020. This manual is developed to ensure food safety across ASEAN. Moreover, the meeting agreed the Certificate of Approval for Recognition of the National Veterinary Drugs Assay Laboratory (NVDAL), Gunung Sindur, Bogor, Indonesia to be submitted to the 42nd AMAF for endorsement. NVDAL has fulfilled the requirement of protocol for recognition of ASEAN reference laboratories for animal vaccine testing.
- Approved by the SOM-AMAF on 5 October 2018, ASEAN-Australia cooperation through ASEAN-Australia Development Cooperation Program Phase II (AADCP II) Project established Multilateral Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Agri-food Standards and Conformity Assessment (MAMRASCA). This Arrangement aims to enable the mutual recognition of agrifood production standards of ASEAN Member States (AMSs) aligned to ASEAN Agricultural Good Practices in order to facilitate intra-regional trade in agrifood products.
- Task Force (TF) team of MAMRASCA has discussed several substantive issues of MAMRASCA through the 2nd Consultative Workshop and TF-MAMRASCA and the 3rd TF-MAMRASCA held virtually on 14-16 July and 24 September 2020 respectively.
- The Director of International Cooperation Bureau, MoA, as the Head of Delegate of Indonesia's TF-MAMRASCA fully supported the establishment of this Arrangement and encouraged all AMS to finalize this draft of MAMRASCA. In addition, MAMRASCA is expected to facilitate the acceptance of national standards and conformity assessment bodies of Indonesia to produce fresh fruit/vegetables, poultry and food fish as well as to strengthen market access of the Indonesian agrifood sector across ASEAN.
- Establishment of various agricultural standard is current effort of ASEAN to ensure food safety to strengthen ASEAN market access. In the context of globalization, in which international trade offers many market opportunities as well as competition challenges, ASEAN Member States (AMS) through the 27th Joint Committee on ASEAN Cooperation in Agriculture and Forest Product Promotion Scheme (JCM) held virtually on 27 August 2021 expressed their concern on the EU Maximum Residue Limits (MRL) Procedure that will affect to coffee trade in region. In this occasion, Indonesia conveyed that ASEAN need to provide intensive guidance to farmers on the application of GAP, especially regarding the effects of excessive use of insecticides or herbacids. In addition, Indonesia encouraged all AMS to look at these issues more primarily related to the sustainability of exports and farmers' welfare as well as priority environmental sustainability and human health.

Geographical Indication (GI) Profile of Indonesian Agricultural Products



Geographical Indication or "GI" identifies a product as originating in a specific region where a particular quality, reputation or other characteristic of the product is essentially attributable to that geographic origin. The attributes of the products may derive from either: the method of production; the ingredients used the environmental or agricultural features of

the region which give the product its distinctive qualities a strong reputation that may have developed in the region for producing a particular products of a certain quality over time.

Based on the definition above, GI is an exclusive right granted by the state to a registered Geographical Indication right holder, as long as the reputation, quality, and characteristics that form the basis of the protection of the Geographical Indication are still applied.

Currently, there are 67 agricultural products that have obtained GI certification, spread across 28 provinces.

To facilitate the promotion of GI certified agricultural products, the Ministry of Agriculture via the International Cooperation Bureau published a Geographical Indication Profile for Agricultural Products for 2020. The book presents 67 GI profile data for agricultural products which include: product name, logo, taste profile, characteristics and quality, and geographic environment.

It is expected this Profile Book would support the promotion of GI certified agricultural products to partner countries, international organizations, and other relevant parties, as well as to reach out to wider consumers.

In addition, it is hoped more interest and support to administer GI will follow from local governments with specific and unique agricultural products in their regions. In near future, the initiative is expected to open more opportunities for partnerships for farmers, the central government, local governments and the private sector to promote and develop the potential of these GI products.

GI Certificate of Agricultural Products

					
Sidakalang Robusta Coffee	Gayo Arabica Coffee	Rangas Meranti Liberica Coffee	Koerintji Cinnamon	Mole Sumedang Tobacco	Lingga Sago
					
Sumbawa Horse Milk	Sumedang Cilembu Sweet Potatoes	Aceh Nilam Oil	Aceh Gayo Tangerine	Java Prenger Tea	Komering Duku
					
Cianjur Pandan Wangi Rice	Sukatali Sawo	Muntok White Pepper	Dieng Wonosobo Carica	Dieng Simplisia	Muna Cashew

The total number of agricultural products which have obtained the certificates of GI from the Ministry of Law and Human Rights is 67 products, is listed with the following details:

1. Province of Aceh (**Gayo Arabica Coffee, Aceh Nilam Oil, Aceh Gayo Tangerine or Jeruk Keprok**)
2. Province of North Sumatera (Sumatera Simalungun Arabica Coffee, Sumatera Mandailing Arabica Coffee, Tanah Karo Arabica Coffee, Sidikalang Robusta Coffee, Pulo Samosir Arabica Coffee, Sipirok Arabica Coffee, Sumatera Lintong Arabica Coffee)
3. Province of West Sumatera (**Bareh Solok Rice**)
4. Province of Riau (**Rangsang Meranti Liberica Coffee**)
5. Province of Jambi (**Tungkal Jambi Liberica Coffee, Koerintji Cinnamon, Sumatera Jambi Koerintji Arabica Coffee**)
6. Province of South Sumatera (**Semendo Robusta Coffee, Empat Lawang Robusta Coffee, Komerling Duku**)
7. Province of Bengkulu (**Bengkulu Rejang Lebong Robusta Coffee, Kepahiang Robusta Coffee**)
8. Province of Lampung (**Lampung Robusta Coffee, Lampung Black Pepper**)
9. Province of Bangka Belitung Islands (**Muntok White Pepper**)
10. Province of Riau Islands (**Lingga Sago**)
11. Province of West Java (**Mole Sumedang Tobacco, Sumedang Black Tobacco, Java Preanger Tea, Java Preanger Arabica Coffee, Sumedang Cilembu Sweet Potatoes, Cianjur Pandanwangi Rice, Sukatali Sawo, Java Bogor Robusta Coffee**)
12. Province of Central Java (**Temanggung Srinthil Tobacco, Java Sindoro Sumbing Arabica Coffee, Temanggung Robusta Coffee, Dieng Wonosobo Carica, Dieng Simplisia**)
13. Province of Yogyakarta Special Region (**Jogja Sleman Salak pondoh, Jogja Kulon Progo Palm Sugar**)
14. Province of East Java (**Java Ijen Raung Arabica Coffee, Pasuruan Robusta Coffee**)
15. Province of Bali (**Bali Kintamani Arabica Coffee, Kubu Bali Cashew, Pupuan Bali Robusta Coffee**)
16. Province of West Nusa Tenggara (**Lombok Water Spinach, Sumbawa Horse Milk, Tambora Robusta Coffee**)
17. Province of East Nusa Tenggara (**Flores Bajawa Arabica Coffee, the Islands of Alor Vanilla, Soe Mollo Orange, Rote Palm Sugar, Flores Manggarai Arabica Coffee**)
18. Province of West Kalimantan (**Raja Uncak Kapuas Hulu Rice**)
19. Province of East Kalimantan (**Kutai Kartanegara Kaltim Malonan White Pepper**)
20. Province of North Kalimantan (**Adan Krayan Rice**)
21. Province of North Sulawesi (**Minahasa Clove, Siau Nutmeg**)
22. Province of South Sulawesi (**Kalosi Arabica Coffee, Toraja Arabica Coffee, Luwu Timur Nutmeg**)
23. Province of Southeast Sulawesi (**Muna Cashew**)
24. Province of Gorontalo (**Pinogu Bone Bolango Robusta Coffee**)
25. Province of Maluku (**the Islands of Banda Nutmeg**)
26. Province of North Maluku (**Moloku Kie Raha Clove, North Halmahera Dukono Nutmeg**)
27. Province of Papua (**Baliem Wamena Arabica Coffee**)
28. Province of West Papua (**Tomandin Fakfak Nutmeg**)





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