

NEWSLETTER No. 12 | 29 JUNE 2026

ASEAN-JICA FOOD VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



OUTPUT 1 GAP: SEMINAR ON PROMOTING GAP IN CAMBODIA

From 20 to 21 March 2026, a pilot activity under the AJFVC Output 1 project team successfully held a seminar and a consumer event in Phnom Penh promoting Cambodia's Good Agricultural Practices (CamGAP) and ASEAN GAP standards. The seminar covered topics such as food safety, CamGAP implementation, consumer demand, and marketing strategies, including the use of social media. A panel discussion with CamGAP-certified farmers addressed the benefits of improved safety and trust, as well as

challenges like price competition and market access. On the following day, Cambodian counterparts and the project team organized a consumer event at Chip Mong Supermarket as a pilot activity for Food Business Operator (FBO) engagement. This event aimed to raise consumer awareness of CamGAP and ASEAN GAP.

OUTPUT 2 SPS: STRENGTHEN BIOPESTICIDE LABORATORY CAPABILITIES IN ASEAN

On 11 May 2026, during the 30th meeting of the Expert Working Group on Harmonization of Maximum Residue Limits (EWG-MRLs), the AJFVC presented its plans to evaluate biopesticide laboratories in coordination with the ASEAN Biopesticide Regulatory Project. The project, implemented as part of an ASEAN cooperation framework, aims to address existing gaps between growing biopesticide market and the current regulatory frameworks, laboratory capacity, and farmer adoption. JICA consultant Kirana Nadhila explains how the AJFVC Output 2 will assess existing biopesticide laboratories in Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam and develop recommendations for training framework to strengthen biopesticide laboratories across ASEAN.

OUTPUT 3 GAQP: DEVELOPING ASEAN INSPECTION GUIDELINES

The inception meeting on Development of ASEAN Guidelines on Inspection for Imported Aquaculture Fish and Fisheries Products took place online on April 28, 2026. Consequently, it underscored the need to harmonize inspection guidelines from a food safety perspective, and consequently enhanced trade and Good Aquaculture Practices (GAQP). The meeting gathered representatives from the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries (ASWGF), ASEAN Sanitary and Phytosanitary Contact Points (ASCP), the ASEAN Secretariat, and JICA. ASWGF contributed technical expertise, while ASCP focused on sanitary measures. This collaboration aimed to develop comprehensive guidelines covering documentation checks, risk profiling, laboratory tests, and border control in the import inspection process for fish and fisheries products.