



NEWSLETTER No. 13 | 28 September 2026

ASEAN-JICA FOOD VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

AJFVC HIGHLIGHT FROM RECENT ACTIVITIES

Recent months have highlighted progress in regional cooperation and sustainable agricultural practices across ASEAN. Key highlights include hosting a Final Workshop under Output 2 on Advancing Pesticide Residue Analysis in ASEAN, Workshop Under Output 3 for the Development of the ASEAN Guidelines and Training Course on Good Aquaculture Practices (GAqP), and Output 4 Field Visit for PPP case studies.

OUTPUT 3 GAQP: STRENGTHENING REGIONAL AQUACULTURE AND FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS

Under Output 3, the AJFVC executed a series of key initiatives to enhance regional aquaculture. The project conducted a GAqP training course in Lao PDR, focusing on freshwater fish and giant freshwater prawn production, biosecurity, and water quality testing. In addition to capacity-building training, fisheries officers, laboratory specialists, and extension officers from AMS gathered in Singapore from August 17 to 21, 2026, to support the development of technical inputs for laboratory testing methods that will supplement the Inspection Guidelines for Imported Fish and Fishery Products.

OUTPUT 2 SPS: FINAL WORKSHOP ON ADVANCING PESTICIDE RESIDUE ANALYSIS IN ASEAN

Over the past few years, the AJFVC has actively strengthened regional Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures through targeted capacity-building initiatives. These efforts include a 2024 Knowledge Co-Creation Program in Japan, followed by a series of two-week training programs hosted across the region in 2025 for ASEAN Member States (AMS). Building on this foundation, AJFVC held its final workshop in Bogor, Indonesia, from August 27 to 28, 2026, to identify key analytical challenges and establish regional priorities for advancing pesticide residue analysis capacity and strengthen food safety systems across Southeast Asia.



OUTPUT 3.3 GAQP: THE DEVELOPMENT OF ASEAN GUIDELINES ON INSPECTION FOR IMPORTED FISH AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS

Under Activity Output 3.3, led by Ishitani Ron and Taigo Endo, the team compiled findings from questionnaire surveys and field missions assessing the current status and challenges of food safety inspection systems across AMS. These findings, combined with Japan's best practices in sanitation measures and the inspection of imported fish and fishery products, served as key references for the development of the guidelines during the workshop.

Building on this progress, representatives from the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries and ASEAN Sanitary and Phytosanitary Contact Points gathered in Jakarta from September 1 to 2, 2026, to develop the ASEAN Guidelines on Inspection for Imported Fish and Fisheries Products. The guidelines aim to strengthen food safety and promote sustainable fisheries development across the region through effective harmonization.



OUTPUT 4 PPP: FIELD STUDY FOR PPP CASE STUDIES

Under Output 4, the AJFVC conducted field visits across Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Vietnam to examine best practices in public-private partnerships for food value chain development. By analyzing these initiatives, the team aimed to identify the essential roles of the public sector in driving effective partnerships. The findings are being compiled into a policy recommendation paper for AMS, featuring reference examples from Japan and other regions.

