

**PLAN OF ACTION (POA) FOR THE ASEAN COOPERATION IN HALAL FOOD (2021-2025)**

SECTOR : AGRICULTURE  
 SUB-SECTOR: HALAL FOOD  
 WORKING GROUP: ASEAN WORKING GROUP ON HALAL FOOD (AWGHF)

**STRATEGIC THRUST 1: ENHANCE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF PRODUCTION WITH SUSTAINABLE, 'GREEN' TECHNOLOGIES, RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, AND MINIMISE PRE- AND POST-HARVEST LOSSES AND WASTE**

ACTION PROGRAMMES	ACTIVITIES	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT INDICATORS
1.1 Identify <b>infrastructure investment requirements</b> to increase production and reduce post-production losses and address investment needs.	1.1.1 Stocktaking of the infrastructure investment requirement in Halal food production.	1.1.1.1 Identification of improved post-harvest system for handling raw materials of Halal food products, through processing and storage that are available in the region and elsewhere for possible adoption in AMS.  <i>Note: investment requirement not only technology.</i>	Malaysia	2021-2025	List of infrastructure investment requirements in Halal food production  List of adopted postharvest system
1.2 Increase private sector participation in policy discussions, programme and project formulation, research and development (R&D) and provide incentives and foster an enabling environment for public-private partnerships (PPPs) towards	1.2.1 Develop strategic partnerships and cooperation to maximize the synergies and complementarities between the	1.2.1.1 Collaborate with relevant private sectors in the area of halal production and processing; and research leading towards the development of regional standards.	AMS	2021-2025	Number of collaborative activities/projects jointly implemented with private sectors.

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enhancing productivity and quality, recognizing that the private sector in the context of FAF must refer not only to larger commercial enterprises but must also include the small scale farmers, fishermen, and SMEs.	government and private sector in policy discussion and research development.	1.2.1.3 Develop PPP projects on the value chain of Halal products (i.e. linking at least two segments of the value chain - halal production & halal processing)	Philippines	2021-2025	<p>Number of public-private sectors dialogue in AMS</p> <p>% increase of conformity to core requirements</p> <p>Number of PPP implemented linking at the halal production and processing sectors of the value chain.</p>
<b>1.10 Provide institutional mechanisms and appropriate incentives for PPP in R&amp;D</b> and technology diffusion, collaborating with the private sector to identify priority, high pay off research issues, and utilise it as a channel for both technology generation and diffusion.	1.10.1 Facilitate exposure, access, to institutional mechanisms and incentives for PPP in technology transfer to small farmers and SMEs	1.10.1.2 Facilitate transfer of Halal best practices and technology to small farmers AMS wide	AMS	2021-2025	Number of AMS that has established programs for technology and best practices transfer.



ACTION PROGRAMMES	ACTIVITIES	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINE	OUTPUT INDICATORS
					missions conducted.
s1.13. Standardize and harmonize concepts, methods, and presentation of national statistics and strengthen technical capacity of AMS to conduct multi-country studies and undertake accurate situational analysis and planning	1.13.1. Promote multi-country collaborative research for productivity improvement and policy analysis to benefit from sharing knowledge and experiences, and economies of scale in research	1.13.1.1. Develop an action plan on collaborative research on productivity improvement and policy analysis.  1.13.1.2. Conduct surveys to identify successful technology, industry, and institutional models developed in AMS, and facilitate their transfer and adaptation through joint ventures in the private sector as well as through public-private partnerships.	Philippines  Philippines	2021-2025  2021-2025	number of collaborative researches conducted  number of surveys conducted

**STRATEGIC THRUST 2: ENHANCE TRADE FACILITATION, ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND MARKET ACCESS.**

ACTION PROGRAMME	ACTIVITY	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINES	OUTPUT INDICATORS
2.2 Harmonize accreditation, inspection, and certification so that uniform requirements will prevail ASEAN-wide, enabling the recognition of equivalence	2.2.1. Facilitate the development and promote the adoption as well as the transfer of technologies, best practices, and management system to ensure sustainable productivity, efficient use of resources including land, and enhance quality and nutritive products.	2.2.1.1 Develop regional Halal standards and Halal best practices.  - ASEAN Halal quality management systems  - Various ASEAN Halal Food Guidelines	Philippines          Philippines	2021-2025          2021-2025	Number of Halal standards and Halal best practices developed.          Number of Halal standards and Halal best

ACTION PROGRAMME	ACTIVITY	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINES	OUTPUT INDICATORS
					practices developed.
		2.2.1.2 Align national standards with common ASEAN Halal standards and Halal best practices:  - Various ASEAN Halal Food Guidelines	AMS AWGHF	2021-2025	Number of national standards on Halal aligned with ASEAN Halal Food Guidelines
	2.2.2 Harmonise certification and accreditation system for Halal Food products in the region	2.2.2.1 Establishment of Regional/International Halal Accreditation Board  2.2.2.2 Align national Halal certification guidelines with ASEAN Guidelines for Halal Certification.	Malaysia, AWGHF  Malaysia, AWGHF	2021-2025  2021-2025	The Accreditation Board is Established  Number of AMS aligned their national procedures with ASEAN Guidelines on Halal Certification and Accreditation

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		<p>2.2.2.3 Develop procedures and checklist for the conduct of peer review (Accreditation Body) of the conformity assessment system, including criteria for equivalence recognition.</p> <p>2.2.2.4 Implement ASEAN-wide Halal food standards and best practices through development partnerships with the private sector.</p>	<p>Malaysia, AWGHF</p> <p>Malaysia, AWGHF</p>	<p>2021-2025</p> <p>2021-2025</p>	<p>ASEAN Guidelines on Accreditation Body: Peer Review Protocol developed.</p> <p>Number of projects involving private sectors to implement the halal food standards and best practices.</p>
	<p>2.2.3 Mutual recognition (MRA) and conformity assessment arrangements for product and services facilitate integration into a single market and production base</p>	<p>2.2.2.1 Establish an ASEAN certification scheme for Halal food</p> <p>2.2.2.2 Establish MRA for endorsed ASEAN Halal standards and best practices</p>	<p>Malaysia, AWGHF</p>	<p>2021-2025</p>	<p>MRA established</p>

ACTION PROGRAMME	ACTIVITY	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINES	OUTPUT INDICATORS
2.3 Involve the private sector in identifying priority products for harmonisation of standards and regulations to focus on scarce scientific and technical resources on high pay-off products.	2.3.2 Promote the involvement of private sectors in the Implementation of endorsed Halal standards and best practices	2.3.2.1 Involve the private sector for the promotion of adopted ASEAN Halal standards and best practices -	AMS	2021-2025	Number of private sectors involved in the promotion of ASEAN Halal standards and best practices.
2.4 Enhance regional and international cooperation to ensure that all major ASEAN food markets are integrated, and the food trading system is strengthened and utilized to provide stable food supplies	2.4.1 collaborate with regional and international bodies specifically in the conduct of capacity building and sharing or exchange of information and expertise with other regional and international bodies to improve the adoption of Halal best practices	2.4.1.2 Conduct regional training courses - HACCP and GMP - Halal slaughtering practices - Halal production - Halal Standard Awareness - ASEAN Guideline on Halal food standard  2.4.1.3 Conduct Training on Halal Audit Scheme and other relevant activities	Malaysia, AWGHF          Philippines	2021-2025          2021-2025	Number of training conducted          Number of training conducted



**STRATEGIC THRUST 3: ENSURE OD SECURITY, FOOD SAFETY, BETTER NUTRITION AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION**

ACTION PROGRAMME	ACTIVITY	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINES	OUTPUT INDICATORS
3.5 Improve food security and nutrition through diversifying food sources and strengthening the quality and variety of food production and improving the food value chains.	3.5.1. To conduct relevant activities that will increase the number of halal-certified products	<p>3.5.1.1 Conduct inventory of the current number of industry players providing Halal certified products in AMS.</p> <p>3.5.1.2. Develop initiatives in encouraging and assisting Halal industries such as infrastructure, tax incentives, etc.</p> <p>3.5.1.3. Conduct capacity building activities, e.g. forum, dialogue, consultation, working visit, etc. to facilitate access to Islamic finance</p>	<p>AMS</p> <p>AMS</p> <p>Malaysia</p>	<p>2021-2025</p> <p>2021-2025</p> <p>2021-2025</p>	<p>Baseline data collected.</p> <p>Increased number of Halal industry players producing Halal food</p> <p>Greater accessibility of sharia-based financing schemes in AMS.</p>
3.8 Encourage adoption of standards on the classification of food products to facilitate appropriate consumer choices and incentivise producers.	3.8.1. Conduct activities that will encourage the adoption of Halal food standards and best practices.	3.8.1.1. Conduct information dissemination activities to increase awareness of Halal products through mass media, symposium, etc.	AMS	2021-2025	Number of information dissemination activities conducted.

**STRATEGIC THRUST 5: ASSIST RESOURCE CONSTRAINED SMALL PRODUCERS AND SMES TO IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY, TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCT QUALITY, TO MEET GLOBAL MARKET STANDARDS AND INCREASE COMPETITIVENESS**

ACTION PROGRAMME	ACTIVITY	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINES	OUTPUT INDICATORS
5.1 Assist small scale producers and SMEs in the FAF sector to become viable and competitive enterprises by the provision of better technology, inputs, finance and extension services, access to higher-value markets, and by facilitating integration into modern value chains.	5.1.1 Assist the small scale farmers and SMEs to increase their competitiveness.	5.1.1.1 Conduct capacity development for small farmers and SMEs to improve the adoption of ASEAN Halal/food handling best practices. (i.e. training and workshop on Halal slaughtering, Halal meat processing, Halal meat packaging, etc.)	AMS, AWGHF	2021-2025	Number of capacity development measures conducted to strengthen the capacity of small farmers and SMEs.
5.3 Encourage larger-scale enterprises to perform a mentoring role by linking with small scale producers and SMEs through mechanisms such as contract farming to foster adoption of innovations and participation in high-value markets.	5.2.1 Develop programs/projects to encourage larger-scale enterprise to perform a mentoring role for smallholders to foster adoption of innovations and participation in high-value markets	<p>5.3.1.1 Conduct an advocacy program that will encourage larger-scale enterprise to perform a mentoring role for smallholders</p> <p>5.3.1.2 Document success stories in ASEAN to identify institutions like farmer groups, cooperatives, contract farming that successfully improved small scale producers' access to quality inputs and high-value markets for outputs, and disseminate it for adoption by others</p> <p>5.3.1.3 Promote contract farming practice for Halal Food production</p>	<p>AMS</p> <p>AMS, AWGHF</p> <p>AMS, AWHGF</p>	<p>2021-2025</p> <p>2021-2025</p> <p>2021-2025</p>	<p>Number of advocacy conducted</p> <p>Number of mentoring conducted</p> <p>Number of contract farms, SMEs, and agribusiness enterprises involved</p>

**STRATEGIC THRUST 6: STRENGTHEN ASEAN JOINT APPROACHES ON INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ISSUES**

ACTION PROGRAMME	ACTIVITY	SUB-ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE ASEAN BODIES/ LEAD COUNTRY	TIMELINES	OUTPUT INDICATORS
6.1 Enhance coordination and develop joint approaches through consultations among AMS and related ASEAN bodies in regional and international fora	6.1.1 Consultation on relevant Halal issues with Halal food-related SWGs/ relevant ASEAN bodies/ International organisations- ASEAN partners	6.1.1.1 Strengthen consultation with relevant ASEAN bodies/ international organisations/ ASEAN partners in the development of projects/programme related to Halal Food to support FAF vision and goals.	AMS AWGHF	2021-2025	Consultation with relevant ASEAN bodies/ international organisations/ ASEAN partners strengthened.
6.2 Present ASEAN common position on the issues affecting the Halal Food sector in regional and international fora ST 6 AP 2	6.2.1 Coordinating and strengthening joint positions at international and regional fora and global organizations such as [SMIIC], WTO, FAO, APEC, Codex, COP under UNFCC framework, and ASEAN Dialogue Partners,	6.2.1.1 Identify and discuss issues related to Halal food in order to have a joint strategy/position in international/regional fora and organisation.  6.2.1.2 Submission of the joint position to international / regional fora and organisations	AMS AWGHF	2021-2025	Number of joint positions adopted and submitted to international / regional fora and organisations.