

Concept Note

OECD-ERIA-ASEAN Regional Conference on
Agro-food Value Chains in ASEAN
27-28 June 2018
Jakarta, Indonesia

1. Introduction

The functioning of regional and global value chains in ASEAN is becoming increasingly important for both farmers and those involved in food manufacturing activities. The development of policies to support efficient agro-food value chains is becoming similarly important for regional policy makers.

The OECD has worked on agro-food value chains concentrating on the trade in value added that occurs within these chains. The OECD has explored flows of value added across borders between agro-food sectors and to foreign consumers within global value chains (GVCs) and the policy and structural influences that affect this trade and the participation in value chains by agro-food sectors. ERIA has been conducting a study focusing on how value chains function for social and economic issues in each country. The research is highlighting domestic issues that help understand how individual countries gain from both domestic and global value chains as a complement the GVC study of the OECD, and will help in contributing to understanding the pathways in which local producers participate in value chains.

Within this context, the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) has also conducted a project for human resource development in agriculture and food related areas in the ASEAN region. The project has provided a series of lectures on agro-food value chains to universities, and contributed for fostering development of human resources and has helped establish new partnerships between actors along the value chain.

The OECD, ERIA, and ASEC are holding a joint regional conference on Value Chains in Agriculture and Food. The event will provide an opportunity for the three organisations to learn from each other and take steps to develop stronger policy advice for ASEAN governments so that better policies can be developed that allow producers to get more from participation in agro-food value chains.

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2. Objectives of the Meeting

The objective of this meeting is twofold. First is to deepen participants' understanding of agro-food value chains in ASEAN by exchanging the study results and experiences of each organization. Second is to improve practical value of policy implications drawn from results of academic studies through dialogue with researchers and policy makers. Such dialogue would be fundamental to deepen studies of agro-food value chain and to develop more useful policy recommendations.

3. Main Topics

- What is impact of the globalization on agro-food production in the ASEAN region? How have production and trade networks evolved in the region?
- How to ensure ASEAN members get the most from participation in agro-food value chains? What policies allow countries to gain the most from their comparative advantage of individual agro-food items?

4. Participants

- OECD funded participants: Researchers of ASEAN member states and the OECD.
- ASEC funded participants: Officials of ASEAN member states, and staff of the ASEC.
- Other participants: Official of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries in Japan.

5. Preparation

- **Researchers who will make presentation** are required to submit Power Point (PPT) or PDF file including 'policy implication' to ERIA contact points **by 31 May**.
- **Government staffs** are required to comment on presentations of case studies (3.1.1, 3.2.1, 3.3.1, or 3.4.1, see Agenda) and of general situation of food value chains (2.1.1, 2.1.2, or 2.2.1). Comments should be made taking into consider the actual situation of commentator's country. Government staffs can prepare PPT or PDF file to make comments. ERIA contact point will send PPT or PDF files which is created by researchers to government staffs by 4 June.