



Concept Note **ASEAN University Symposium** **for Sustainable Food and Hybrid Systems**

Venue: Faculty of Economics, Kasetsart University, Bangkok
Symposium dates: 18–19 April 2024

Background

Important emerging issues challenging agriculture and the food system, such as climate change, an aging population, and environmental degradation, place increasing demands on the global society for responsible consumption, particularly in ASEAN member states. These critical issues urgently necessitate additional research and deeper knowledge to sustainably increase agricultural production, ensure efficient access to nutritious food, and improve regional supply chains. The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advocate concentrated actions related to sustainable agriculture to achieve zero hunger, food security, nutrition and good health. Indeed, SDG goals promoting quality education are aligned with initiatives in research and education focusing on agricultural policy, agribusiness, agricultural economics, natural and environmental economics, and related fields. These are the key drivers to generate evidence and knowledge necessary for policy making and food system transformation.

Higher education institutions play important roles in generating knowledge addressing these issues and challenges. Sharing knowledge globally is important, yet public forums intended to achieve the desired outcomes, even at the regional level, have been somewhat limited, partly due to language barriers and partly due to inefficient communication channels. Moreover, access to venues where knowledge can be effectively shared is often economically prohibitive for young scholars. As a result, the progress to achieve certain SDGs, such as food system transformation, has been slow. There is clearly a need to accelerate the process for research and knowledge sharing.

This symposium provides an effective platform for knowledge sharing by providing opportunities to young academics and university students, who will be invited to hear from experts, exchange their knowledge, and share their experience. It will generate new perspectives, fill research gaps, and lead to opportunities for collaborative research intended to resolve the issues that commonly challenge countries across the Southeast Asia region.

Objectives

1. To empower universities that offer academic training in agricultural economics, agribusiness, agricultural and food policies, and related fields to play a greater role in capacity building supporting a younger generation of scholars
2. To motivate graduate students and young researchers in Southeast Asian professions to engage in good quality research focusing on the sustainable food system
3. To provide a platform for sharing research outputs, and the exchange of knowledge and experiences related to food system analysis



Expected benefits

1. The symposium will share the existing knowledge needed to attain critical Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to enhanced food security, improved nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and food system transformation.
2. It will help identify critical issues and fill research gaps related to the challenges commonly confronting nations across the Southeast Asia region.
3. It will give graduate students and young researchers an opportunity to share knowledge and experience, and to build a research network for future collaborative research.

Submissions are open to graduate students and young researchers who are affiliated with the organizing institutions:

- Department Agricultural and Resource Economics, Faculty of Economics, Kasetsart University (KU), Thailand
- Department of Agricultural Economy and Development, Faculty of Agriculture, Chiangmai University (CMU), Thailand
- School of Economics, Can Tho University (CTU), Vietnam
- Faculty of Economics, IPB University, Indonesia
- Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University (MU)
- Faculty of Economics and Business Management and Department of Rural Economics and Food Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, National University of Laos (NUOL), Laos PDR
- Faculty of Agriculture, Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA), Brunei
- Department of Agribusiness and Bioresource Economics, Faculty of Agriculture and Institute of Ecosystem Science Borneo, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Malaysia
- Dept of Agricultural and Applied Economics, College of Economics and Management, University of Philippines at Los Banos (UPLB), Philippines
- Department of Agricultural Economics and Policies, and Department of Resource and Environmental Economics, Faculty of Economics and Rural Development, Vietnam National University of Agriculture (VNUA), Vietnam
- Department of Agricultural Economics, Yezin Agricultural University (YAU), Myanmar

Important dates

Call for paper: 15 October 2023–31 January 2024

Full-paper submission deadline: 31 January 2024

Announcement of the selected papers: 16 February 2024

Final draft submission: 28 February 2024

Deadline to register for onsite participation at Kasetsart University: 28 February 2024

Conference dates: 18–19 April 2024

Selected full papers will be published on [AgEcon Search](#)

Organizing partners:

Kasetsart University, Thailand (Host)
 Chiangmai University, Thailand
 Can Tho University, Vietnam
 IPB University, Indonesia
 Mahidol University, Thailand

Updated on February 1, 2024



National University of Laos, Laos PDR
Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University, Brunei
Universiti Putra Malaysia, Malaysia
University of Philippines at Los Banos, Philippines
Vietnam National University of Agriculture, Vietnam
Yezin Agricultural University, Myanmar

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