



ฝ่ายเกษตร ประจำสถานกงสุลใหญ่ ณ นครลอสแอนเจลิส Thailand Office Of Agricultural Affairs, Los Angeles

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Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives Performance Policy in FY2023

On Wednesday, December 7, 2023, Dr. Chalermchai Sri-on, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, delivered his policies to executives and senior government officials as a direction for achieving the best performance in fiscal year 2023. The brief information are as follows:

❖ Upholding to 5 strategies and 15 core policies

1. Market-led Production which entails an increase in a better market-oriented perspective for farmers, more standardized and high-quality agricultural products, close assistance for market management and facilitation, and collaboration with all related sectors, particularly the Ministry of Commerce, which is directly responsible for the marketing aspect.

2. Agricultural Technology 4.0 for reducing production costs and increasing product value through the integrated use of appropriate and cutting-edge technology, as well as innovation research, in order to remain relevant with the ever-changing global environment.


3. 3S: Safety-Security-Sustainability which strives to assure customers of safe food while enhancing farmer capacity in a sustainable manner.

4. Integrated Proactive Management which necessitates both intra- and inter-agencies collaboration with a clear and streamlined work plan focusing on farmers and people in the field region.

5. The King's Philosophy for Sustainable Agriculture must be relentlessly pursued as it can enhance farmer's adaptability and resilience.

❖ Strengthening the agricultural industry in 2023

 **Capacity reinforcement for farmers and farmer institutions.** Human resources have become a crucial driving force in the successful implementation of policy; thus, relevant extension agencies should focus on farmers and institutions as a fundamental foundation.

 **Advancement of the Initiative to minimize greenhouse gas emissions in agricultural sector.** Agencies should work together to establish common goals and formulate a coordinated strategy for advancing policies that mitigate the effects of climate change and cut down on greenhouse gases emissions as well as manage carbon credits. In the next few years, it is anticipated that a greater number of countries will enact trade restrictions that refer to constraints connected to greenhouse gas emission reductions. Thus, it is essential to act swiftly in order to ensure that Thai agricultural products continuously meet international market criteria and also to take advantage of this opportunity to boost



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revenue for the agricultural sector, particularly through the management of carbon credits. As a result, the following are ideas for handling such issues at work:


- Expanding initiatives to reduce methane released by farms raising crops, livestock, and aquaculture.
- Encouraging cocoa cultivation outside of the forest, as it is a new economic crop. This might be accomplished through the promotion of polyculture over monoculture farming, the production and processing of high-quality cocoa to meet market demand, and the reduction of cocoa imports worth tens of billions of baht.
- Instructing the Rubber Authority of Thailand to examine the problem of rubber plantation farmers who have not been granted a land right document and to determine whether or not these plantations are appropriate in light of the European Union's policies prohibiting the import of products associated with deforestation. If this is the case, these planted areas and their production must be minimized and removed from the system. It is also critical to distinguish between produce from areas with and without land rights documents. This should be handled with care, and farmers should be aided in their comprehension without becoming confused.
- Instructing the Agricultural Land Reform Office to investigate the potential of securing exemptions for production in the Agricultural Land Reform Areas from the EU's restriction on imports of items linked to deforestation, as this is the region where the government distributes land right documents.


 **Increase of public understanding and awareness towards existing agriculture policies and initiatives.** Due to the fact that many farmers had a fundamental misunderstanding of how the public sector operates, there were barriers that slowed down the progress of the operation. There is a need for public relations so that farmers and the general public can learn about government policy, process and practice. Agriculture-related practices, such as those involving animal husbandry, water management, fertilizer, soil, planting, harvesting, and the cultivation of suitable plant species, are of particular importance. The ultimate goal is for farmers to enjoy direct financial benefits from the sale of agricultural goods that meet industry standards. As a result, a public relations committee is required to deal with the issue immediately.





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 **Technological advancement and innovation in agriculture.** MOAC has developed many Agritech and Innovation Centers (AIC) to collaborate with local sages, academic institutions, and other organizations in an effort to increase the quality and value of agricultural products by supplying farmers with cutting-edge technology and innovative resources.

 **Good Agricultural Practice Promotion.** GAP is essential to agricultural productivity. Hence, the MOAC must have safeguards in place to protect farmers and consumers, instill consumer confidence, and discourage the long-standing extensive use of pesticides in agriculture. MOAC must take the necessary steps to promote the production of all types of safe, standard-compliant agricultural products.

 **Incentives for village agricultural volunteers.** Given that village agricultural volunteers play a crucial role when bringing policy to practice in rural agriculture without receiving any financial remuneration; as a result, MOAC pays close attention to and actively works to boost more incentive and more favorable working environment among these groups.

 **Efficient water management.** Effective water management necessitating the use of valuable water to get the most advantage with the least amount of difficulty, as well as a solid water management plan to benefit the nation and farmers are crucial. The Royal Irrigation Department is entrusted with preparing for the impending Southern rainy season; anytime emergency flood and damages occur in a region; the relevant agencies must immediately provide remedial aid to people affected and report them.

 **Accelerate the effective execution of the BCG model.** This aims to accomplish the government's goal of transforming the Thai agricultural industry into one with high efficiency, high standards, and high revenue, with an emphasis on farmers' understanding of policy objectives, regulatory practices, and profits.


 **Knowledge promotion of new economic crops to fulfill the Kitchen of the World initiative.** All relevant agencies must take into account future consumer market and trend for agricultural products and food while developing a work plan to promote new high-value economic crops and support essential equipment and expertise to generate opportunities for farmers.

 **Transparency and accountability performance.** All management and operations must be conducted in strict accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations in order to uphold a good reputation and, eventually, to benefit farmers and the public at large.



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 **Farmers as the top priority.** The agricultural sector faces several obstacles, some of which are lingering difficulties that have accumulated over time, some of which are the result of unawareness and misunderstanding, and some of which are the result of adherence to dated practices and refusal to adapt. Hence, all agencies are responsible for coordinating their efforts to the best of their abilities to address these problems.

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