

2025 ASEAN LEADERS' DECLARATION ON THE VISION FOR FOOD, AGRICULTURE, AND FORESTRY TOWARDS 2045

Adopted in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 October 2025

WE, the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, gathered in Malaysia on 26 October 2025 on the occasion of the 47th ASEAN Summits.

RECOGNISING the important role of food, agriculture and forestry sectors in ensuring food security, sustainable livelihoods, and inclusive growth across the ASEAN region and its sub-regions, while acknowledging the diverse and interconnected challenges we face, including climate change, biodiversity loss, the increasing demand for food, price fluctuations, urbanization pressure, decline in agricultural labour, and low adoption of technologies, we hereby affirm our collective aspiration for transforming the food, agriculture, and forestry landscape in ASEAN by 2045.

RECALLING the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future and ASEAN Community Vision 2045 "Resilient, Innovative, Dynamic, and People-Centred ASEAN".

REAFFIRMING our commitments to promote sustainable agriculture practices and forest management as stated in the ASEAN Economic Community Strategic Plan 2026-2030.

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT:

1. Adequate, safe and nutritious food is fundamental to our people and vital for ensuring regional stability, economic development, and social well-being.
2. The adverse effects of climate change, including but not limited to rising temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, and increased frequency of extreme weather events, pose significant threats to agrifood systems and the livelihoods, life safety of our farmers and rural communities, particularly in remote areas.
3. The adoption of sustainable and regenerative agriculture practices and forestry is critical for restoring and improving natural resources and ecosystems, conserving biodiversity for future generations, and ensuring long-term food security and food safety for the people of the ASEAN Community.
4. The rapid advancement of digital technologies offers transformative opportunities for enhancing productivity and sustainability in our food, agriculture and forestry sectors.
5. Developing talents and entrepreneurship skills among youth, rural communities, smallholder farmers, and women in the agriculture sector by providing capacity building and integrating modern technology is crucial to address the issues of aging farmers.
6. Increased accessible, responsible and sustainable investment in food, agriculture and forestry research, production, processing and distribution chain is essential for building resilience, enabling green transitions, and fostering rural development.
7. Sub-regional cooperation frameworks in the ASEAN region such as the Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines – East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), the Indonesia,

Malaysia, Thailand – Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), Mekong cooperation mechanisms, contribute to the development of ASEAN Economic Community, including agricultural and forestry sectors.

WE DECLARE THE ASEAN VISION FOR FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY TOWARDS 2045, which envisions “A sustainable, inclusive, resilient and secure Food, Agriculture and Forestry sector in ASEAN region and sub-regions that nurtures farmer livelihoods, safeguards the environment, contributes to climate change adaptation and mitigation, fosters innovation and strengthen ASEAN’s role as a key trading partner and a catalyst for collaboration in FAF sector”.

The ASEAN Vision on Food, Agriculture and Forestry towards 2045 is the contribution of ASEAN Member States to achieve the intertwined goals of the three pillars of the ASEAN Community: the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)

WE ARE COMMITTED to enhancing trade and market connectivity through the strategic market integration free of unnecessary trade barrier and through the strategic integration of science, technology, research, development and innovation to inculcate interest in agricultural entrepreneurship among rural communities, smallholder farmers, women and young farmers. By fostering robust public and private partnerships and empowering cooperatives, we will create inclusive value chains that uplift communities, promote sustainable agricultural practices, encourage the application of digital technologies and ensure a prosperous and equitable future for all in the region especially the remote and underdevelopment communities.

WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS AND VISION IN MIND, WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES AND ACTIONS:

1. Promote Sustainable Agriculture

- **Framework Development:** Enhance national, sub-regional and regional frameworks that prioritise and incentivise circular and sustainable agriculture through measures such as regenerative and agroecological practices, conservation agriculture, food loss and waste reduction, integrated pest management, agroforestry, sustainable fisheries, and livestock management.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** Facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity-building programmes along the value chain to empower farmers, particularly young and women smallholders and vulnerable farmers, as well as other relevant stakeholders in adopting sustainable agricultural practices and programmes that promote ecosystem health.
- **Certification and Incentives:** Promote certification schemes for sustainable products and create incentives for farmers who adopt environmentally friendly and good agricultural practices, thus contributing to enhanced market access and profitability.
- **Market integration:** economic sustainability is a prerequisite for achieving environmental sustainability. Without stable and profitable market, producers lack the resources and incentives to invest in sustainable practices, Therefore, market access with enhanced predictability will guaranty more sustainable production.

2. Reduce Carbon Emissions from Agriculture and Forestry

- Strengthen intra-ASEAN cooperation to reduce greenhouse gas emission and promote carbon sequestration through smart, environmentally friendly agriculture, efficient and sustainable forest and land management.

- **Implementing National Emission Targets:** Commit on achieving national targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture and forestry by encouraging the adoption of climate smart agriculture and forestry practices, sustainable land use management, and low-carbon agriculture production.
- **Renewable Energy Integration:** Encourage farmers to adopt renewable energy sources within agricultural operations, including solar, wind, hydropower and biomass, thereby reducing reliance on fossil fuels.
- **Aligning the objective of the Declaration with national climate plan** by integrating and revising regional actions to align with existing climate change strategies, including the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of ASEAN Member States.

3. Leverage Digital Technology

- **Expand Access to Digital Tools:** Promote equitable access to digital tools and platforms that can enhance agriculture and forestry productivity and management, including weather forecasting services, flood and drought monitoring, market data analytics, and precision agriculture and forestry technologies.
- **Capacity Building in Technology Use:** Conduct extensive and accessible training programmes to build technical skills especially among youth in using digital technologies, thereby enabling more informed decision-making and efficient resource use.
- **Digital Innovation Ecosystems:** Support the establishment of innovation hubs that foster collaboration between agritech startups, research institutions, and farmers, enabling the development of cutting-edge solutions tailored to local contexts.

4. Facilitate climate change Adaptation and Resilience

- **Climate-Resilient Agriculture:** Develop and implement climate-resilient agricultural strategies and resource management techniques that enhance resiliency to climate impacts through improved soil conservation, diversified cropping systems, sustainable water management, and ecosystem-based approaches to agricultural development.
- **Integrate disaster risk mitigation strategies and disaster preparedness plans** into agricultural production plans, ensuring communities are equipped to cope with climate-related shocks, disruptions and impacts, especially vulnerable groups.
- **Integrate climate change adaptation into rural development plans and land use planning** at national and local levels to ensure a comprehensive and sustainable adaptation roadmap; establish a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for adaptation effectiveness in the agriculture and rural sectors.
- **Disaster Risk Reduction:** Integrate disaster risk reduction strategies and methods such as early warning system with agricultural production planning, ensuring that communities are equipped to handle climate-related shocks and disruptions. At the same time, strengthen early warning and post-disaster recovery.
- **Promoting climate change adaptation and strengthen resilience.**
- **Water Usage for Agriculture:** Encourage policies that promote and incentivize water-efficient practices in the agriculture and forestry sectors.

- **Regional Research Collaboration:** Foster collaboration among Member States in climate science research, including the impact on food system, sharing best agriculture practices and innovative solutions to enhance adaptive capacity in the food, agriculture and forestry sectors.
- **Research on Local Adaptation and Mitigation:** Invest in research and outreach to develop locally appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies, focusing on indigenous/local knowledge and traditional farming practices.

5. Promote Responsible and Sustainable Investment in the Food, Agriculture, and Forestry Sector

- **Responsible Investment Climate:** Create a conducive investment climate for both domestic and foreign investors through policy reforms, regulatory support, and financial incentives that align with sustainability goals.
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Foster collaborations between the public sector and private sector to mobilise resources for sustainable projects, through finance mechanisms such as green credits. This approach not only helps to retain farmers and attract youth people into farming, creating momentum to transform agriculture towards modernity, resilience and sustainable development.
- **International Cooperation for Funding:** Engage with sub-regional cooperation mechanism in the ASEAN region, international financial institutions and multilateral funding entities to secure funding for sustainable initiatives, infrastructure development, and innovation in the food, agriculture and forestry sector.

WE REAFFIRM our commitment to a cooperative and integrated approach that leverages the strengths of ASEAN member states to cultivate sustainable, inclusive and resilient food, agriculture, and forestry systems. Our collective actions today will lay the foundation for a secure, prosperous, and environmentally sustainable future for our people and the region.

WE CALL ON all stakeholders—governments, private sector actors, and international partners—to join us in this transformative journey toward achieving food security and safety, sustainable development, and climate resilience by 2045.

WE TASK the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) to cooperate with other relevant ASEAN Ministers to take coordinated actions to implement this Declaration.

Adopted on this Twenty Sixth Day of October in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five in a single original copy in the English Language.