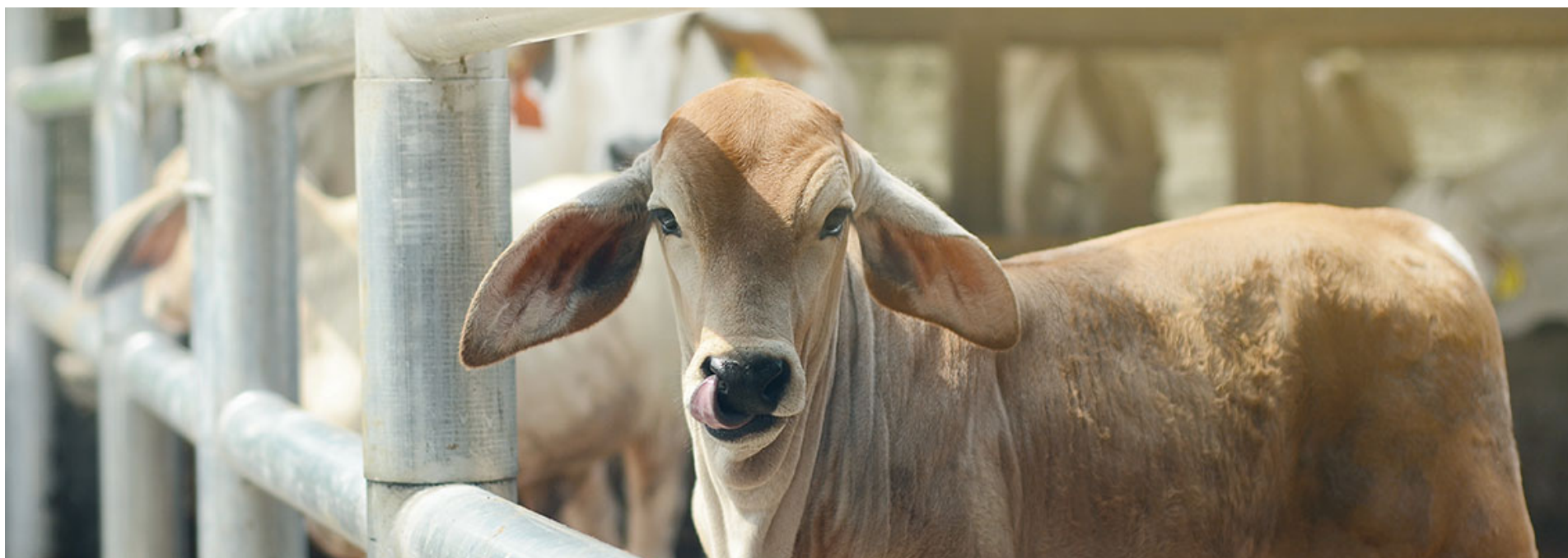


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**INDONESIA AUSTRALIA
RED MEAT & CATTLE
PARTNERSHIP**
Increasing Productivity, Trade and Investment
in the Red Meat and Cattle Sector



Monthly Update

October 2023

The Supporting Cattle Corporation Village (SC2VP) Project Concludes on a High Note

The SC2VP, delivered in cooperation with the Indonesian Society for Animal Production (ISPI), completed in September after a 15-month journey providing assistance to five Cattle Corporation Village (CCV) sites in Cianjur, West Java; Boyolali, Central Java; Kediri, East Java; Penajam Paser Utara, East Kalimantan; and Sidenreng Rappang, South Sulawesi. The project made notable contributions to improving cattle welfare, health, production, and infrastructure in the five project locations.



Cows feeding at a SC2VP site (Photo: Partnership).

Cattle health ended on a particularly high note, indicated by the fact that 98% of the cattle had a body condition score of > 2 , the key health metric. The calving rate also improved over the final six months, with 195 calves born from 672 cows, and calf mortality decreased from 21% at the start of the project to 7% over the project final year. It is expected that with bulls being provided by the Directorate General of Livestock and Animal Health Services, Ministry of Agriculture (DGLAHS), pregnancy rates will increase even further.

Infrastructure provided by the project included weaning pens that reduced calf mortality, improvements to cattle yards that resulted in better drainage and waste management, cattle crushes that eased animal handling for farmers, and improved feed management from the use of feed storage bunkers.

At the final SC2VP Steering Committee, held in September, ISPI provided to DGLAHS a Handover Report that covered key lessons learned and recommendations related to animal welfare, location and farmer selection, and for the CCV technical guidelines. The recommendations were aimed at ensuring continued cattle health and welfare and sustainable cattle breeding.



A farmer in Sidenreng Rappang, South Sulawesi, watches over his group's cattle herds as they graze in an open area. In collaboration with the Indonesian government, at the national and regional level, SC2VP support improved cows health and production through technical guidance, infrastructure improvements, and pasture cultivation (Photo: Partnership).

SISKA Continues to Receive Strong Government Support

The Government of Indonesia continues to strengthen its commitment to cattle/oil palm integration - known as SISKA. In March the former Indonesian Minister of Agriculture visited the Tanah Bumbu SISKA site in South Kalimantan to officially kick start SISKA KU INTIP, a provincial government program actively being supported by the Partnership's SISKA Supporting Program (SSP). One outcome of the Minister's visit was the distribution by the DGLAHS of 14 local bulls to 6 SISKA groups in September. The bulls were provided to improve the genetics of the local Bali cows in the herds, to prevent inbreeding, and to advance SISKA in South Kalimantan.



The Plantation and Livestock Office of South Kalimantan Province handing over four bulls to the Tani Maju Cluster in Tanah Bumbu district. (Photo: The Plantation and Livestock Office of South Kalimantan Province).

Farmers Field School Accelerates Adoption of the SISKA Rotational Grazing Model

In September, the SSP team also provided technical training for smallholder farmers in West Kalimantan and Riau on topics such as animal welfare, waste processing, and breeding and business management. Farmers were also taught how to rotationally graze cattle using electric fences, a critical SISKA requirement. Farmers noted that the electric fence helps them to reduce time and costs when monitoring herds, as less manpower is required. It also allows them to ensure their cattle graze in safe areas. Before having electric fences cattle often got poisoned from eating fertilizer, or they were stolen. There was also often conflict between farmers and plantation workers when cattle damaged young oil palm trees. When this occurred, farmers were fined IDR 10 million (A\$ 1000) by the plantation company. It's easy to see why SISKA smallholder farmers are so happy to be able to use electric fences provided by SSP!



A training instructor explaining to farmers how to install an electric fence and check the electricity voltage (Photo: Partnership).

National Roll-out of Animal Diseases Outbreak Investigation, Mitigation and Response Training

Following the completion of the Training of Trainer (ToT) course in September 2023, a national roll-out of the Animal Diseases Outbreak Investigation, Mitigation and Response Training for frontline Ministry of Agriculture staff and veterinary students has finally started. The two day kick-off training was held in Yogyakarta and Central Java and was attended by 30 veterinarians, 21 of whom were females. For 90% of the trainees this was the first time they had attended an outbreak investigation training.

The training modules combined participatory and theoretical approaches and focused on improving the capacity of frontline staff to conduct early-stage outbreak investigations, to develop recommendations, and to effectively communicate investigation results. The modules were developed through a series of consultations and workshops with stakeholders, including the Directorate of Animal Health of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agriculture Organization, the Australia Indonesia Health Security Partnership (AIHSP), and members of Indonesian Veterinary Faculty Association.

The trainees benefited from the combination of in-class theory sessions with a practical simulation of an outbreak investigation in a village in Central Java. The simulation of a serious zoonotic animal disease outbreak involved the village head, local veterinarian and smallholder farmers and gave an opportunity for the participants to applying the knowledge they gained in the classroom.



In-class theory session (left) and simulation of animal disease outbreak held in Gedaren Village, Klaten, Central Java (Photo: Partnership).



Titih Wahyaningtyas, a veterinarian, learning about animal disease outbreak investigation for the first time in the Frontline Training program (Photo: Partnership).

Titih Wahyaningtyas, a veterinarian working at the animal health office in Bantul District, Yogyakarta, pointed out that this was the first time she had learnt about animal district outbreak investigation, *“The knowledge and learning obtained from the training will support my work, particularly on disease identification and investigation and in developing recommendations to relevant authorities, and to develop appropriate responses.”*

For more information about the ToT of Animal Diseases Outbreak Investigation, Mitigation and Response Training click here: <https://bit.ly/TOTFrontlineTraining>

NTI360 Participants Return Home with Valuable Cattle Production Knowledge and New Aussie Friends

In September, 20 participants (9 females) of the Northern Territory Indonesia 360 (NTI360) program completed their placements in various cattle stations in the Northern Territory. The students, selected from over 100 undergraduates from 15 animal science faculties across Indonesia, returned home armed with new knowledge and practical skills on cattle production, biosecurity, the industry supply chain, and Australian culture. All also returned home with new Aussie friends developed during their work placements on home stations.

The students' journey in the NTI360 program, which was managed by the Northern Territory Cattleman's Association (NTCA), commenced in August, when they participated in the pre-departure training program in West Java, before departing to Darwin. Upon arrival in Darwin the students commenced various technical trainings, including a Certificate II in Rural Operations with Charles Darwin University. This included modules on animal health and welfare and biosecurity, highly relevant topics considering the current Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) outbreaks in Indonesia. The training was held in the newly developed NTCA facility in Alice Springs.



One of the student during the placement at cattle station (left) and all the NTI360 program students (right) (Photo: NTCA).

After completing the training, the students were then ready for their 6-weeks placement on cattle stations where they learnt not only about the cattle production technical skills but also Aussie outback culture. The valuable experiences, learnings and new Australian industry contacts have prepared these next generation of industry leaders to advance Indonesia's livestock sector.

The students celebrate their participation in the NTI360 program in a 'Presentation Night' attended by the DFAT state office, the Indonesian consulate general in the Northern Territory, and host stations representatives (Photo: NTCA).



Silvia Maharani shared that her placement at Legune Station helped her bridge the gap between theory gained in her college life and practice in the real world (Photo: AAM Investment Group).

Silvia Maharani from Mulawarman University, East Kalimantan, found the placement at cattle station a crucial step in her agricultural journey. "I gained valuable experience during my six-week placement at Legune Station. Before the placement we received training in horsemanship, motorbike use, first aid, workplace safety, UHF communication and more, which proved essential for our station work. I really enjoyed doing horsemanship and first aid. At Legune Station I learned a lot about the core of aspects of animal husbandry: breeding, feeding, and management. Legune's effective implementation of these principles was impressive and helped me bridge the gap between theory and practice in my college study. I acquired extensive knowledge and many practical skills, and had the opportunity to adapt to a new culture and work ethic," said Silvia.



Geralda Sukendar feels that her station experience was an important chapter in her life which really helped her on her journey of growth and discovery (Photo: AAM Investment Group).

Meanwhile, Geralda Sukendar from Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta shared how the placement at her host cattle station has been a wonderful journey as she transitioned from the life of an agricultural student to the expansive landscapes of the Australian outback. She explained, "I learned a lot about extensive cattle management and was involved in the execution of a variety of tasks, predominantly based at Legune Station. For me, it is not only an internship, but it is an opportunity to learn practical skills. The daily stock activities as well as land management became my preferred responsibilities. Those experiences have taught me the value of hard work, dedication and courage. I am grateful for every moment."

For further information about NTI360 Program, listen to the ABC podcast with NTCA CEO, cattle station host and NTI360 students here: <https://bit.ly/NTI360Podcast> and watch the students' activities, including catching wild buffaloes!!, here: <https://bit.ly/NTI360StudentActivity>.

The 9th National Conference of Indonesian Sheep-Goat Producers Brings Together Thousands of Farmers and Industry Members

On the 16th-17th September the Indonesian Sheep and Goat Producer Association (HPDKI) held the 9th National Conference of Sheep-Goat Producers and the 4th Goat-Sheep Breeders Presidential Cup in Bandung, West Java. The HPDKI's biggest event of the year brought together 5,000 visitors and 1,281 conference participants from 17 provinces across Indonesia. The event was also attended by Minister of Cooperatives and SMEs, Teten Masduki, Director General of Livestock and Animal Health Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Nasrullah, and officials from the West Java Government. The event was also attended by prominent industry members from Australia, South Africa, Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and Malaysia.



Minister of Cooperatives and SMEs, Teten Masduki, (fourth from left) attends the 9th National Conference of Indonesian Sheep-Goat Producers on 16 September 2023 (Photo: Food Security and Livestock Office of West Java Province).

The conference featured various discussions and workshops covering the market outlook, international experiences and practices, financial infrastructure, cooperative breeding models, as well discussions on a national policy for the sheep and goat industry. More than 50 small to medium sized livestock enterprises also presented at the exhibition alongside the main event.



Partner exhibition (left) and talk show on Goat-Sheep Breeding (right) at the 9th National Conference of Sheep-Goat Producers (Photo: Partnership).

Last, but not least, as many as 700 sheep and goats competed for the Presidential Cup 2023.



West Java breed sheep competition (left) and goat agility competition (right) at the 4th Goat-Sheep Breeders Presidential Cup 2023 (Photo: Partnership and HPDKI).

The development of the Indonesian goat industry received full support from the Minister of Cooperatives and SMEs, Teten Masduki. In his remarks, Minister Masduki stated that the President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, had his hopes on goat and sheep breeders, as the two commodities are sources of animal protein for a large percentage of the population.

For a short video of the event click here: <https://bit.ly/Silatnas1> and to watch the event click here: <https://bit.ly/SILATNAS9>

FAWO Expands Network and Collaboration to Improve Animal Welfare

Building networks and establishing collaborations in the Indonesia red meat and cattle sector is an important way to improve and ensure the sustainability of animal welfare. In line with this principal, the Forum Animal Welfare Officer (AWO) Indonesia, a communication forum and network for animal welfare officers in the livestock industry, shared an overview of its activities to industry members from Indonesia and Australia, at the key Exporter-Importer Meeting, held on 22nd of September. Some of the activities shared by the Forum AWO included thier ongoing training and communications programs.

The industry members provided a positive response to the Forum AWO's work and hoped that it would be able to continue to develop and secure new funding after completion of Partnership support. With this in mind, and with support from the Meat and Livestock Australia, the Forum AWO has recently submitted a funding proposal to industry members for a traceability strengthening program.



Forum AWO Indonesia shares the overview of the forum activities to industry members at the Exporter-Importer Meeting on 22 September 2023 (Photo: Forum AWO Indonesia).

In September, the Forum AWO Indonesia also participated in the 6th International Livestock, Dairy, Meat Processing and Aquaculture Expositions 2023 (ILDEX) held from 20th-22nd of September. This gathering drew a diverse array of associations and companies from the agricultural sector, representing both domestic and international interests. This opportunity provided a significant milestone as it marked the first time that Forum AWO Indonesia independently participated in a national level expo dedicated to the livestock industry. The event served as another important avenue for Forum AWO Indonesia to introduce the organization and its ongoing program to a wider audience. At the event the Forum AWO also delivered a seminar about the significance of animal welfare, including the humane handling of animals, that was warmly received by the national and international audience.



Forum AWO Indonesia sharing information about their role safeguarding the Australian cattle industry and animal welfare (Photo: Forum AWO Indonesia).

Upcoming Events

- Training and certification of SISKAs Operator in West Kalimantan and Riau: October 2023
- Kick Start of "Independent Campus, Freedom to Learn" (MBKM) internship program Batch 5 for undergraduate students: October 2023
- Frozen Semen Production and Testing Technical Training: Late October 2023
- FAWO Animal Welfare and Traceability System Training in Central Java: November 2023
- Frontline and Veterinary Students Outbreak Mitigation Training in Aceh (Banda Aceh), Yogyakarta, Makassar (South Sulawesi), Bali and Bogor (West Java): 31 November 2023
- Pregnancy Test Training Batch 2: 20 November – 7 December 2023
- Alumni Symposium: 25-26 November 2023

To stay updated on the latest news and activities please visit the Partnership website (<http://redmeatcattlepartnership.org>) and follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) (@IAredmeatcattle) and [Instagram](#) (@IA.redmeatcattle).

Contact

The Indonesia Australia Partnership on Food Security in the Red Meat and Cattle Sector is a Heads of Government initiative funded by the Australian Government. The secretariat and policy lead is the Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment in Australia and the Indonesia Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) in Indonesia.

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