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



Monthly Update

November 2023

SISKA Expansion and Workforce Strengthening Continuous in Four Provinces

SISKA Expansion in East Kalimantan

In East Kalimantan the SISKA Supporting program (SSP) continued to collaborate with local governments, the Indonesian Palm Oil Association (GAPKI) and Indonesian Oil Palm Association (APKASINDO) to accelerate SISKA expansion in the province. As a follow-up to the issuance of the East Kalimantan Governor Regulation on SISKA in August 2023, the Livestock and Animal Services Office (DINAS PKH) developed the SISKA Roadmap and SISKA Partnership Implementation Guideline with the support from SSP and the Regional Food Innovation Agency (BRIDA). These were later presented to the Provincial Head of Livestock and Animal Services Office, Provincial Head of BRIDA and local palm oil associations. At that time, it was agreed that all should collaborate to increase SISKA human resource capacities and to optimize research on SISKA development. The key drivers for these initiatives are to ensure food security, particularly for Nusantara, the new Indonesian capital city, currently being developed in the province.



GAPENSISKA, the East Kalimantan Livestock and Animal Health Services Office and Estate Plantation Office, Regional Research and Innovation Agency, Mulawarman University and estate plantation (APKASINDO and GAPSI of East Kalimantan) sign an MoU to support Siska implementation in the province (Photo: The Partnership).

In October, the Siska Actors and Observers Association (GAPENSISKA), established and supported by the SSP, also strengthened its cooperation with key stakeholders to expand Siska in Kalimantan. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by GAPENSISKA, the provincial DINAS PKH and Estate Plantation Office, BRIDA, estate plantation associations APKASINDO and GAPSI of East Kalimantan and Mulawarman University. Collaboration between key stakeholders is essential for Siska expansion, so the MoU is an excellent step. The provincial DINAS PKH will now meet with other stakeholders to strengthen understanding and support towards Siska expansion in the province.

Siska Smallholder Farmer and Workforce Capacity Development

The SSP, together with local livestock and animal services offices, increased farmer and local government official Siska capacities through a variety of technical trainings.

In Riau, trainings were provided on reproduction, cattle breeding, forage management and animal feed processing, whilst a workshop for government officials, palm oil companies and other stakeholders strengthened knowledge of key Siska requirements. Both were aimed at accelerating the implementation of the Riau provincial government's Siska Roadmap known as Siska MANDIRI.

In South Kalimantan, SSP and the Banjarbaru Veterinary Center provided technical guidance on animal health and animal welfare to 63 farmers from 12 Siska farmer groups known as Siska MANDIRI. The farmers are now committed to maintaining cattle health through the prevention and treatment methods taught in the training.



Smallholder farmers and government frontliners obtaining technical guidance on animal health and animal welfare in South Kalimantan (Photo: Partnership).

October also saw 18 young farmers (7 females) complete their 3-month 'On the Job' training through the Bhakti Surya Training Centre in South Kalimantan and the Ministry of Agriculture, Entrepreneur and Employment Support Services (YESS) program. All participants received *Ruminant Farmer Beginner Level Certification* from the Indonesia National Professional Agency (BNSP). This certification will support new careers opportunities in the cattle industry and options to seek further government assistance.

"I love working on the farm. As soon as I finished my training I applied to work in the farmer cluster in a palm oil company where I am working now. At first, me and other students had trouble on how to make nutritious cattle feed. In this 3-month training I gained a lot of knowledge, including feed management and pasture development. Now I know what's the best feed for composition to maximize cattle production. Also, I learnt about grazing. I now know how to calculate the right grazing area, assess the height and thickness of the grass and mud definitely share this knowledge to my fellow farmers in my cluster." Lutfiah a female training participant who works in a cluster 3-hours' drive from the Bhakti Surya Training Centre.



18 young farmers graduated from the third 'On the Job' Training YESS program in October 2023. During their 3-month training, the young farmers learned in-class and in the fields about farm logistics, feed management, and cattle health and reproduction (Photo: Partnership).

Find out more about SISKA Supporting Program here: in [English](#) and [Indonesian](#).

Setting Pathways for the Development of the National Sheep and Goat Industry

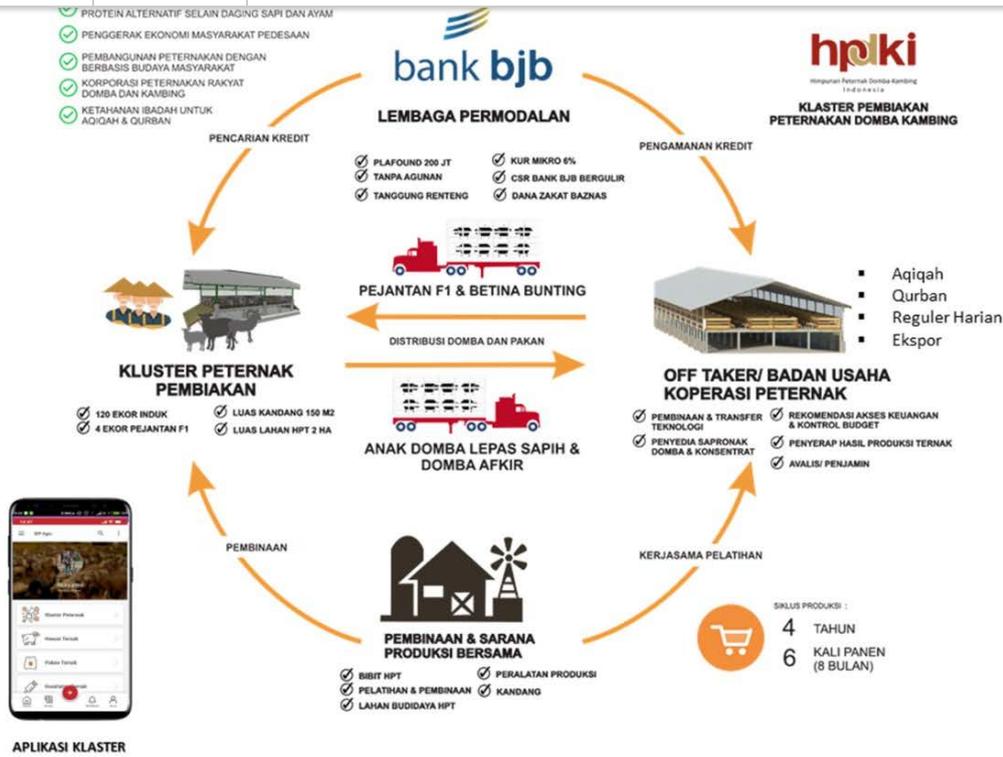


A focus group discussion on the National Strategy of Sheep and Goat Industry attended by HPDKI, government and industry representatives (Photo: HPDKI).

It was a busy month for the Indonesian Sheep and Goat Producer Association (HPDKI). The HPDKI, supported by the Partnership, ran a two-day focus group discussion (FGD) on a national strategy for the sheep and goat industry. The FGD brought together prominent stakeholders, including from the Directorate General of Livestock and Animal Health Services of the Ministry of Agriculture, a sheep and goat breeder association, and from farmer groups. All agreed on the critical need for a policy that requires breed validation and certification for all new imported sheep and goats. This will be critical to avoid fraudulent practices that would undermine the improvements in goat and sheep genetics from valid pedigrees. HPDKI will continue working in this direction, with national and sub-national government and the Partnership, through the development of a National Breed Plan and Industry Development Strategy.

Financing the Commercial Sheep and Goat Industry

HPDKI, together with West Java Provincial Bank (BJB Bank), identified hundreds of smallholder farmers for financial support under the 'closed loop' model. This model is a unique partnership between banks, off-taker (buyers), and farmers, that provides a supporting environment for profitable livestock production. Under the model, farmers operate within a production system where they are guaranteed sales, profit and technical support from off-takers (buyers). This guaranteed support and sales facilitates bank loans for the farmers. To date, 197 farmers received a total of IDR 12.3 billion (AUD1.23m) in loans, that has allowed them to join or expand within the closed loop system.



The sheep and goat breeding cluster close loop model (Source: HPDKI).

HPDKI is now expanding the close-loop model outside of Java, with an initial focus on Kalimantan. Sheep and goat farmers in East Kalimantan have already received financial support from Bank.

Accelerating the Implementation of Minimum Standards for Frozen Semen Production

With Partnership support, the Ministry of Agriculture has now completed the National Minimum Standards for Frozen Semen Production. The Partnership further supported the Ministry to roll out the standard via a technical training on semen production and testing. 21 laboratory technical staff from all Indonesia artificial insemination (AI) centers attended the 3 day training in Ungaran, Central Java. The training was delivered by specialists from the Directorate General of Livestock and Animal Services (DGLAHS) of the Ministry of Agriculture and the same team from IPB University and Brawijaya University, both of whom developed the standards. This was the first-time staff from all national AI centres in Indonesia were brought together for training.



Trainers and participants of the first Technical Training on Frozen Semen Production and Testing for Artificial Insemination Centre Laboratory Technicians (Photo: Partnership).

The training introduced the technical staff to the newly-developed standards, with the view to standardizing semen production and testing across Indonesia. Participants were equipped technical skills required by the minimum standards, including sperm morphology testing, frozen semen production, and quality assessment.



Trainers and participants of the first Technical Training on Frozen Semen Production and Testing for Artificial Insemination Centres. The training was the first national technical training provided to a Indonesia (Photo: Partnership).



"The training was very useful as it provided very beneficial technical capacity improvements for both the participants and their semen production centers. This is essential if we want all to follow the minimum standards for frozen semen production. DGLAHS now will conduct similar technical trainings on a regular basis," Harry Mahendra, DGLAHS training facilitator.

"During these amazing three days I refreshed my knowledge and learned new updates on semen testing. It is now my responsibility to implement applicable minimum standard requirements at the Singosari AI Centre, as well as my new learnings from the training." – Yeni Fitriani, Lab Technician from the Singosari AI Centre (left photo).

FAWO: Traceability Matters



Cattle Industry players join the Animal Welfare and Traceability Training held by Forum AWO in Semarang, Central Java (Photo: Forum AWO).

Most Australian cattle are being sold in the Greater Jakarta area where the market is greatest. But as the Indonesian economy grows in areas outside Jakarta, such as Central Java, so market for Australian cattle. Maintaining animal welfare and traceability through the Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS) in these areas is crucial, and key to sustain industry. The Forum Animal Welfare Association, which is supported by the Partnership, fulfills this need.

In October the FAWO trained 60 beef cattle industry representatives from Central Java on Animal Welfare and Traceability. Participants were introduced to the Australian cattle supply the producers in rural Australia, transportation to Indonesia, fattening in feedlots, then slaughtering in abattoirs. Participants learnt of the importance of and how to maintain animal welfare these stages. For example, they learned that good animal welfare improves the quality of the beef produced. The industry representatives were also introduced to Gender Equality, I Social Inclusion (GEDSI) in the livestock sector, a session facilitated by FAWO Chairwoman who had previously completed a Partnership GEDSI Training of Trainers. The participant greater awareness of how inclusivity in livestock sector can improve productivity.



Pelatihan Kesejahteraan Hewan dan Keterlacakan Animal Welfare and Traceability Training Semarang, 31 Oktober 2023



Members of the Animal Welfare and Traceability Training that focused on ESCAS implementation (Photo: Forum AWO).

Veterinary Students Learn about Cattle Disease Outbreak Investigation

In October, 126 veterinary students (89 females) from Gadjah Mada University attended the Animal Disease Outbreak Investigation Training in Yogyakarta. This was the first of 16 trainings for veterinary students to be delivered in 11 provinces. A similar training for 700 frontline technical staff commenced in early October.



Animal Disease Outbreak Investigation Training for 126 veterinary students of Gadjah Mada University. (Photo: Gadjah Mada University).

The training introduced the students, all potential animal health frontline staff, to animal disease outbreak mitigation and response. It covered the fundamental aspects of epidemiology and an outbreak handling simulation within the campus. The students enthusiastically learnt about this new subject area, that included case definition, field data collection and triaging developing outbreak timelines and epidemic trajectories.



The training combined in-class and an outbreak simulation within the campus area (Photo: Gadjah Mada University).

"The training was very well received by the students who particularly appreciated the ability to immediately utilise new learnings in the outbreak simulation session. The training will not

Upcoming Events

- SISKA technical trainings for smallholder farmers in four SISKAs locations
- Coordination meeting on Strengthening SISKAs KU INTIP implementation
- Training and certification of SISKAs operators in Riau
- 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](#) (@IAredmeatcat) 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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