



“Chalermchai” urged to drive the Agricultural Technology Strategy, revealed the Smart Agriculture action plan (2022-2023), and ordered all agencies to fully capacity moving forward.



Dr. Chalermchai Sri-on, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, revealed the Smart Agriculture action plan (2022-2023) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC) via zoom meeting.

Referring to the Thailand 4.0 policy and 20-year National Strategy which decided to have a Master Plan on Agriculture and a Sub Plan on Smart Farming under the National Strategy on Competitiveness Enhancement, MOAC has a policy on Smart Farming which aims to enhance farmers’ livelihoods by adapting technology to support agricultural products production, adjusting the current agriculture model to move towards Agriculture 4.0 by applying innovation and technology to develop into Smart Farming in the future.

There are important goals that focus on the power of less, optimizing production resources, reducing production costs, reducing losses, increasing production efficiency, reducing manpower in the agricultural sector, bringing machinery and modern technology to increase production

performance, and increasing the competitiveness of the Thai agriculture sector in the global market.

This smart farming action plan will be an action plan that helps to determine the direction of smart agriculture and systematically lays out Thailand's smart agriculture foundation. All MOAC relevant departments and other agencies, both the government, the private sector, and farmers, can use this project proposal framework as a role model and adjust it for their future projects. Moreover, we also accelerate personnel development in the agency, both in the central and regional areas, to be ready for the R & D of smart farming. This includes encouraging government officials and farmers to be able to put into practice and to be a trainer for farmers. The target groups are Smart Farmer, Young Smart Farmer, and farmers' leaders of Agricultural Learning Center (ALC) and Large-Scale Agriculture.

In this regard, we aim for the solid development of large-scale smart farming in every province and access to all districts within 3 years for concrete results according to the goals of the National Strategy on Agriculture.



As the chairman of the Agricultural Technology 4.0 Policy Committee, Mr. Alongkorn Polaboot, Advisor to the Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives said that the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives (Dr. Chalermchai Sri-on) has underlined the importance of the linkage between the Thai agricultural sector and science and technology.

Therefore, he appointed a committee to drive the agricultural technology 4.0 policy with 4 subcommittees which are 1) Big Data and Gov Tech Subcommittee, 2) Smart Agriculture Subcommittee, 3) E-Commerce Subcommittee, and 4) Agribusiness Subcommittee. These are all to improve farmer' livelihood by using technology, innovation, and marketing to drive the operation towards agriculture 4.0.

The MOAC Smart Agriculture action plan (2022-2023) was prepared by the Smart Agriculture Subcommittee of which Dr. Waraporn Phrompoj is the chairwomen. This action plan consists of six strategies, 18 plans, and 63 projects, and this will be the game changer for the agricultural revolution under the agricultural technology 4.0 policy.

Dr. Thongplew Kongjun, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, added that the Smart Agriculture Subcommittee has continued on existing MOAC's work on smart agriculture, which includes the creation of smart agriculture learning plots, IoT Platform Development, gathering Innovation List on technology/knowledge from 76 AIC centers to create an Innovation Catalog, and the most important mission is to formulate the MOAC Smart Agriculture action plan (2022-2023).

The MOAC has brainstormed with approximately 200 representatives from external agencies, including Ministry of Digital Economy and Society, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research and Innovation, Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives, Federation of Thai Industries, AIC Center, Smart Farmer, and Young Smart Farmer. All of these relevant agencies are joining to create this action plan and preparing for project proposal 2022-2023 under six strategies as follows:

- 1) Strategy 1: Conduct research and development on smart agriculture technology
- 2) Strategy 2: Create awareness, accessibility, utilization and promotion of smart agriculture technology application
- 3) Strategy 3: Create smart agriculture learning plot large-scale of smart agriculture
- 4) Strategy 4: Develop smart agriculture processing and marketing
- 5) Strategy 5: Promote and develop digital technology for smart agriculture management

6) Strategy 6: Human resource capacity and smart agriculture network

“The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives is ready to respond to the Minister’s policy to push forward for a tangible result and will be monitored by the Executive Committee for Driving Important Policy and Solving Problems in the Agricultural Sector,” said Dr.Thongplew.

Source: <https://aec-tv-online2.com/?p=748467>

Tentative translation by Office of Agricultural Affairs, Washington D.C.

October 2021