

2024 Annual Report





**Ministry of Agriculture
2024 Annual Report**





MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE

2024 Annual Report



中華民國

本國為農



Preface

In 2024 agriculture in Taiwan advanced steadily amidst numerous and difficult challenges. These included extreme climate events such as extended frost damage, repeated typhoons, high temperatures, and torrential rains, which severely impacted agricultural industries. The global situation was complex and geopolitical changes seriously affected agricultural development and food security. However, thanks to the efforts of all stakeholders working together, we were able to overcome these challenges and continue to move forward.

In May of 2024, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), in accordance with the President's instruction to ensure "balanced development" and his concept of "happy agriculture, happy farmers" as well as the Executive Yuan's "National Project of Hope," announced a strategy for promoting "smart, resilient, sustainable, and healthy" agriculture. It is hoped that, building on the foundation of the "New Agriculture" policy, we can develop new strategic thinking for agriculture, advance toward a new milestone in modernized agriculture, and realize the policy goal of "transforming agriculture in Taiwan into a sustainable and resilient sector and making farming in Taiwan highly professional." Important policy achievements in 2024 included:

Boosting diffusion of smart technology to build a precision, efficient, low-risk agricultural sector

The MOA drove industrial progress through scientific and technological R&D, continued to promote the use of labor-saving machinery and modernized equipment in agricultural and food industries, and guided farmers to use new agricultural machinery. We promoted predictive production and sales models for broccoli and pineapples, and the number of agricultural Internet of Things (IoT) demonstration sites reached 150. The MOA applied digital technology to upgrade the efficiency of production and services for farmers, as well as launched the building of a new Big Data decision-assistance center equipped with a data search mechanism which, based on soil and plant types, undertakes information comparisons and analysis to strengthen integration of farmer-related database systems. We also did planning for construction of an "agricultural digital integrated services platform" to provide precision services to farmers.

The MOA used digital technology to optimize agricultural industrial chains. We guided businesses to organize smart agricultural services ecosystems covering multiple fields including cultivation and water resources (irrigation) management, with assisted industries increasing production value by over NT\$2.1 billion. The MOA also proactively promoted applications of technology to fishing harbor management, continuing to build an automatic identification system to track fishing vessel movements as well as a dynamic integrated system for the entry and exit of fishing vessels into and out of ports, thereby enhancing the efficiency and safety of harbor





area management. We also introduced online reporting services for landing or transfer of catch by distant-water fishing vessels to make fishing operations easier.

Accelerating construction of a basic environmental network, promoting adaptation measures for climate change, and strengthening agricultural resilience to ensure food security

In 2024 the MOA accelerated construction of basic infrastructure to enhance weather resistance and food security. We continued to build the national cold-chain network, linking production, processing, and domestic and foreign sales, while also enhancing the quality of products. This work has included setting up three flagship-type and 14 regional cold-chain centers and improving cold-chain facilities at 40 wholesale markets. Smart and disaster-resistant agricultural facilities covered a total of 2,520 hectares, protecting annual production of over 100,000 metric tons of fruit and vegetables. There was promotion of precision irrigation management facilities on 2,395 hectares, benefiting more than 3,700 rural households. The MOA also continued to do R&D to deal with high temperatures, produce adaptation technology for extreme weather, and breed adversity-resistant varieties and seedlings. In these ways we have upgraded the ability of agriculture to prevent or mitigate disasters. The MOA also worked with the Central Weather Administration of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications to add 196 agricultural weather stations to provide precise local microclimate information for important farming and fisheries production zones.

The MOA continued to promote policies that take into account both food security and farmers' incomes. We continued to implement the policy for farmers to choose three crop seasons out of four for cultivating rice (starting from the base year), with rice grown on nearly 242,000 hectares of land in 2024 and a trend toward balance between supply and demand in the market. Under the Big Granary Project, 81,485 hectares of land were cultivated with miscellaneous staple crops (MSCs), an increase of

about 7,052 hectares compared to 2015, the last year before the Project was launched. In 2025 we will refine and advance a comprehensive upgrading program for the agri-food industry, encouraging corporate-style operations, guiding farmers to cultivate premium rice with unique characteristics, and expanding promotion of dry-field MSCs, while also protecting the incomes of the country's roughly 360,000 food producers.

The MOA strengthened prevention of plant and animal diseases. In October Taiwan won recognition from the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) as a zone free of African swine fever (ASF). Also, in July we completed a full year of going without vaccinations for classical swine fever (CSF), and in 2025 the WOAH recognized Taiwan as a zone free of this disease. This makes Taiwan the only country in Asia to be free of the three major swine diseases (foot and mouth disease, ASF, and CSF). In August of 2024 the "Plant Doctor Act" was promulgated and went into effect, making Taiwan the only country in the world with a specific law governing plant health specialists; the first national examination for licenses will be held in 2025.

To increase the efficiency of natural disaster inspection and relief and deal with the delayed nature of many agricultural natural disaster losses, the MOA amended the "Agricultural Natural Disasters Relief Regulations." The amendments altered the method for calculating the period for accepting relief applications to working days, eliminated inspections for confirming whether the loss ratio reached 20% for items for which a simplified process can be used in cases of severe disaster losses, added a provision that delayed losses must be reported within six months, added beekeeping and under-forest economy items as eligible for relief, and reset the relief amounts for large-scale set net fishing. We also optimized and promoted the "agricultural natural disaster on-site photo App," which was downloaded over 40,000 times in 2024 and used to upload more than 860,000 photos. It helps farmers preserve immediate evidence of losses and enables the MOA to quickly arrange for relief and protect the rights and interests of farmers impacted by natural disasters.

Maintaining the quality and circular use of agricultural production and environmental resources, advancing toward sustainable low-carbon agriculture

The MOA in 2024 continued to maintain the multiple values of agriculture. We used value stacking to promote the “Green Environmental Payments Program” and incentivized switching of rice fields to cultivation of contract crops and niche crops on 149,000 hectares of land, while implementing the “Agricultural Environment Basic Payment” on 348,000 hectares. The MOA also promoted eco-friendly farming and habitat protection on 3,050 hectares under the “Payments for Ecosystem Services for Endangered Species and Critical Habitat Promotion Program,” with communities organizing 137 habitat protection patrol teams.

The MOA continued to promote forest sustainability and biodiversity conservation. We completed Forest Stewardship Council certification of nearly 1.6 million hectares of state-owned forest, accounting for 71.5% of total forest area in Taiwan, the highest figure in Asia. The MOA also completed designation of 44 areas of concern and 45 conservation belts under the Taiwan Ecological Network, implemented 21 action plans for protection of endangered species, and completed inventories of 139 potential venues for “Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures” (OECMs), bringing Taiwan in line with the goals of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

The MOA accelerated the transition to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture. In June of 2024 we amended the “Regulations for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grants for the Replacement of Old Agricultural Machinery” to incorporate energy-saving aquaculture pond oxygenating paddle wheels, of which 891 were replaced by year’s end. The MOA also promoted the transformation of agricultural residual materials into resources, materials, and energy and encouraged 27 businesses to invest over NT\$900 million in developing carbon-reducing or circular agriculture. We also promoted public-private collaboration in sustainable agriculture ESG projects and collaborated with over 70 enterprises to create the “ESG STORE” matchmaking website for one-stop services covering three major fields and ten categories of ESG projects.

The MOA continued to enhance animal protection and implement comprehensive pet management. The

“Pet Registration Information System” went online, offering comprehensive pet information and traceability. We also announced “cats” as a new type of pet requiring registration, a rule that came into effect in January of 2025 and will be enforced starting in January of 2026, thereby strengthening pet owner responsibility. In addition, the MOA opened the pet registration system to multiple species and has released four handbooks for raising mammalian pets.

The MOA expanded links between production and marketing to increase farmers’ incomes. We created a website to match farmers’ and fishermen’s associations (F/FAs) with a convenience store logistics system, which went into operation on August 21. More than 217 F/FAs have signed contracts to participate, with the number of orders between F/FAs reaching 15,000 and more than 430,000 items sent from or picked up at F/FA service stations. The MOA also achieved a great deal in terms of expanding export markets for agriproducts, receiving approval from New Zealand in April to export pineapples there; from Japan in June to export red-fleshed, purple-fleshed, and hybrid red dragon fruits there; from Japan in October to export hybrid (dragon x tiger) grouper there; and from Singapore in November to export fresh pork there. In 2024 Taiwan exported a total of 1.901 million metric tons of agriproducts worth US\$4.92 billion. There was growth of such exports to a number of markets including Canada, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, and the Philippines. We will continue to develop new markets for Taiwan’s high-quality agricultural products around the world.

Improvement of the farmers’ welfare system, development of happy rural communities, and increasing consumers’ trust in domestic agriproducts

The MOA continued to implement promises made to the rural population. There was comprehensive upgrading of the farmers’ welfare system of “three insurance programs and one pension program.” “Skin cancer caused by exposure to ultraviolet rays” was incorporated into the farmers’ occupational accident insurance (FOAI) system and, with reference to labor insurance payments, payments to farmers for occupational injury or disease were increased. Over 340,000 people (83% of those eligible) were enrolled in FOAI by the end of 2024. The MOA also relaxed household registration and farmland location restrictions

for farmers' health insurance (FHI) to ensure coverage for all actual cultivators of the land. Meanwhile, about 108,000 people were paying into the farmers' pension scheme, 46% of those eligible. There were 28 items covered by agricultural insurance and 44 types of policies available, including new coverage for taro and refinement of 12 policies for products including paddy rice and bananas. A total of 269,000 policies were taken out during the entire year, for a coverage rate of 53.6%. In addition, with respect to unpredictable at-sea operations, the MOA increased condolence benefits for the families of persons killed or missing at sea and amounts for emergency relief. We also increased the ratio of aquaculture insurance premiums subsidized by the government from one third to one half while raising the maximum subsidy from NT\$90,000 per hectare to NT\$135,000. These steps provided more protection for fishermen.

The MOA continued to support young and middle-aged farmers in remaining in, or returning to, rural communities to engage in agriculture. We continued promotion of the "agricultural operational preparatory funds" program, providing a maximum of NT\$360,000 or NT\$720,000 to such farmers in the first two years of operation, and added a maximum subsidy of NT\$120,000 for the third year. The interest rate for middle-aged farmers to apply for agricultural loans was lowered to 1.415% (in light of that for young farmers). The MOA also continued to build an agricultural services system, with 46 agricultural manpower teams formed in 14 cities and counties and recruitment of 1,577 people who assisted with farmwork for over 270,000 working days. We continued to promote regional mechanized agricultural services, guiding the establishment of 12 mechanized teams for work in agricultural and food industries who provided services on over 2,800 hectares of land and benefitted farmers 3,800 man-times.

The MOA strengthened "green care" in rural communities, guiding 131 farmers' and fishermen's associations to establish Rural Green Care Stations and offer 224 classes, serving elderly persons 220,000 man-times. We also guided 208 rural communities to offer green care services, including promotion of "zero hunger" and delivery of food to elderly rural residents; the number of meals delivered rose to 560,000 in 194 rural communities. Moreover, the MOA continued to optimize rural environments, creating 36 "bright spot" areas with regional themes while also undertaking rural environment improvement projects and energizing software

infrastructure, thereby improving the living environment and industrial development conditions in rural areas.

In 2024 the MOA strengthened the supply chain for safe agriproducts. The area covered by land certified as "organic" reached 20,000 hectares, while that for ecofriendly farming surpassed 27,000 hectares, for a total coverage rate of 3.47%; an additional 110,000 hectares were certified under the "Traceable Agricultural Products" system. The coverage rate for use of domestically produced traceable agricultural products in school lunches reached 98.7%. We also continued to promote food and agricultural education (FAE), guiding 22 local governments in implementing a five-year FAE program and training over 3,000 FAE professionals; there were over 500,000 participants in related activities.

Agriculture is the most resilient and sustainable cornerstone in national industrial development. In 2024 the MOA endeavored to build an agricultural system characterized by "stable production," "sustainable ecosystems," and "happy rural communities." We also laid out a number of short-, medium-, and long-term policies and in the future will more closely meet the needs of farmers, take more precise actions to deal with environmental challenges, and continue to work together to staunchly meet challenges and refine all agricultural policies and measures. The MOA will embrace stable progress and a spirit of "going all out" to strengthen the foundations of, create a new future for, and ensure the sustainable development of, agriculture in Taiwan.

Junne-Jih Chen

Minister
Ministry of Agriculture
June 2025



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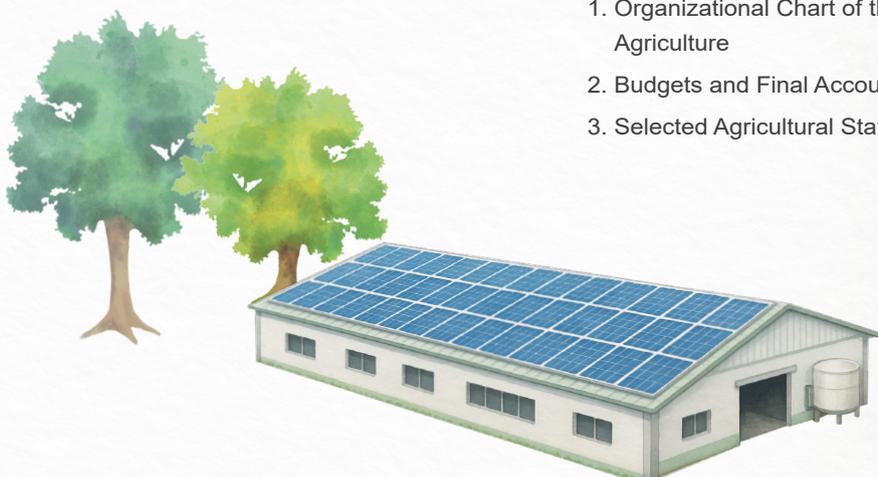
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01



The International and Domestic Agricultural Situations and Major Policy Goals in 2024





The International and Domestic Agricultural Situations and Major Policy Goals in 2024

1. The International Agricultural Situation

In 2024 the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic abated, but there were other problems that increased instability in global agriproduct trade and food security including the Israel-Palestinian and Russia-Ukraine conflicts and supply chain shifts. To upgrade food security and sustainable agricultural development, countries around the world worked to promote net-zero carbon emission policies and maintain order in the international agriproduct market. Meanwhile, global agricultural development trends were also affected by growth in agricultural production and consumption in emerging economies including India and Southeast Asia.

Because of stagnation of multilateral trade negotiations in venues like the World Trade Organization, many countries turned towards regional economic and trade links. These included the “Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership” (CPTPP) which went into effect in 2018 and accepted its 12th member, the United Kingdom, in 2023. Taiwan applied to join the CPTPP in 2021 and has since continued to promote our inclusion. To strengthen trade partnerships, on August 18, 2022 Taiwan and the US launched the “US-Taiwan Initiative on 21st-Century Trade” mechanism, with the first set of

agreements signed in June of 2023; they took effect on December 10, 2024.

2. The Domestic Agricultural Situation

In 2024 total agricultural production value was NT\$582.848 billion, an increase of 0.32% compared to 2023. The preliminary calculation of the value of forestry production in 2024 was NT\$230 million, a rise of 41.91% over 2023, the highest increase of any agricultural sector. The preliminary calculation of the production value of farming in 2024 was NT\$290.537 billion, an increase of 5.52% compared to 2023, the second highest. The preliminary calculations for the production value of the fisheries and animal husbandry sectors, meanwhile, fell 8.45% and 2.67%, respectively. Farming, forestry, fisheries, and animal husbandry accounted for 49.85%, 0.04%, 14.22%, and 35.89%, respectively, of total agricultural production value.

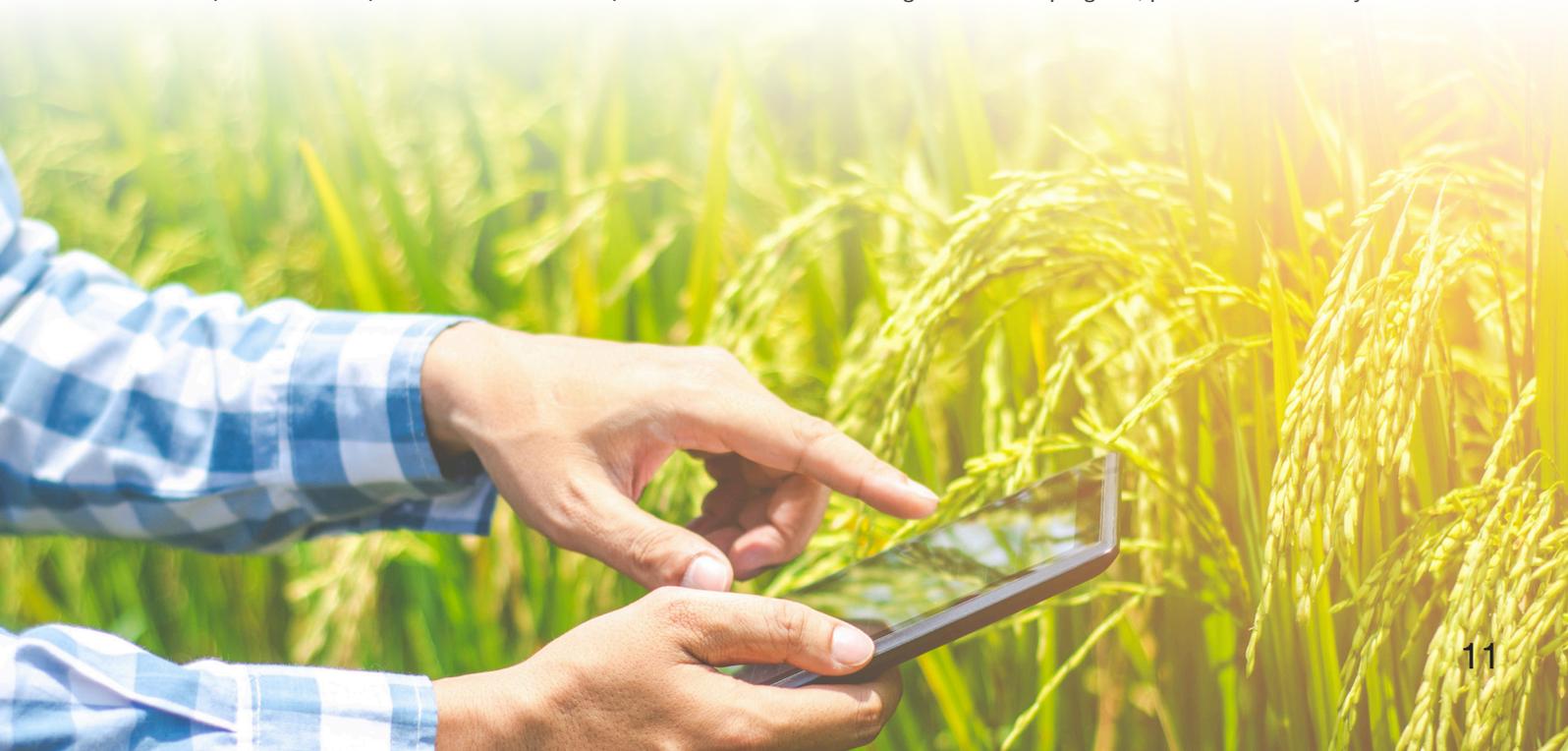
As for agriproduct prices, in 2024 the average producer price index for farming, forestry, fisheries, and animal husbandry products was 115.29 (with 2021 as the base year); this was an increase of 3.2% over 2023. The figure for farming products was 117.04 (a rise of 11.06%), that for animal husbandry products was 114.11 (a decline of 4.47%), that for forestry products was

98.85 (a fall of 1.23%) and that for fisheries products was 111.79 (a decline of 1.55%).

As for agriproduct trade, in 2024 the value of agriproduct imports was US\$18.054 billion, a decline of 4.25% compared to 2023. The leading imports by value were alcoholic beverages, beef, soybeans, and corn. The value of agriproduct exports was US\$4.923 billion, an increase of 0.61% over 2023. The leading exports were tuna, squid, bonito, baked goods, feathers/down, and *Phalaenopsis* (moth) orchids.

3. Major Policy Goals in 2024

- To build a resilient agricultural operating environment, promote the sustainable development of agriculture; drive agricultural adaptation to climate change and net-zero emissions, implement the Green Environmental Payment Program, strengthen sustainable use of farmland resources; expand the coverage of agricultural irrigation services, optimize and modernize the irrigation system; maintain a stable supply of agricultural manpower while comprehensively promoting labor-saving mechanization and equipment modernization in agriculture.
- To establish a food security mechanism, ensure the supply of domestically produced food; upgrade the cold-chain logistics network for agriproducts, develop multiple marketing channels and emerging export markets, maintain stability between agriproduct production and sales; strengthen agriproduct safety and quality, implement the management of pesticides and veterinary drugs; popularize food and agricultural education for all, promote “local production and consumption.”
- To expand and promote agricultural insurance, refine farmers’ health insurance and farmers’ occupational accident insurance, strengthen the coverage and payment systems; continue to promote the farmers’ pension system, comprehensively promote “green care in agriculture,” guide farmers’ and fishermen’s associations and rural communities to offer care and elderly-friendly services; improve the farmers’ welfare system.
- To strengthen the effectiveness of inspection and quarantine measures for animals and plants, prevent the cross-border transmission of pests and diseases into Taiwan, promote eradication of classical swine fever; introduce modern livestock and poultry management systems, advance the modernization of slaughterhouses and ensure meat hygiene and safety; promote the development of pet industries and animal welfare.
- To strengthen management of fisheries resources; enhance protection of the rights and welfare of migrant fishers working on Taiwanese vessels; protect habitats and the environment, restore coastal fisheries resources; build a comprehensive seawater supply system and develop a smart cold-chain system to drive upgrading of the aquaculture fisheries industry; build multi-functional fishing ports and upgrade their software and hardware functions.
- To accelerate the development of rural industries, upgrade rural infrastructure, further develop rural leisure and tourism, revitalize rural economic activities; refine conservation of soil and water resources, build smart systems of slopeland disaster management; build up the Taiwan Ecological Network program, preserve biodiversity.



02



Enhancing Farmers' Welfare





Enhancing Farmers' Welfare

1. Promotion of Agricultural Insurance

Taiwan has a complex climate, adding uncertainty to agricultural production affected by climate change. In order to protect the economic security of farmers, the government introduced agricultural insurance to stabilize farmers' incomes. In 2024, the MOA continued to accelerate promotion of such insurance, announcing the addition of coverage for taro while reassessing and refining policies for 12 products including citrus fruits, paddy rice, and bananas. In addition, to relieve the burden of premiums on fishermen, we raised the ratio of subsidies for fisheries insurance premiums from one third to one half.

As of the end of 2024, there were 44 policies for 28 items in five major categories including first-loss, policy-linked, regional harvest, income guarantee, and parametric insurance. In 2024, a total of 269,715 policies were taken out, covering 233,778 hectares of land with a total insured amount of NT\$32.8 billion. Since the launch of agricultural insurance, a total of 892,131 policies were taken out, covering 806,186 hectares, with a total insured amount of NT\$137 billion. The coverage rate increased from the original figure of 0.93% to 53.63% by the end of 2024, as the impact of the program has steadily increased.

In terms of claims handling, in 2024 there were payouts in a total of 36,233 cases totaling NT\$1.404 billion. The cumulative number of such cases reached 122,708, totaling over NT\$5.6 billion. During 2024, Typhoons Gaemi, Krathon, and Kong-rey caused severe losses for agriculture, with multiple payments made for 15 items including pomelo, taro, wax apples, and guava, with a total of roughly NT\$95 million paid out to 2,300 policyholders. Agricultural insurance has shown itself to be capable of effectively compensating farmers for losses, spreading operational risks, facilitating post-disaster replanting by farmers, and enhancing operational protection in the agricultural sector.

In response to climate change and farmers' needs and to make Taiwan's agricultural sector more resilient, the MOA will continue to work with the private sector, the public sector, and academia to refine agricultural insurance, raise the coverage rate, and assist in building a stable environment for agriculture.

Besides agricultural insurance, the MOA also aims to protect the property of fishermen at sea. We encourage owners of motorized fishing vessels (rafts) of less than 100 metric tons to participate in fishing vessel insurance. The MOA provides subsidies for premiums, with subsidies of NT\$41,691,987 benefiting 9,974 fishing vessels (rafts) in 2024.

農業保險 // 辦理情形

保單類型	收入保障	區域收穫	氣象參數	政策連結	實損實賠
保單特色	依據地區產量及批發市場價格，決定理賠標準	實際收穫量低於當地區域保證收穫量，即予理賠	符合設定氣象條件即予理賠	投保農民如獲現金救助、撲殺補償，即予理賠	保險人派員實地查勘損害程度
品項	釋迦、香蕉、水稻、高粱	水稻、芒果、鳳梨	養殖水產、虱目魚、吳郭魚、石斑魚、鱸魚、蓮霧、木瓜、柚、甜柿、番石榴、荔枝、西瓜、紅豆、菓、柑橘、梨、養蜂產業、水芋	梨、芒果、家禽禽流感	梨、農業設施、香蕉植株、豬、乳牛

	品項	投保件數	投保面積	理賠金額
累計至 2024年底	28 項	892,131 件	806,186 公頃	56.57 億元
2024年	28 項	269,715 件	233,778 公頃	14.04 億元
2023年	27 項	254,259 件	209,778 公頃	20.06 億元
2022年	27 項	275,968 件	228,684 公頃	13.20 億元
2021年	25 項	35,191 件	39,974 公頃	5.32 億元
2020年	21 項	20,387 件	33,031 公頃	1.96 億元

▲ The situation with respect to agricultural insurance.



▲ Subsidies for insurance premiums for motorized fishing vessels (rafts).

2. Promotion of the Farmers' Pension Program

Since January 1, 2021, the MOA, acting on the basis of the "Farmer Pension Act," has been promoting a farmers' pension system. This involves individual pension fund accounts for farmers, with farmers and the government both making monthly payments into these accounts. When a farmer reaches age 65 or meets certain criteria, he or she can apply to collect the pension. Together with the welfare allowance for elderly farmers, this constitutes a system to guarantee the economic security of rural elders and make agriculture into a profession from which people can retire with peace of mind.

In addition, in order to encourage young people who have done a short term of military service to go into agriculture as a profession, on December 22, 2021 the MOA began permitting such young people who have been discharged to participate in the farmers' pension

system despite already receiving retirement payments under military insurance.

The farmers' pension system enables farmers to enjoy an appropriate quality of life after getting old. It is also very helpful in terms of encouraging young people to go into agriculture as a profession, adjusting the rural labor structure, and indirectly enabling older farmers to retire with peace of mind so that the use of their land can be revitalized. As of the end of 2024, a total of 109,322 people were benefiting from this program.

3. Refinement of Farmers' Health Insurance

To enable actual cultivators of the land to enjoy appropriate social security guarantees, in recent years the MOA has continued to build a comprehensive farmers' welfare system, including continual refinement of the farmers' health insurance (FHI) system. Besides adjusting monthly insured amounts and increasing maternity benefits and the funeral allowance under FHI, we have continually expanded eligibility for the program, allowing participation in FHI by actual cultivators of the land, beekeepers, cultivators of public land along rivers, and young people discharged from the military. We have continued to examine qualifications for FHI by using information technology to manage the data of farmers insured under this program and building a substantive investigation system to ensure that people who apply to participate in FHI actually possess agricultural production capabilities.

To further ensure that actual cultivators of the land can participate in FHI, on November 22, 2024 the MOA relaxed restrictions on household registration addresses and farmland location for FHI. For every actual cultivator operating at a certain scale, no matter



what type of land he/she is farming (self-owned, rented, or worked by oral agreement), if the farmers' association with jurisdiction over the farmland and that with jurisdiction over the farmer's household registration address are in different localities (municipalities, cities, or counties) and are not in neighboring sub-local jurisdictions (townships, sub-county cities, or districts), there merely needs to be an inspection of the farmland by the local District Agricultural Research and Extension Station followed by the issuance of a certificate that the individual is actually involved in agricultural production, then he/she can take their certification document and apply to participate in FHI at the base-level farmers' association with jurisdiction over their household registration address. As of the end of 2024, a total of 870,268 people were enrolled in FHI, and during the year there were 38,874 cases of payouts totaling over NT\$10.6 billion.

不管在哪從農，都有保障!

鬆綁農保戶籍地與農地限制

只要符合條件，都可以申請參加農保!



▲ On November 22, 2024 the MOA relaxed restrictions on household registration address and farmland location for participation in farmers' health insurance (FHI). All farmers who meet the relevant criteria can now apply to participate in FHI at the base-level farmers' association with jurisdiction over their household registration address.

4. Refinement of Farmers' Occupational Accident Insurance

In order to enhance farmers' occupational safety and create a comprehensive farmers' social insurance system, on November 1, 2018 farmers' occupational accident insurance (FOAI) was launched with priority given to "occupational injury insurance" under the "first injuries, later diseases" policy. On September 10, 2021 coverage under FOAI was expanded to

include occupational diseases. Since its launch, the FOAI system has functioned stably and maintained a balance between expenses and revenues. The MOA has continually refined the system, and on August 22, 2024 amendments were announced to the "Examination Regulations for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Under FOAI" to add skin cancer (squamous cell carcinoma) caused by exposure to ultraviolet rays to the list of occupational diseases covered.

Also in 2024, on August 30 the MOA announced an amendment to the "Regulations for Trial Operation of Farmers' Occupational Accident Insurance," raising "injury and disease payments" from NT\$476 per day in the first year and NT\$340 per day in the second year to NT\$680 per day for the first two months and NT\$476 per day from the third month to the end of the second year; this amendment went into effect on September 1, 2024. This change was calculated based on actual payment cases in recent years. The short-term balance in expenses and revenues means that injury and disease payments could be raised without altering the premium of NT\$15 per month for each farmer to participate in FOAI. After the amendment, calculating based on an average of 40 days of collecting payments per case, the average total applied for increased to NT\$8,160 per case. As of the end of 2024, more than 346,000 people were enrolled in FOAI and payments totaling over NT\$500 million were made in more than 20,000 cases.

農委會
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

113年9月1日 正式上路

提高農民職災保險傷病給付水準 保障農民經濟生活!

➡ 前2個月每日金額自476元提高至680元

➡ 第2年起每日金額自340元提高至476元

以平均40日計算，給付金額增加8160元!

傷病給付發給水準	第1個月-第2個月	第3個月-第12個月	第13個月-第24個月
發給期間	2個月	10個月	12個月
農職保 修正方向	月投保金額100% 680元/日	月投保金額70% 476元/日	月投保金額70% 476元/日
農職保 現行制度	月投保金額70% 476元/日	月投保金額70% 476元/日	月投保金額50% 340元/日

▲ "Injury and disease payments" under farmers' occupational accident insurance were increased.

5. Improvement of the Well-Being of the Rural Population

(1) Educational grants for children of farmers and fishermen

In order to encourage the children of disadvantaged farmers and fishermen to attend high schools, colleges, and universities in Taiwan, the MOA has acted to reduce the economic burden of their educations. In September of 2003 the MOA began offering scholarships (now grants) to the children of farmers and fishermen. In 2024 grants totaling NT\$618.44 million were paid out, benefiting the children of farmers and fishermen 59,788 man-times.



▲ 2024 classes guiding farmers' and fishermen's associations to arrange grants for the educations of children of farmers and fishermen.

(2) The welfare allowance for elderly farmers

To ensure the quality of life of elderly farmers, the government has long been issuing a welfare allowance to farmers aged 65 and over who meet the legal criteria to participate. Starting January 1 of 2024, the MOA raised the allowance to NT\$8,110 per person per month. Total payments in 2024 reached NT\$50.205 billion, benefiting a total of 547,104 elderly farmers.

Also, to facilitate funerals and interments for elderly farmers who have participated in farmers' health insurance (FHI) for a long period of time, the MOA has issued "funeral condolence funds" of NT\$102,000 for farmers aged 65 or older who have participated in FHI for 25 years or more but, for some reason, are unable to apply for the FHI funeral subsidy. In 2024, 1,096 beneficiaries received payments totaling NT\$111.79 million under this policy.

(3) Promotion of the "green care" program in rural areas

The MOA in 2024 guided 123 farmers' associations and eight fishermen's associations to bring together local green elements (including agricultural resources and the natural environment) to operate a total of 131 "green care stations." Each station can offer a maximum of three classes while promoting physical and psychological health services for the elderly. So far, a total of 224 classes have been arranged by green care stations, which have continued to provide diversified instruction, mutual aid, collective dining, and care for the elderly as well as improved green care venues. In 2024 the rural elderly benefited a total of 220,000 man-times. The vision is to assist rural elders with local services to promote healthy aging.



▲ The Jiadong Township Farmers' Association held diverse classes to promote joint learning by young and old.



▲ Green care programs enable the rural elderly to share a sense of accomplishment from exploring and learning new things.



In terms of rural community green care, in 2024 the MOA guided 208 rural communities to provide green care and establish 94 green venues in order to improve the living environment for the elderly; assisted 194 rural communities to offer “green meals,” providing this service over 560,000 man-times; encouraged 196 rural communities to found “green therapy” classes, with more than 650,000 rural elderly attendees; and trained and guided 235 rural green care providers to provide care and companionship to the elderly in rural areas. The aims have been to guide the rural elderly to actively participate once again in their communities and enhance their feelings of belonging and self-worth.



▲ Fuel is added to a fishing vessel at a fishing vessel fuel station.

(4) Rural fuel subsidies

As of 2024 valid certifications for use for a total of 294,467 pieces of agricultural machinery were issued or renewed. During the year 79,000 kiloliters of fuel needed for agricultural machinery was purchased, with an exemption from the 5% business tax saving about NT\$100 million. Meanwhile, subsidies were provided to 5,732 fishing vessels to purchase about 584,000 kiloliters of diesel fuel, with subsidies totaling about NT\$1.622 billion. In addition, the MOA provided fuel subsidies of NT\$97 million for 6,319 fishing vessels with gasoline-powered outboard engines.



▲ This class on the fertilizer purchasing system strengthened the ability of dealers to operate the system.

(5) Stabilization of supply and demand for fertilizer

As a result of factors including the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war, the international cost of fertilizer manufacturing rose sharply. In order to stabilize domestic supply and demand for fertilizers, on January 10, 2022 the MOA began implementing subsidy measures to cover the increased cost of raw materials for chemical fertilizers. The MOA has subsidized 50% of the increases in the cost of these raw materials (based on international fertilizer raw materials prices) in order to minimize the impact of these increases on farmers. As of the end of 2024, we reduced fertilizer costs for farmers by a total of about NT\$4.57 billion.

(6) Subsidies for big and small agricultural machinery

In 2024 the MOA's Agriculture and Food Agency guided farmers to purchase 22,832 pieces of small agricultural machinery including power cultivators and small agricultural transporters, as well as developed 28 types of new agricultural machinery, thereby raising work efficiency and stimulating domestic R&D. We also have subsidized the purchase of 838 big agricultural machines including tractors and combine harvesters, to help mitigate the agricultural labor shortage and assist with emergency harvesting at flood season. There were subsidies for 17 corn planters and harvesters.

Currently Taiwan has over 1,000 vessels engaged in deep-sea fishing operations and 370 deep-sea fishing vessels passed sanitation qualifications to be registered as export-qualified vessels (with installed continuous temperature recorders). From 2015 to the end of 2024, the MOA granted subsidies to 360 vessel operators to install or re-install such recorders. Moreover, in 2024 the MOA subsidized aquaculture operators (fishermen) to purchase 1,181 pieces of eco-friendly, high efficiency, and smart aquaculture machinery, with subsidies totaling NT\$110.98 million, to modernize aquaculture equipment and reduce operating costs in order to move toward higher growth and optimized management.



▲ The introduction of machinery needed for planting and harvesting of potatoes promotes integrated mechanized production of agriproducts.

To enhance the operational safety and efficiency of the forestry sector, in 2024 the MOA subsidized 15 forestry cooperatives and 27 agribusinesses to purchase labor-saving machinery in the five major categories of seedlings for afforestation, bamboo and wood harvesting, the under-forest economy, processing of materials, and circular use of residual materials. Subsidies were provided to purchase a total of 308 forestry machines and, in 10 cases, safety equipment.



- ▲ Continuous temperature recorders monitor the temperature in the holds of fishing vessels to ensure that catch remains fresh.



- ▲ Solar power storage equipment enables rural residents to generate green energy for their own use. It shares the burden of energy use at aquaculture ponds, lowers costs at ponds, and serves as a power reserve.



- ▲ Strong oxidizing agent (liquid) production machinery uses siphoning to penetrate deep into the mud bottoms of aquaculture ponds or allows application directly to fishing gear for disinfection. Strongly oxidized chemical treatment destroys disease pathogens and is eco-friendly.

(7) Strengthening the natural disaster relief system

The MOA and the Central Weather Administration of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications signed a memorandum of understanding to jointly strengthen agricultural weather services and disaster prevention work. Thus far a total of 246 agricultural weather stations have been set up across Taiwan (with 50 new stations added in 2024), as have 418 weather forecasting stations in crop production and aquaculture special zones. We also continued to research disaster prevention science and technology (for example, a method to restore leaves from atemoya trees damaged by typhoons) and produced disaster prevention picture cards for 70 crops for farmers' reference.

In 2024 there were two cold spells and four typhoons in Taiwan. During each disaster, the MOA cooperated with the National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction to establish a systematic disaster response mechanism. We continually provided real-time disaster information, warnings (including their scope), lists of crops most vulnerable to damage, and disaster prevention suggestions. The MOA also produced a record of major agricultural disasters in 2024 that includes meticulous data on each disaster and agricultural losses.

In addition, in response to climate change and the increased frequency of disasters, the MOA developed indicators for drought and complex disasters to strengthen early warning capabilities. We also made agricultural weather videos,

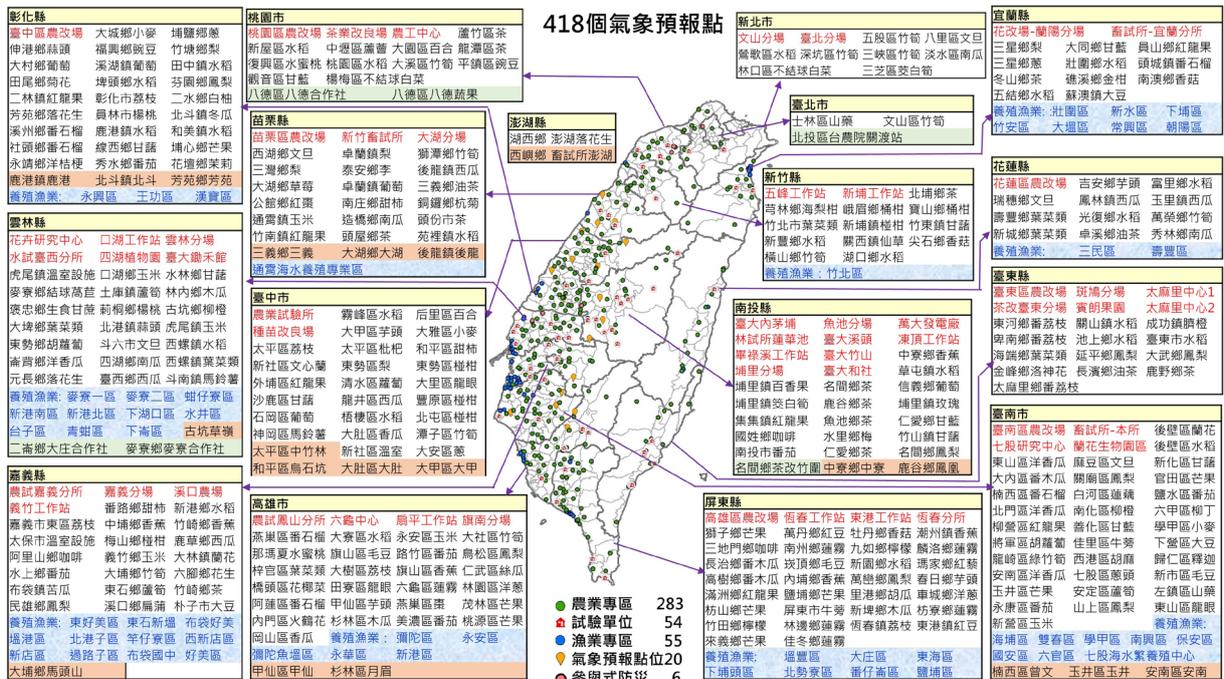


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briefings, and cards which have been broadcast via channels including the MOA's Facebook page, LINE account, social media, the Virtual Museum of Taiwan Agriculture, and the electronic bulletin boards at farmers' and fishermen's associations. These provide farmers and fishermen with data for planning of their routine operations and for reference in making preparations for special weather events.

In 2024 the MOA amended the "Agricultural Natural Disasters Relief Regulations" to (i) allow relief for beekeepers whose bees suffered a decline in food because of a low flowering rate of nectar source plants; (ii) reset the relief amounts for large-scale set net fishing; (iii) add new items from the under-forest economy eligible for relief; (iv) add a provision that delayed disaster losses must be reported within six months; (v) require reassessments of items eligible for relief and relief amounts once per year; (vi) change the time period for handling claims for disaster relief, calculating the period in working days; and (vii) exempt items for which simplified measures can be used in the event of major disaster losses from investigations to confirm whether loss rates in fact reached 20%.

In 2024, the MOA, based on the Relief Regulations, provided cash relief and low-interest loans in response to damage caused by agricultural natural disasters including: "low temperatures in late January," "drought in January and February (delayed effects)," "high temperatures in February," "strong winds on March 19," "hail on March 31," "an earthquake on April 3," "high temperatures in March (delayed effects)," "high temperatures in January (delayed effects)," "drought in February and March (delayed effects)," "strong winds on April 1," "torrential rains in late April," "strong winds on April 28," "low temperatures in late March (delayed effects)," "low temperatures in February (delayed effects)," "low temperatures in March (delayed effects)," "a weather front in March and April (delayed effects)," "torrential rains in late May," "torrential rains in early June," "high temperatures from January to March (delayed effects)," "hail on June 26," "excessive rain in mid-June (delayed effects)," "Typhoon Gaemi," "strong winds on July 6," "torrential rains in late September," "Typhoon Krathon," "Typhoon Kong-rey," and "strong winds on October 23." The MOA arranged NT\$6.781 billion in cash relief for 170,657 households and low-interest loans totaling NT\$1.034 billion for 939 households.



▲ There are 418 weather forecasting service stations located in crop production and aquaculture special zones.

甘藷 寒害 災前預防及復育

致災條件

- 氣溫低於10°C可能發生寒害

生育時期

- 全生育期間皆有可能遭遇寒害

災前預防

- 田間保持適當水分
- 可設置防風設施
- 避免11月以後種植

災後復育-種植3個月以上

- 僅葉片受損，不影響塊根產量
- 可酌施氮肥促使新葉重新生長

災後復育-種植未達3個月

- 災損<20%，多施鉀肥，恢復生長
- 災損>20%，全面翻除或重新補植

防風設施



僅葉片受損



生育初期受害嚴重



防 風設施

說明：減少寒害損傷程度

氮 肥

說明：種植三個月以上，受寒害影響較輕微，對塊根產量影響不大，酌施氮肥可利於新葉生長。

補 植、多施鉀肥

說明：甘藷生育初期受寒害影響嚴重，視災損情況補植、中耕培土、酌施氮、鉀肥。

▲ An information picture card on preventing cold weather damage to sweet potatoes.

果樹 颱風 災前預防

固



立支架並固定枝條

防



易受風害需硬化

壓



綁索避免吹走

固



好網室設施

通



排水溝及檢修

網



防風及支架補強

▲ An information picture card on preventing typhoon damage to fruit trees.



▲ The record of major agricultural disasters in 2024.



(8) Fishermen's and fishing boat relief

The MOA pays out relief funds for the families of fishermen who are killed, missing, or disabled during at-sea operations or coastal fishing. In 2024 funds totaling NT\$29,212,571 were paid out in 22 cases. To further help out the families of fishermen who have suffered accidents, on October 16, 2024 the MOA announced the "Directions on Issuing Solatium for the Deceased or Missing Crew During Offshore Operations," raising the amount of condolence funds for nationals working on Taiwanese fishing boats killed or missing at sea from NT\$100,000 to NT\$200,000. We also amended the "Regulations of Covering Insurance and Assistance for Fishermen Operating at Sea" so that, starting from November 30, 2024 the amount of relief was raised from NT\$1.5 million to NT\$2 million.

照顧海上的漁民

海上作業慰問金新制上路 (2024.10.16)
擴大範圍並提高至20萬元!



漁民在海上作業發生失蹤或死亡時，適時發給慰問金，由10萬元調高至20萬元。
 ▲ 國籍漁民家屬向漁會申請 ▲ 外籍船員家屬透過仲介或駐台機構申請 [國語]

▲ This picture card introduces the new condolence payment system under the "Directions on Issuing Solatium for the Deceased or Missing Crew During Offshore Operations."

漁民海上作業保險及救助辦法 修訂上路!

調高救助金額，保障我國籍漁民及其家屬權益
救助金最高由新臺幣150萬提高至200萬元



若我國籍漁民於海上作業或沿岸採捕發生死亡事件，請家屬透過當地漁會向漁業署提出救助金申請。 [國語]

▲ This picture card introduces the increased amounts of relief available under amendments to the "Regulations of Covering Insurance and Assistance for Fishermen Operating at Sea."



(9) Strengthening the effectiveness of rural organizations

On May 9, 2024 the MOA amended Article 24 of the “Enforcement Rules of the Farmers Association Act” to clarify that punishment of members under the Act means expulsion from the association. On July 17 we amended Article 11 of the “Regulations Governing Election and Recall of the Farmers Association” to specify the number of times and reading time allowed to candidates for farming task forces to review voter rolls in their electoral district. On August 22 the MOA amended Articles 2 and 3 and added Article 2-1 to the “Regulations of Qualification for Engaging in Agriculture of the Directors and Supervisors of Farmers’ Associations” to provide methods for identification and calculation of agricultural land of candidates for director or supervisor.

On March 20, 2024 the MOA amended Article 22 of the “Enforcement Rules on Act of the Fishermen’s Association” to clarify that punishment of members under the Act means expulsion from the association. On July 29 we amended Article 11 of the “Regulations Governing Election and Recall of the Fishermen’s Association” to specify the number of times and reading time allowed to candidates to review voter rolls in their electoral district. On August 8 the MOA amended Article 27 of the “Regulations on Personnel Management of Fishermen’s Associations” to encourage staff at fishermen’s associations to strengthen coordination with projects approved by the MOA by enabling them to collect government subsidies and allowances.

The MOA also (i) completed the selection procedures for general managers of seven farmers’ associations (FAs) whose posts were vacated mid-term; (ii) held two training sessions for public servants doing FA guidance in governments at various levels; (iii) held eight training sessions for employees of FAs; and (iv) subsidized 39 FAs in implementing extension and education facilities projects, 30 FAs with their economic enterprise plans, and eight FAs with their post-earthquake reconstruction plans.

With elections for farmers’ and fishermen’s associations scheduled for 2025, on August 13, 2024 the MOA announced that elections for member representatives as well as for chiefs and deputy chiefs of farming task forces of base-level farmers’ associations would take place on February 15, 2025, while also announcing the 2025 work plan for farmers’ association elections at various levels. On November 26, 2024 we announced that voting for fishermen’s

associations’ fishermen task force chairmen and vice-chairmen as well as member representatives would take place on March 22, 2025, while also announcing the 2025 work plan for fishermen’s association elections at various levels.

6. Refinement of Agricultural Financial Services

(1) Continued growth at credit departments

Following the adoption of a number of measures to improve management at the credit departments of farmers’ and fishermen’s associations (F/FAs), by the end of 2024 total deposits reached NT\$2.305 trillion, with outstanding loans of NT\$1.538 trillion and a net profit before tax of NT\$7.6 billion. The non-performing loan ratio was 0.25%. To strengthen supervision, inspection visits were conducted to 71 F/FAs in 2024 as the MOA continued to oversee operations at their credit departments.

(2) Proactive promotion of “Policy Oriented Special Agricultural Loans”

To provide farmers and fishermen with needed capital, coordinate with policies including the training of young agricultural manpower and New Agriculture, and meet practical needs, the MOA continued to implement “Policy-Oriented Special Agricultural Loans.” In 2024, we provided NT\$28.107 billion in such loans to 28,059 farmers and fishermen. In the future we will coordinate with agricultural policy goals and adjust the types and content of these loans in due course.

(3) Promotion of convenient financial services

The MOA continued to promote a program for preferential loans by agricultural financial institutions for young people to purchase houses. As of the end of 2024 help was provided to 10,039 households that did not already own homes to buy them, with loans totaling NT\$67.4 billion.

Meanwhile, to enhance the quality and competitiveness of services at farmers’ and fishermen’s associations (F/FAs), the Agricultural Bank of Taiwan (ABT) integrated services and channels at their credit departments so that, at present, they provide payment collection services covering 1,481 items. In 2024 they

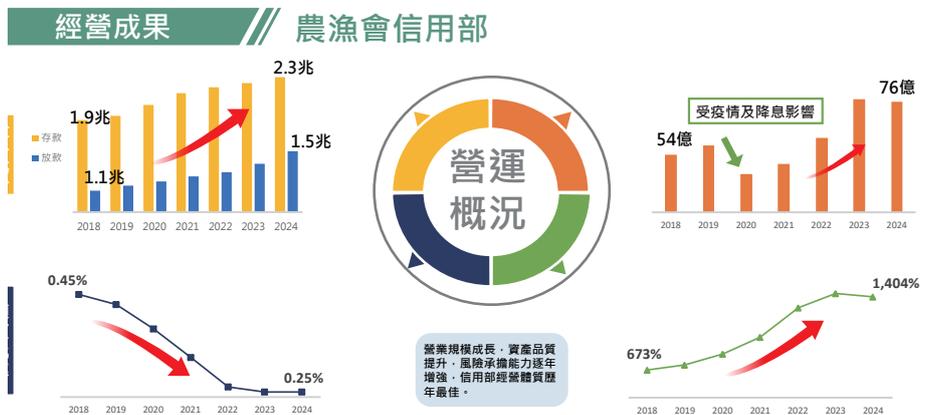
collected 18.59 million payments totaling NT\$55.6 billion. Moreover, to satisfy demand from customers for wealth management services, as of the end of 2024 the ABT authorized 53 F/FAs to offer "gold passbook services." In addition, in order to increase the use of mobile payments by farmers and fishermen, by the end of 2024 the MOA approved the offering of such services by 298 F/FAs.

(4) Implementing measures to prevent financial fraud

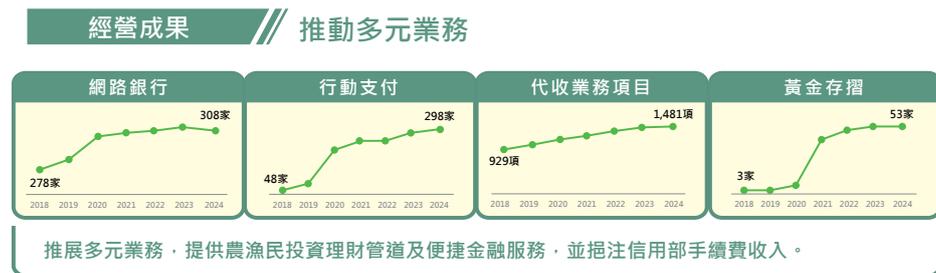
To comprehensively deter financial fraud and protect the security of the assets of farmers and fishermen, the Agricultural Finance Awards added a new category for outstanding achievements in preventing fraud in order to recognize farmers' and fishermen's associations (F/FAs) who excel in this area. Fraud prevention effectiveness was raised by measures including a fraud prevention online reporting platform run jointly by financial institutions and the police as well as reports in the media about suspected cases of money laundering. In addition, fraud prevention was added to the items covered by inspection visits. In 2024 a total of 117 F/FA credit departments prevented 225 fraud cases totaling NT\$182.13 million.



▲ Achievements in the implementation of "Policy-Oriented Special Agricultural Loans."



▲ Achievements in the operations of credit departments at farmers' and fishermen's associations.



▲ Achievements in the promotion of diversified rural financial services.

03



Improving Agricultural Infrastructure





Improving Agricultural Infrastructure

1. Agricultural and Farmland Resources Inventory and Value-Added Uses of the Data

The Aerial Survey and Remote Sensing Branch (ASRSB) of the MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency imported two new aircraft under a 2020-2029 national program to update aerial survey and remote sensing airplanes. In 2024 the ASRSB implemented 13 aerial photography projects proposed by the MOA, its subordinate agencies, and other ministries, undertaking a total of 174 flights. The projects included surveys of: (i) management and resources in state-owned and private forest; (ii) national forest area prone to large-scale landslides; (iii) land area cultivated with rice in the first and second crops seasons of the year; (iv) winter crops; (v) disaster prevention for large scale debris flow on slopeland and unstable sediments; (vi) landslide areas in the watersheds of the Yusui River and Lakusi River in Taoyuan District, Kaohsiung City, as well as changes in the riverbeds; (vi) Taoyuan City paddy rice production; (vii) total crop production in Miaoli County; (viii) soil conditions near the reservoirs in Miaoli County and its irrigation zones; (ix) the geology of landslides in central and southern Taiwan; and (x) management of and changes in land use in the jurisdiction of the Taipei Water Management Office. The ASRSB also did LiDAR scanning of the Penghu region and Danongdafu Forest Park in Hualien County. Moreover, in coordination with the needs of national disaster response and relief, the ASRSB conducted emergency aerial survey missions following the April 3, 2024 Hualien earthquake and Typhoon Gaemi. Altogether the ASRSB took 10,246 images at a scale of 1:5,000 covering about 71,700 square kilometers (equivalent to two Taiwans in size), while doing LiDAR scanning on 990,000 hectares. These achievements have generated significant benefits for our country's agricultural policy and geographical data collection.

In order to keep abreast of the current status of farmland utilization, aerial and remote sensing imagery was used to assist in the 2024 updating of the "National Agricultural and Farmland Resources Survey." The updated results have been integrated into the "Online Map of the National Agricultural and Farmland Resources Survey" (<http://map.moa.gov.tw/>). The updated results show about 2,790,288 hectares (ha) of land legally defined as land for agricultural use, of which flatland accounted for 619,931 ha (22.22%) and slopeland for about 2,170,357 ha (77.78%). There were 695,940 total ha available for food production. Of land legally defined as being for agricultural use, 577,849 ha were being used for crop production, 43,715 for aquaculture ponds, 10,200 for animal husbandry, and about 1,791,572 for forestry. In addition, with respect to land for agricultural use that was being used for non-agricultural purposes, flatland accounted for 53,024 ha while slopeland accounted for 74,168 ha.

The agricultural land survey has already become an important foundation for the promotion of various measures by the MOA. These include the delineation of important agricultural development zones under Integrated Planning for Farmland Utilization, the expansion of irrigation services, design of payment schemes for ecosystem services, reviews of qualifications for farmers' health insurance, and refinement of farmland management. The data helps enhance the precision of agricultural governance, direct support resources toward high-quality agricultural production areas, and preserve the agricultural production environment.

Meanwhile, the MOA continued to use satellite imagery, aerial photography, and industrial data to inventory the aquaculture industry. We have guided the establishment of 58 aquaculture production zones (covering an area of about 17,201 ha) and four fish pond concentration zones (covering about 345 ha). Under the preconditions of not expanding the land area devoted to aquaculture and taking into account both conservation of soil and water resources and food security, we have promoted eco-friendly aquaculture environments and responsible aquaculture while improving the basic environment of production zones.



▲ On July 18, 2024 aerial photographs were taken over the area affected by the April 3 Hualien earthquake.



▲ A map of the distribution of all aquaculture production zones and fish pond concentration zones.



▲ An aerial photography staffer wipes the glass in a camera bay of an aircraft at Kaohsiung International Airport (July 5, 2024).

2. Maintaining the Multiple Values of Agriculture, Including Production, Environmental, and Social Values

(1) Provision of the “Agricultural Environment Basic Payment”

Under the Agricultural Environment Basic Payment policy, priority is given to supporting users of arable and pastoral lands within special agricultural zones and general agricultural zones in non-urban areas and to maintaining staple crop production. The incentive is NT\$5,000 per hectare per crop season. Restrictions based on base-year qualifications do not apply. We hope to encourage “agricultural uses for arable land,” while at the same time this policy will be helpful to the future designation of “agricultural development zones” in the National Spatial Plan. In 2024 the Agricultural Environment Basic Payment was given out for 348,000 hectares of land.



▲ The MOA encourages “agricultural uses for arable land.” The photo shows buckwheat fields.



▲ The MOA encourages “agricultural uses for arable land.” The photo shows pineapple groves.

(2) Transformation of the rice system and industrial upgrading

To accelerate adjustment of the paddy rice industrial structure and also ensure sustainability of the agricultural cultivation environment, in 2021 the MOA began to promote the “select three crop seasons out of four for growing paddy rice” policy. On farmland meeting the criteria for two growing seasons in the base year, we guided farmers starting in the second crop season of 2022 to ensure that the cultivation of their land in the previous three crop seasons included at least one season of cultivating crops other than paddy rice or adopting environmental maintenance measures. Only then were they allowed to sell the rice grown in the current growing season for public rice stocks or collect the rice subsidy for Big Professional Farmers.

The MOA combined this measure with incentives for alternate (contract) crops or environmental maintenance under the “Green Environmental Payment Program,” to encourage farmers to switch from paddy rice to other crops that can be used for import substitution, export, or as local specialty products or to undertake production environment maintenance. The aims of these measures are to encourage a rational system of rotation between wet and dry crops, increase the efficiency of use of water resources, raise soil fertility, reduce pesticide use, reduce the area of land cultivated with paddy rice, and improve the domestic self-sufficiency rate for miscellaneous staple crops, in order to ameliorate the problem of rice overproduction and stabilize supply-demand balance and prices of rice in the market while also ensuring domestic food security. Following the implementation of the “select three crop



seasons out of four for growing paddy rice” policy, in 2023 and 2024 the area cultivated with paddy rice fell by about 30,000 to 40,000 hectares (ha) compared to previous years. In 2024 in particular, this figure fell to 240,357 ha, effectively ameliorating overproduction of rice. In 2024 during harvest time the price for wet rice exceeded NT\$1,000 per 100 Taiwanese catties (60 kilograms), with the average price rising to NT\$1,189 during the second crop season, the highest ever. The policy successfully stabilized rice prices in the market and increased farmers’ incomes.



▲ This land has been switched over from paddy rice to non-GMO soybeans.



▲ The MOA has guided farmers to switch over to miscellaneous staple crops. The photo shows a dryland sweet potato demonstration area.

(3) Encouraging the switch to alternative crops or production environment maintenance

In 2022 the MOA’s Agriculture and Food Agency initiated the four-year “Green Environmental Payment Program.” This encourages farmers to cultivate alternative (contract) crops that can be used for import substitution, export, or as local specialty products. Or, the same farmland can be used for production environment maintenance measures for one crop season each year. In combination with measures to promote the transition to dryland crops in the special zone along the High Speed Rail line in Yunlin County, the program aims to build a rational system of rotation between wet and dry crops, increase the efficiency of use of water resources, and balance supply and demand for food. Moreover, since June of 2022 we have expanded the pool of farmland eligible for incentives for cultivating animal-feed corn, pasture, and sorghum on arable and pastoral lands within special agricultural zones and general agricultural zones in non-urban areas. Restrictions based on the base year

do not apply. The MOA has thereby upgraded domestic supply capacity for animal feed and miscellaneous staple crops.

In 2024 a total of 149,000 hectares (ha) of land were switched over to alternative (contract) cultivation of import substitution crops, products with export potential, or local specialty crops. Another 81,000 ha were used for production environment maintenance measures including (i) growing green manure or scenic crops or (ii) plowing fields under. Of the land used for alternative (contract) production, in 2024 about 21,000 ha of land were planted with flint corn, about 11,000 ha were planted with fodder corn, over 6,800 ha were used for pasture land, and another 2,800 ha were planted with sorghum. These were significant increases in land area used for these crops compared to the time before the launch of the policy. Besides surpassing the target goal of 30,000 total ha for animal-feed corn, these measures increased the domestic cultivation of pasture grass (alleviating dependence on imported fodder for domestic herbivores), stabilized the supply of sorghum raw material, strengthened quality and safety, and reduced carbon footprints.

In addition, measures to switch over to dryland crops in the special zone along the High Speed Rail (HSR) line in Yunlin County are aimed at mitigating the degree of land subsidence there. These measures are focused on land experiencing subsidence within 1.5 kilometers on either side of the HSR tracks. In combination with water-saving incentives from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, the MOA has guided farmers to do low-water-usage agricultural production in the first crop season each year and adjust relevant production measures. More than 2,000 hectares are participating in this program. Moreover, by coordinating it with the promotion of dryland miscellaneous staple crop demonstration areas, we have built stable production-and-marketing chains and assisted industrial transformation.



▲ Under MOA guidance, much land has been switched over to import substitution crops. The photo shows soybean fields.



▲ A dryland miscellaneous staple crop demonstration venue in the special zone along the High Speed Rail line in Yunlin County.

(4) Strengthening of water drawing and storage facilities

● The infrastructure program to enhance sustainability and resilience of agricultural water resources

In response to the impact of climate change and extreme weather events and to deal with the great disparity between rainfall in rainy and dry seasons, the MOA has added new storage and distribution facilities for agricultural water resources and systematically built resilient regional water conservancy facilities. Under the “Special Act for Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience and Public Sharing of Economic Achievement in the Post-pandemic Era,” the MOA’s Irrigation Agency proposed the “infrastructure program to enhance sustainability and resilience of agricultural water resources,” running from 2023 to 2025. The budget for this program is NT\$14.169 billion, with the main focus of the work being the abovementioned storage and distribution facilities and resilient regional facilities as well as projects to strengthen water transport efficiency.

As of the end of 2024, a total of 766 multi-year projects were approved under this program with the building of 51 new or improved facilities. The projects are systematically improving the functioning of 95 kilometers of water channels, accelerating the upgrading of the effectiveness of farmland irrigation and drainage facilities, reducing losses of water from leaks in irrigation channels, and enhancing the resilient flood diversion capabilities of irrigation and drainage channels, thereby providing farmers with a high-quality agricultural operational environment.

● The infrastructure project to link the Zhuoshui River main channel and the Chianan irrigation network’s northern main channel

In recent years, given the impact of climate change, Taiwan has faced more frequent extreme weather events, and in particular a rise in droughts,

which pose a major challenge to the stability of water supply. To deal with this situation, the MOA has extensively used the water resources from the high-water season of the Zhuoshui River and reduced the flow of precious water resources into the sea. The MOA’s Irrigation Agency has launched an infrastructure project to link the Zhuoshui River main water channel (Zhuo Main Canal) and the Chianan irrigation network’s northern main water channel (North Main Canal). The main tasks include “infrastructure project for distribution and storage on Zhuo Main Canal,” “improvement project for the North Main Canal,” and “Beigang River aqueduct project.”

Of these, the Beigang River aqueduct project will enhance capabilities to distribute water resources in central and southern Taiwan. If there is not enough stored water in the Zengwen and Wushantou reservoirs, when there is an excess of water during the high-water season on the Zhuoshui River, about 2,340 hectares of land in the Dongshih Branch Canal irrigation area (part of the North Main Canal system) can be provided with irrigation water from the Zhuoshui River via the Zhuo Main Canal and the aqueduct. On the other hand, when there is an excess of stored water at the Zengwen and Wushantou reservoirs, and there are concerns about water shortages in the Yunlin area, water can be transported from the reservoirs to the Beigang Branch Canal of the Zhuo Main Canal irrigation network via the North Main Canal and the aqueduct to irrigate about 6,750 hectares of farmland. The project will ensure the feasibility of distributing water from south to north (and vice versa) and stabilize water supply.

Meanwhile, the projects for the Zhuo Main Canal and North Main Canal can reduce leakage from these facilities, which have been in service for a long time and were aging and cracking. Also, the hinterland created by the relocation of the Zhuo Main Canal will be used for a series of belt-shaped storage ponds, where excess nighttime irrigation water from the Zhuoshui River is stored.

The project to link the Zhuo and North Main Canals is expected to be completed by the end of 2025. It will reduce losses of irrigation water leaked in transport by five million metric tons, add storage capacity of 11 million metric tons, enhance distribution capabilities for regional water resources, increase the dependability and efficiency of farmland irrigation, and enhance the use of water resources. The systematic construction of resilient regional farmland water conservancy facilities will facilitate stability in the supply of agriproducts and increase farmers’ incomes.



3. Strengthening Promotion of the Agricultural Human Resources Platform, Assisting in Labor Allocation and Agricultural Mechanization

(1) Integrating training resources and venues for young farmers

- Applying guidance resources at the workplace side: The MOA has developed systematic agricultural training courses, and, in combination with the expertise of the MOA's District Agricultural Research and Extension Stations, organized 120 classes of the Farmers' Academy, with 22 classes giving priority to women and indigenous farmers, 33 mobile classes for indigenous people, and ten classes on e-commerce, training people a total of 4,345 man-times. We also continued to promote guidance of the "Top 100 Young Farmers," helping a total of 782 people in seven groups as of the end of 2024. In addition, we have linked up 217 young farmers' branch associations with 8,730 participants to exchange information, set up "training bases," and encouraged collaboration among young farmers.
- Strengthening training at the school side: In 2024 the MOA continued to (i) cooperate with agricultural schools, providing visits and

technical consultations at 207 farm and fisheries venues; (ii) implement the program to incentivize high school students to take up agriculture as a profession, with 623 people applying for agricultural career exploration in the 2023 academic year; and (iii) promote the government-funded scholarship program in agriculture, from which 840 people have already graduated while 181 people were recruited into seven government-funded classes at five schools for the 2024 academic year.

- Provision of "agricultural operational preparatory funds" and assistance to new farmers to stabilize operations: The MOA continued to promote the program for agricultural operational preparatory funds. These are available to new farmers who have graduated from departments of agriculture or have been through professional agricultural training. These farmers can receive a maximum of NT\$360,000 or NT\$720,000 in preparatory funds over the first two years, and a subsidy of NT\$120,000 in the third year. As of 2024 a total of 806 people benefitted from this program.
- Expansion of the "Loan for Young and Middle-Aged Adults Working in Agriculture": The MOA originally began providing young farmers with five-year interest-free loans up to a maximum of NT\$5 million, and later included middle-aged farmers (aged 45 to 55) in the program. In 2024 we again reduced the interest rate by 0.25%, and we provided total operating capital of NT\$5.098 billion to 2,967 young farmers and NT\$440.56 million to 367 middle-aged farmers.



▲ The National Young Farmers' Conference: In coordination with the young farmers' manpower policy, the MOA offers "Policy-Oriented Special Agricultural Loans" to give farmers access to needed capital.

(2) Use of diversified agricultural labor to deal with the rural labor shortage

With “increasing the supply of manpower” and “reducing the demand for manpower” as the main strategies, the MOA has adopted multiple measures to diversify sources of labor. As for the former strategy, at present there are 14 cities and counties considered to be “labor shortage focal points” that have established agricultural manpower teams, using workers from Taiwan to assist with agricultural work. In 2024 a total of 46 teams (including 12 mechanized cultivation teams) with 1,577 workers worked a total of over 270,000 man-days, providing services to 5,098 farms.

In terms of the use of foreign manpower, the MOA had previously permitted the hiring of foreign labor to undertake work under the “Outreach Agricultural Services Program” (OASP) and in animal husbandry, farming, and aquaculture, supporting domestic labor in a supplementary role. On September 13, 2024 the “transnational labor policy consultative committee” of the Ministry of Labor agreed to increase the quota for migrant workers in agriculture and relax their policies. The quota was raised to 20,000 workers, and two new categories were added—bean sprouts and turf (sod)—while the thresholds for applications for migrant workers in the edible mushroom and paddy rice seedling industries were adjusted, with agricultural and food agencies approved to fix the allocation proportions. As of the end of 2024, the MOA approved hiring of 13,089 foreign workers in 8,176 cases in designated farming, forestry, animal husbandry, and aquaculture industries and 258 cases under the OASP to work in various agricultural areas.

In addition, the MOA coordinated with a program under the “New Southbound Policy” for young foreign farmers to come to Taiwan to do internships. This program has arranged for selected young farmers, graduates of agricultural schools, and persons interested in careers in agriculture from Indonesia and the Philippines to come to Taiwan to undergo technical training at host farms in the farming, animal husbandry, and aquaculture industries. Besides learning about Taiwan’s rural culture and improving their technical knowledge, these interns can also help alleviate the agricultural labor shortage in Taiwan. After returning home, most interns continue to work in agriculture, with local agricultural agencies providing relevant subsidies. However, some are hired by Taiwanese businesses to help in the international development of Taiwanese agriculture. As of the end of 2024, a total of 100 young foreign farmers (in two groups) came from the Philippines and 94 (also in two groups) from Indonesia to assist with agricultural work at 55 host farms across Taiwan.

In terms of “reducing demand for manpower,” the MOA promoted outsourced mechanized cultivation services and agricultural services in order to adjust production-and-marketing operating procedures

and introduce labor-saving agricultural machinery and equipment. We promoted human-machine collaboration for outsourced cultivation and thereby reduced demand for manpower. In 2024 the MOA organized 12 outsourced mechanized cultivation teams, covering numerous industries including miscellaneous staple crops, flowers, vegetables, tea, flax, carrots, fruit trees, onions, pasture grass, unmanned aerial vehicle pesticide spraying, waste bamboo and wood clearing and chipping, and circular agriculture. Outsourced cultivation services were provided on over 2,800 hectares during the year.

In order to strengthen mechanized services for various crops and increase the usage rate of existing agricultural machinery, the MOA established the “mechanical cultivation services system.” The system provides search functions for information on mechanized cultivation service providers across Taiwan, with data on 7,693 agricultural machines including tractors. Farmers can easily navigate the system using mobile phones or computers, accessing information on nearby providers of mechanized cultivation services, creating a win-win cooperative cultivation model. This helps address the labor shortage in rural areas.

The MOA also integrates and responds to requests for new types and upgraded existing types of agricultural machinery from farmers and agricultural machinery businesses. In 2024 development was focused on 150 agricultural machines for 39 crops. Since 2015 we have produced 78 types of agricultural machines, with 77 types (including garlic harvesters, taro planters, dried longan seed removers, and wearable labor-saving assistive devices) transferred to businesses for production.

According to a 2024 survey of agricultural labor commissioned by the MOA, agricultural households suffering a labor shortage accounted for 5.8% of total agricultural households. This was a reduction of 4.67% compared to the 2017 figure of 10.47%, showing that policies to alleviate the rural labor shortage have been effective.



▲ Domestic professional agricultural manpower has been trained to help ameliorate the rural labor shortage.



▲ Domestic manpower teams and foreign labor hired under the “Outreach Agricultural Services Program” help out with all kinds of agricultural tasks.



▲ Young foreign interns are assigned to host farms for learning and work.



▲ Integrated mechanized operations.

(3) Enhancing participation by women in agricultural operations

To encourage rural women to learn about agricultural technology, enhance their self-worth, and promote rural economic development, the MOA has been training women agricultural human resources in order to close the gender gap in the agricultural sector. We have continued to offer Farmers’ Academy special classes that give priority to women (including new immigrants) to strengthen rural women’s access to training. In 2024 the Farmers’ Academy offered ten such classes, training 223 students.

In order to increase opportunities for women to participate in international forums on agricultural issues, Taiwan has encouraged women to participate in activities organized by agricultural organizations supported by Taiwan including the World Vegetable Center, the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region, and the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training (ICLPST). In fact, the ICLPST incorporated a course on “farmers’ associations and women’s participation” in its international training course on “Agricultural Development and Policy.” The MOA has also promoted “Tian Mama’s cuisine units” to guide rural women to earn income from selling local foods, creating more gender-diverse employment opportunities. As of the end of December of 2024, there were a total of 104 such units, providing 719 jobs, of which 509 were held by women and 210 by men, with revenues for the year of NT\$717 million.



▲ “Tian Mama’s cuisine units” build on local culinary culture, with diversified operations creating gender-diverse job opportunities.

4. Utilizing Farmland Irrigation for Production, Ecological, and Daily Life Functions

- Strengthening occupational skills of manpower at irrigation management organizations in exercising public authority

The MOA holds a selection process for new farmland water conservancy personnel every two years. In 2024 we amended qualifications to take the exam, adding licenses related to electromechanics, to broaden the pool of candidates. During the year the MOA recruited 189 new personnel for these duties as it continued moving in the direction of a more professional organization.

In 2024, the Irrigation Agency of the MOA conducted professional training under the “Implementation Plan for the Issuance of Investigator IDs Pursuant to the Irrigation Act.” This program aimed to enhance the exercise of public authority conferred upon farmland water conservancy personnel by the Irrigation Act. This initiative ensures that these personnel, while adhering to the prescribed statutory procedures, can properly address violations—including acts that obstruct the construction, maintenance, or management of irrigation facilities or otherwise impair farmland irrigation—and duly execute administrative penalty proceedings in accordance with the Act. The training included an overview of the “Penalty Provisions” in the Act, the process for auditing irrigation water quality, the main points to be included in survey reports, and the procedure for administrative punishments under the Act.

- Expansion of irrigation services

In order to meet the demand for irrigation water from farmers outside of irrigation areas, the MOA has promoted a policy of expanding irrigation services. Based on the long-term vision of “retaining water to irrigate the land,” we have pursued four main policies to provide such farmers with irrigation water: “storing water during periods

of abundance, conserving it during dry spells,” “importing and distributing water widely,” “smart irrigation,” and “sustainability for shared prosperity.” In 2024, there were 46 sites across Taiwan benefitting from the expansion of irrigation services.

● Water resources allocation and use: Sediment removal and safety management of agricultural reservoirs

There are a total of 95 reservoirs in Taiwan, of which 11 are agricultural reservoirs, including Dapu, Jiantan, Mingde, Toushe, Neipuzi, Baihe, Deyuanpi, Wushantou, Yanshui, Hutoupi, and Longluan Lake. Of these, the Mingde, Baihe, and Wushantou reservoirs serve multiple purposes, including public water supply. The remaining eight reservoirs are mainly used for agricultural irrigation.

In recent years, annual desilting has been implemented at the agricultural reservoirs of Mingde, Baihe, and Wushantou, though desilting was temporarily suspended at Mingde Reservoir in 2022 and at Wushantou Reservoir in 2023 due to hydrological conditions. Between 2019 and 2024, a total of 5.67 million cubic meters of sediment was removed from the three reservoirs, effectively maintaining their storage capacity.

● Greenways along irrigation channels

The MOA continued to optimize the greenway next to the main irrigation channels of the Chianan irrigation network. In 2024 the constructed green corridors reached 11.6 kilometers, with the corridors serving as buffers in front of the irrigation channels protecting precious agricultural water resources. Greenways also serve as carbon sinks, and in conformity with the national net-zero emissions policy, we linked up with the power of enterprises to jointly ensure sustainable development of agricultural water conservancy facilities. This work included promotion of special sustainable agriculture ESG plans along the Guantian section of the Chianan main channel in Tainan City. The MOA mediated corporate participation at three sustainable agriculture ESG venues for adoption of trees along the irrigation channel. Moreover, on March 6 and September 5, 2024 we collaborated with Chimei Corporation to hold two tree-planting activities along the Chianan main channel, with about 90 new corporate employees planting trees there.



▲ Training for auditing of irrigation water quality under the “Irrigation Act.”



▲ Following the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Intent held on March 26, 2024, irrigation services were formally expanded in the Wuhé area of Hualien County.



▲ A supervisor oversees the 2024 selection process for new farmland water conservancy personnel in irrigation management organizations.



▲ In cooperation with Chimei Corporation, on March 6, 2024 the MOA held a tree-planting activity in a greenway along a Chianan main irrigation channel.

5. Preventive Measures Against Major Animal and Plant Diseases and Pests

(1) Eradication of classical swine fever (CSF)

The MOA has been implementing a three-phase plan to eradicate CSF (hog cholera). Before 2024, the second and third phases were implemented in sequence to steadily promote the prevention and control of CSF. In January of 2023, during stage one of the second phase, partial suspension of CSF vaccinations was begun, followed by stage two with comprehensive cessation of vaccines on July 1, 2023. In 2024, we worked with five livestock health centers to expand CSF testing capabilities and continued to comprehensively



monitor pig farms, dead pigs at rendering facilities, breeding pigs culled by slaughterhouses, wild pigs, abandoned pig corpses, and pig corpses washed up by the sea. The surveillance results showed that all antibodies for CSF had disappeared from pig farms and meat pigs on the market. Also, cases of unusual numbers of pig corpses at rendering facilities from specific farms showed no cases of CSF or traces of virus activity when traced back to the farms of origin. In conclusion, this means that Taiwan met the criteria of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) to be named a country with CSF-free status. Therefore, we applied to WOAH for certification on August 23, 2024, and we hope to be recognized by WOAH as a country with CSF-free status in 2025.



▲ A meeting on the implementation and coordination of classical swine fever eradication and major swine disease control and quarantine operations.



▲ Taiwan has successfully prevented the incursion of three major swine diseases (African swine fever, classical swine fever [CSF], and foot and mouth disease). One year after the cessation of CSF vaccinations, no cases were reported. Taiwan therefore submitted an application to the World Organisation for Animal Health for recognition as a “country free from CSF.”

(2) Continued efforts to prevent African swine fever (ASF)

Following reports of the first case of ASF out of mainland China in August of 2018, the Executive Yuan formed the “Central Emergency Operation Center for African Swine Fever” and implemented strict border controls, using X-rays to do inspections of carry-on and checked baggage of travelers from countries or areas with high risk of ASF and doing everything in our power to prevent the disease from entering Taiwan. With respect to countries with newly reported cases of ASF,

we immediately put them on the list of high-risk countries for ASF and implemented strengthened control measures to proactively protect Taiwan’s pig-raising industry.

By the end of 2024, there were outbreaks of ASF in 19 Asian countries. Analysis of inspections of illegally imported meat discovered by border checks in recent years shows that ASF is still a serious problem in Asia, and that there is the risk of the spread of recombinant ASF. In terms of disease inspection and quarantine measures, at present tests of domestic pigs—including dead pigs washed up by the sea, abandoned pig corpses, sick pigs culled by rendering facilities, and hunted wild pigs—have yet to come up positive for ASF. On October 31, 2024, Taiwan’s self-declaration as a “country free of ASF” was recognized and published by the WOAH.



▲ On June 4, 2024 Premier Cho Jung-tai inspected the Taipei Mail Processing Center.

(3) Upgrading monitoring of harmful organisms and diagnostic technology

In response to climate change, the MOA established the Plant Epidemics Information Center to monitor and analyze plant pests and diseases. By the end of 2024, dashboards for 20 pests and diseases—including the fall armyworm, oriental fruit fly, and melon fly—were completed. In addition, in 2024 four early warning models for rice blast were updated and optimized, and a new early warning map for brown planthopper migration was introduced. The crop layer database for 44 crop types was also continuously updated. Meanwhile, automatic monitoring modules for noctuid moths and fruit flies were both optimized and expanded. A total of 20 automated monitoring traps were deployed to enhance overall decision-making effectiveness. Furthermore, in response to emerging plant diseases, diagnostic and identification technologies were developed for angular leaf spot of strawberry, melon necrotic spot virus, and associated fungal vectors.

In recent years, MOA monitoring has revealed a declining resistance trend in certain rice blast-resistant varieties (such as “Tainung No. 84,” “Tainung No. 81,”



and “Tainan No. 20”) against specific strains of the rice blast fungus. Regarding anthracnose-twister of green onion observed during the summer and autumn seasons, field trials conducted in 2024 demonstrated that the application of chlorothalonil, copper oxychloride, bifenthrin, and cypermethrin significantly reduced disease incidence.

(4) Strengthened slaughterhouse hygiene and safety inspections and certification

To ensure the safety and hygiene of domestic meat, in 2024 slaughterhouse inspectors under the supervision of the MOA conducted inspections at 177 slaughterhouses nationwide (including 56 livestock slaughterhouses, 120 poultry slaughterhouses, and one slaughterhouse handling both). Inspections were made of a total of more than 7.51 million head of livestock and 412.92 million poultry. At the same time, we supervised local governments in investigating and closing down illegal slaughtering operations, including interdiction of such operations and unannounced audits across the country prior to major holidays (Lunar New Year, Dragon Boat Festival, and Mid-Autumn Festival). In 2024, a total of 1,742 investigations were conducted in which 35 illegal slaughtering cases were uncovered, with two head of livestock and 1,964 poultry destroyed.

In addition, the MOA promoted slaughterhouse modernization and upgrading of meat cold chains. We continued to encourage slaughterhouses of more than average size to apply for HACCP certification. As of the end of 2024 a total of 27 slaughterhouses (including ten livestock and 17 poultry slaughterhouses) received HACCP certification. In 2024, Taiwan exported 2,838 metric tons of live pigs, pork, and related products worth about NT\$700 million.

(5) Prevention of avian influenza

In 2024, the global situation of the epidemic of the H5N1 subtype of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) continued to be severe. To reduce the impact of HPAI on the poultry industry, the MOA strengthened disease control measures, based on the risks posed by HPAI, to interrupt the path of transmission, as a result of which the peak of HPAI from December to January in the year moved to February to March. Because of the climate in April, the virus was less likely to spread due to higher temperatures. In 2024 there were 41 confirmed cases of HPAI outbreaks and about 570,000 birds were culled. Less than 60 outbreaks have been reported yearly for five consecutive years, showing that, in comparison with other countries, the HPAI situation in Taiwan has been steadily brought under control.

(6) Preventing invasion by major diseases and pests from abroad

To prevent the entry into Taiwan of major animal and plant diseases and pests from overseas, in 2024 the MOA conducted 212,000 inspections of imported plants and their products and 201,719 of imported animals and their products, while quarantine detector dog teams intercepted over 5.7 metric tons of illegal agricultural products. We destroyed 28,100 kilograms of illegally smuggled meat products and 1,679 smuggled live animals. In addition, we took stricter inspection and quarantine measures with respect to 95 important pests, including ToBRFV in Australia and European cherry fruit flies (*Rhagoletis cerasi*) in Canada.

The MOA also conducted 70 inspections of imported lily bulbs for the PIAMV and ArMV viruses without any of the tests coming up positive. However, we did find that 14 batches of Solanaceae seeds contained TYLCV and PSTVd. Meanwhile, the MOA conducted inspections in Kinmen for high-risk invasive pests including the Asian longhorned beetle, potato tuber moths, and fall armyworms, without finding any.

The MOA continued to dispatch staff to exporting countries to conduct export inspections and onsite audits. Such work was done in many countries including Thailand, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Chile, Peru, the Netherlands, and the US. The aim was to ensure that exporting countries took relevant management measures for harmful organisms.



▲ Disinfection and destruction of smuggled agriproducts.



▲ Quarantine detector dogs are shown here inspecting passengers' carry-on luggage at the Taoyuan International Airport green lane (which means “nothing to declare”).



▲ In 2024 the MOA formally launched the “pet ID” function of the owner responsibility special area on the Pet Registration Information System website.

6. Enhancement of Animal Welfare

(1) Strengthening pet owner responsibility and source management of specified pets

In 2024 the MOA took steps to strengthen pet management while protecting animal welfare and making things easier for pet owners. On December 16, 2024 the MOA amended the regulations now entitled “Designated Dogs and Cats Are Classified as Pets Subject to Compulsory Registration” to add cats to the types of pets requiring registration and strengthen source management; the amendments went into effect on January 1, 2025. In addition, on the Pet Registration Information System website, the MOA made it easier for pet owners to check “pet IDs” after logging on, including accessing information about dog and cat neutering, age, and records of previous disease vaccinations as well as tracking prior buying and selling of commercial dogs and cats. We also simplified the updating process, so that if an owner needs to amend their contact information, they can do so in real time, so citizens are no longer compelled to run around to pet registration institutions. The pet ID integrates pet data to enhance convenience for owners, ensure pet traceability, and block illegal breeding and smuggling, thereby protecting animal welfare.

(2) Refinement of management measures for stray dogs

In response to problems arising from the adoption of a “No Kill” policy at animal shelters, the MOA continued to refine its systematic and scientific stray animal control measures to control dog and cat populations. In 2024, we guided 19 local governments to do home visits to check on animal situations in demarcated “hot spots” (taking the village or neighborhood as the unit of jurisdiction), complete dog registrations, and report on pet neutering or neutering waivers. Homeless dogs were caught and neutered, while dogs that posed a public safety problem were taken into public animal shelters. As of the end of 2024, the MOA completed 175,998 home visits, inventoried 51,558 domestic dogs, and increased neutering to cover 93.3% of homeless dogs.

From 2014 to the end of 2024, we also assisted 20 local governments to construct or renovate 30 animal shelters, including the new Pingtung County Animal Shelter which opened on June 30.



▲ The new Pingtung County Animal Shelter opened on June 30, 2024.

(3) Strengthening humane management of animals

In 2024 the MOA supervised local governments in conducting 1,890 inspections of animal transport personnel and slaughterhouse humane operations, as well as organizing 45 training sessions for animal transport and slaughtering personnel, resulting in 863 participants obtaining certification. Moreover, we conducted 151 inspections and guidance sessions for the performing animal industry nationwide. The MOA also arranged for 61 supervisory inspections of institutions that use animals for scientific purposes, while also holding eight educational and training seminars on humane management of animals used for experiments and the principle of the 3Rs (reduction, replacement, and refinement), with a total of 544 attendees.



▲ On-site check of the operations of a pig transport vehicle at a meat market.



7. Commercialization and Industrialization of Agricultural Science and Technology R&D Results

(1) Accelerated dissemination of all agricultural R&D achievements

The MOA worked in 2024 to disseminate agricultural R&D achievements, including: (i) creation of unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) buckwheat spraying technology and parasitic-wasp ball UAV GPS positioning technology for precision release, raising effectiveness by a multiple from 6-10; (ii) proactive guidance of seedling nurseries to introduce the intelligent “vegetable seedling production-and-marketing management system,” with the rate of its use in the seedling industry increasing by 10%; and (iii) display at the 2024 Information Technology Month exhibition of smart (AI-driven) image identification technology as applied to “identification of Phalaenopsis orchid varieties” and “seed (seedling) quality testing.” We also developed circular-saw and chainsaw type bamboo cutting assistive devices to enhance cutting efficiency and safety as well as raise bamboo material transport volume, lowering transport costs by 20-30% and raising production efficiency by a factor of nine. We guided 11 bamboo material businesses to improve their equipment and production processes, increasing production value by NT\$10.61 million and enhancing the market competitiveness of domestic bamboo products.

Meanwhile, the MOA also established guidance and demonstration venues at 41 fourfinger threadfin aquaculture operations in major production zones in the Kaohsiung-Pingtung region. We developed a standardized production management strategy based on the application of compound photosynthetic bacteria to implement safe aquaculture management. In addition, the special theme “High Quality Oyster by Domestic Professional Farmers” was showcased at the International Aquaculture and Fisheries Expo Taiwan. The MOA presented a comprehensive display of advanced technologies, spanning from oyster larvae breeding to the utilization of entire oysters, including shells for value-added applications. At the same time, the coverage rate for actual use of smart technology at animal husbandry farms reached 5%. Such technology covered a smart sow birthing management system, improvement of production efficiency at pig farms (assisting with mitigation of the labor shortage), and identification of the A2 β casein gene. Finally, we encouraged agribusinesses to independently invest in smart systems, equipment, and production.

In 2024 the MOA had 42 cases of intellectual property rights (IPRs) acquisition for agricultural science and technology R&D results, including 32 patents and ten variety rights. A total of 365 companies benefited from technology transfer of these IPRs, with income from R&D results being NT\$95.52 million. It was a very successful year. Moreover, seeing as Japan is Taiwan’s most important target market for agriproduct exports, the two sides signed a Memorandum of Understanding (witnessed by representatives of their competent authorities) on mutual recognition of plant variety testing reports on December 19, 2024. In the future they will each accept the reports of the other on plant variety testing. It is expected that this will save the time and costs of applying for plant variety rights and benefit breeders in the two countries while strengthening development of agricultural IPRs.

In order to promote the application of outstanding techniques and technologies resulting from agricultural science and technology R&D in industries, the MOA arranged for dedicated pavilions at the 2024 BIO Asia-Taiwan Exhibition, Healthcare+ Expo Taiwan, and Taiwan Innotech Expo. A total of 79 technologies were displayed, 806 business discussions were arranged, and the pavilions drew more than 200,000 visits. Moreover, in the invention competition at the 2024 Innotech Expo, the MOA won gold awards for a “root-cutting electric-powered vegetable harvester,” an “onion harvester,” and “*Bacillus velezensis* KHH13 strain and its improved culturing methods and uses,” as well as a silver for “self-propelled pineapple smart flowering agent spraying machine.”



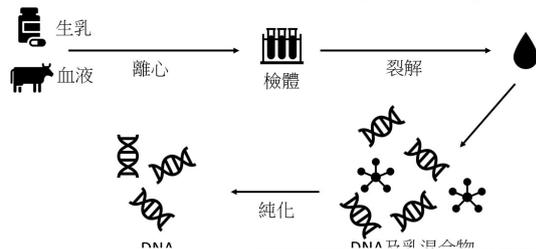
▲ The MOA guided fourfinger threadfin aquaculture operators to release probiotics into their ponds and offered instruction in relevant technological applications.



▲ The MOA set up a special area on oyster operations at the 2024 International Aquaculture and Fisheries Expo Taiwan.



技術佐證



- ▲ Technology to identify the A2β casein gene in dairy cows can facilitate market differentiation and quality control of specialty dairy products.



- ▲ The Agricultural Technology Pavilion at the 2024 BIO Asia-Taiwan Exhibition.



- ▲ Staff from the Kaohsiung District Agricultural Research and Extension Station of the MOA won an award in the domestic invention competition at the 2024 Taiwan Innotech Expo.



- ▲ Deputy Minister of Agriculture Hu Jong-I led a delegation to witness the signing of a Taiwan-Japan Memorandum of Understanding on mutual recognition of plant variety testing reports.



- ▲ Su Jia-chyuan, head of the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association and Mitsuo Ohashi, chief representative in the Taipei Office of the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association, signed the Memorandum of Understanding on mutual recognition of plant variety testing reports.

(2) Promoting the application of R&D achievements in circular agriculture

The MOA has aimed to get more value from agricultural residual resources, transform the former “linear economy” to a circular economy with resource reuse, and reduce reliance on and waste of natural resources. To these ends, we have proactively promoted the reuse of biomass and non-biomass residual resources from the farming, forestry, fisheries, and animal husbandry industries. The MOA has developed circular agriculture technology and equipment, promoted its practical application, and guided businesses to establish commercially viable circular economy venues, in order to build an ecosystem for reuse of agricultural residual resources.

As of 2024 the MOA developed a total of 19 circular agriculture technologies and transferred 13 of these to businesses, earning NT\$2.35 million in licensing fees. These included: (i) machinery for harvesting of pineapple leaves and extraction of their fibers, with guidance to two businesses to introduce fiber extraction technology and build industrial chains to provide the textile industry with needed pineapple leaf fibers; (ii) an optimized bamboo fiber production process, with development of growth medium and eco-friendly filter with maximum water solubility and heavy metals absorption; (iii) applications for liquefied *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* and *Trichoderma asperellum* as well as completion of manufacturing formulas and licensing, with the products applicable to accelerated decomposition and reduced odor from composting and disposal of branches from fruit trees, waste mushroom bags, and chicken excreta; and (iv) technology to turn waste mushroom bags into growth medium. The MOA also guided nine businesses to introduce production technology to replace imported peat soil and coconut fiber, developed technology to produce silage from pineapple and lemon peels to replace imported fodder, and built two industrial chains for silage made from agricultural by-products.

To promote practical applications of circular agriculture technologies, in 2024 the MOA completed promotion of 30 circular agricultural technology demonstration sites, including 19 for farming and forestry industries, two for aquaculture, and nine for animal husbandry. We also produced 16 sets of instructional materials or handbooks for agricultural personnel (working in fruit orchards, bamboo woodlands, seedling nurseries, organic farms, cattle ranches, and leisure farms) and creation of a biochar/heat coproduction system.

In addition, to promote communication with society about circular agriculture, in 2024 the MOA guided eight leisure farms to set up “fully circular zero-waste demonstration venues.” We completed 22 inventories of biomass residual resources and brought the biomass circular reuse volume to 120 metric tons, enabling leisure farms to reach a rate of over 90% for circular reuse of biomass residual resources. The MOA moreover designed special circular agriculture experiential learning projects. These measures serve to create platforms for communicating with the public about circular agriculture and enhance society’s understanding and support for this practice.

The MOA has guided agribusinesses and farmers’ groups to establish a mechanism for collection and transport of residual raw materials,

technology for their development, and the introduction of relevant equipment. The aim is to link upstream and downstream industries, build circular agriculture venues, and facilitate the operations of circular agriculture industrial chains. In 2024 we guided 27 businesses to invest in the circular agriculture industry with total investment reaching NT\$900 million. The MOA’s Taiwan Livestock Research Institute (TLRI) has further worked to see practical applications of circular agriculture R&D achievements in relevant industries. Researchers and guidance teams from the TLRI participated in the 7th “Government Service Award” event held in 2024, winning the highest honor in the category “social innovation and collective prosperity.”



▲ A pineapple harvesting machine.



▲ Staff at the Taiwan Livestock Research Institute won an award at the 7th “Government Service Award” event.

(3) Promotion of agricultural technology industrial clusters

The MOA’s Agricultural Technology Park (ATP) Administration Center works to create and manage industrial clusters with skilled agricultural personnel. Of these, the ATP located in Pingtung County integrates services including import and export customs clearance, inspection and quarantine, warehousing, and transport to create an optimal investment environment for agricultural technology industrial clusters that combine R&D, production, and foreign and domestic marketing. As of the end of 2024, 118 firms had moved into the ATP creating about 2,800 jobs. In the future, in line with



▲ Well-known companies including An-Shin Food Services (MOSBurger) and Laurel Corporation set up new operations in the Agricultural Technology Park in 2024, expanding the scale of industrial clusters there.

industrial trends including cold-chain logistics, circular agriculture, and net-zero carbon emissions, the ATP will upgrade its competitiveness and magnify the scale of its industrial clusters.

The Taiwan Orchid Technology Park (TOTP), which was brought under the jurisdiction of the ATP Administration Center in 2023, occupies 175 hectares of land, with greenhouse construction over 95 hectares. As of the end of 2024, 68 businesses had operations in the TOTP to produce orchids, creating about 1,800 jobs. In the future we will continue to introduce technologies including green energy, the circular economy, and intelligent production into the TOTP to promote the transformation and upgrading of the orchid industry.

8. Promotion of Climate Adaptation and Net-Zero Emissions

(1) Improved regulation and storage of water resources and smart irrigation

● Strengthened regulation and storage capabilities for water resources

To strengthen the resilience of water resources utilization, in 2024 the MOA carried out reservoir and pond dredging, removing a total of 881,200 cubic meters of sediment. In addition, water storage ponds were constructed in various locations, and subsidies were

provided to farmers to install water regulation and storage facilities, increasing water storage capacity by 159,100 cubic meters. Meanwhile, we constructed nine belt-shaped regulation and storage ponds along the Zhuoshui River main irrigation canal to store surplus nighttime water, adding 377,000 cubic meters of storage capacity. As of the end of 2024, total irrigation water regulation and storage capacity had increased by approximately 1,417,300 cubic meters.

● Continued promotion of pipeline irrigation systems and advancement of smart irrigation technologies

The MOA provides subsidies to farmers for the installation of pipeline irrigation facilities, with a maximum subsidy of NT\$500,000 per person per year. In 2024, the program covered 3,736 farming households and an area of 2,395 hectares, thereby improving irrigation water use efficiency.

Using the Zhudong Irrigation Canal in Hsinchu as a demonstration area, the MOA introduced low-power and low-cost water volume monitoring equipment to build a systematic smart irrigation system. In addition, the Azhaowu Irrigation Canal in Nantou County and the Guanshan Irrigation Canal in Taitung County were selected as demonstration sites where river water sources were used for large-scale demonstrations combined with end-of-channel water level monitoring at the field scale, to enhance supply stability and improve the accuracy of irrigation water allocation.



- ▲ The multi-functional regulation and storage ponds at the Zhuoshui River main irrigation line can store water during off-peak hours at night and supply it for irrigation during the day, thereby saving water resources. They also have flood detention and grit chamber functions, enhancing system stability and irrigation efficiency.

(2) Crop stress-resistance, disaster mitigation, and disaster early warnings

The MOA completed climate risk identification indicators, adaptation roadmap programs, and adaptation technology handbooks for important agriproducts including paddy rice, top-grafted pears, and grouper. We developed 16 types of stress-resistant adaptation technologies and built seven demonstration venues. The MOA also added 50 new agricultural weather stations, providing 418 crop production and aquaculture special zones with weather forecasting services. We moreover strengthened disaster prevention technology R&D and produced disaster prevention picture cards for 70 crops. In addition, in response to the two low temperature spells and four typhoons that impacted Taiwan in 2024, we provided six early warnings. We continued to strengthen the alert system via the “Crops Disaster Alert Platform,” and the “Agricultural Disaster LINE” and “Field-Side Assistance” Apps, while holding 49 disaster prevention exercises to instruct farmers in undertaking prevention and response measures to enhance agricultural resilience and reduce losses.

(3) Development of net-zero emissions technologies for agriculture

- Focus on carbon reduction, green trends, and adaption to promote net-zero technologies

The MOA has established local emissions indicators for crop and animal husbandry venues included in the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report and developed low-emissions production management models. These include measures such as intermittent irrigation for paddy rice and low-protein animal feed formulas in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We also strengthened 16 types of climate adaptation technology to enhance the resilience of agriculture in the face of climate risks including high temperatures, drought, heavy rains, and low temperatures.

- Development of natural carbon sinks in soil, forests, and the ocean

The MOA has completed a map of carbon sequestration potential for soil in Taiwan as well as developed highly efficient monitoring technologies and reduced the costs of implementation by industries. In the farming sector, we have focused on agricultural management models that enhance carbon storage capacity in the soil, including grass cultivation, leaving land unprepared, and low-tillage farming. In terms of forest carbon sinks, the MOA has employed technologies to restore land damaged by development and opted for use of species with high carbon sequestration capacity for afforestation in order to increase such capacity per unit area. We have already completed selection of eight high carbon sequestration afforestation species with 1.4-3 times the sequestration capacity of commonly used afforestation species. As for the ocean, the MOA has clarified marine carbon sequestration principles and integrated related measurement methods and strategies while using seagrass restoration technology to strengthen the effectiveness of carbon storage in the sea.



- ▲ Restorative afforestation work and trench construction at the land subsidence area of the Maomeiliao Wetland.



- ▲ Promotional demonstration of applications of unprepared-ground cultivation technology.



(4) Development of green energy in agriculture

The MOA, guided by the principle “agriculture in the main, green energy as value-added” and under the preconditions of protecting the rights and interests of farmers and fishermen, promoting the development of the farming and fisheries sectors, and maintaining the ecological environment, has continued to develop agricultural green energy. Measures have included the installation of solar panels on the rooftops of farming facilities and ground-level fisheries (aquaculture) and electricity symbiosis.

As of the end of 2024, more than 20% of animal husbandry facilities across Taiwan had installed rooftop solar power panels with a total installed capacity of 1.69 GW. The MOA continued to provide subsidies for the renovation of animal husbandry buildings to encourage the adoption of green energy facilities and also promoted the installation of rooftop solar panels on agri-food processing, storage, and marketing facilities, including public grain warehouses, collection centers, and packaging venues.

The MOA has also (i) announced a total of 20,982 hectares as fisheries and electricity symbiosis zones and coordinated with the Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) to review and approve applications, resulting in an installed capacity of 0.49 GW; (ii) completed 134 venues combining agricultural water resources with solar power, with a total installed capacity of 0.18 GW; (iii) promoted the testing of small hydropower generator sets and surveyed potential sites; (iv) implemented the “NT\$10 billion loan program for agricultural green energy,” approving a total of 475 cases with loans amounting to NT\$8.431 billion; and (v) promoted energy-independent venues in farming and fishing communities, with six private businesses investing in green energy industrialization and one rural community completing construction of an energy-independent site.

The MOA amended the “Regulations for Examining the Application of Structuring Farming Facilities on Agricultural Land” to require operators of agricultural green energy sites that fail to operate in accordance with their approved business plans to make improvements within a specified period. Failure to comply will result in their facility permits being revoked and feed-in tariff payments suspended by energy authorities. To establish a mechanism for mediating disputes arising from damage to neighboring properties during the construction of green energy sites, we have set up and staffed solar power work stations in Qigu District, Tainan City and Yizhu Township, Chiayi County, which are jointly operated by the Fisheries Agency of the MOA, the Energy Administration of the MOEA, and solar power businesses to handle public complaints and facilitate communication between residents and project operators.



▲ The Formosa Goose company in Yunlin County uses photoelectric technology to manage closed poultry buildings and has made the transition to sustainable agriculture.



▲ The Batian hydropower station in Tainan City (installed capacity 2,196 kW).



▲ Solar power facility on a branch irrigation line in Xuejia District, Tainan City (installed capacity 5.4 MW).

(5) Promotion of carbon credits and ESG programs at agricultural venues

There are two voluntary greenhouse gas offset mechanisms in Taiwan: the “Offsetting Increased Greenhouse Gas Emissions” program and “Greenhouse Gas Voluntary Emission Reduction” program. With respect to the former, in 2023 the MOA issued the “Regulations for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Grants for the Replacement of Old Agricultural Machinery,” giving priority to carbon reduction credits for 12 types of electric-powered agricultural machinery. On June 17, 2024 energy-saving aquaculture pond oxygenating paddle wheels were added to the list of equipment eligible. In 2024 a total of 891 old paddle wheels, 12 pieces of agricultural machinery, and four husk furnace grain dryers were replaced, with reduction of 7,574 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.



With respect to the "Greenhouse Gas Voluntary Emission Reduction" program, in 2024 the MOA proposed five natural carbon sink approaches to the Ministry of Environment in its "Methodology for Improved Forest Management, Bamboo Forest Management, Agricultural Soil Management, Seagrass Restoration, and Mangrove Forest Restoration." Of these, two voluntary carbon reduction programs (for forest management and bamboo forest management) were approved on October 28, 2024. These turned the increased carbon sequestration capacity created by improved forest and bamboo management into tools for voluntary carbon reduction quotas. They also included incentives for industrial management to attract more businesses and groups into natural carbon sequestration work to facilitate meeting the goal of net-zero emissions by 2050.

Agriculture has multi-functional values for sustainability, and it is possible to get enterprises involved in important venues through their ESG (environment, social, and governance) programs. To expand cooperation with enterprises to promote agricultural sustainability, in April of 2024 the MOA launched a special online matchmaking platform for participation by companies or groups in natural carbon sequestration or biodiversity conservation programs, successfully mediating participation by 12 firms.

In October the "ESG STORE" for agricultural sustainability came online with 50 proposed projects listed for participation by enterprises through their ESG programs, including carbon sequestration and biodiversity projects that are more familiar to companies. The site lists ten categories of projects, including sustainable production, passing along of agricultural culture, and food and agricultural education, with each project oriented toward one of four main axes of net-zero emissions in agriculture or UN Sustainable Development Goals. Enterprises can utilize the one-stop services of the ESG STORE to easily participate in agricultural projects that fit in with their ESG goals, jointly making contributions to the sustainable development of Taiwan's land.



▲ A press conference on October 30, 2024 marked the online opening of the agricultural "ESG STORE." It is hoped that enterprises will use it to contribute to sustainable rural development.

9. Construction of Eco-Friendly Fisheries Environments

(1) Construction of safe operating venues at fishing ports

The Qian-Zhen Fishing Port in Kaohsiung, an important base for the distant-water fisheries industry, was built more than 50 years ago. In order to bolster its wharf operations capacity, optimize space for offloading of fish, improve the operations venue for independent retailers and wholesalers, introduce hygiene and safety rules, and build a comprehensive wastewater treatment system, on December 11, 2020 the MOA approved the "medium and long-term special infrastructure program at Qian-Zhen Fishing Port" (2021-2025). We agreed to amendments of the program on October 4, 2021, November 18, 2022, and August 13, 2024. The total budget for the program, promoted in collaboration with the Kaohsiung City Government, is NT\$8.03 billion. In 2024 we completed renovation work on the Cijin (Qijin) Fishing Port deepwater wharf, and expect to complete the Chien Cheng [Qian-Zhen] Multifunctional Aquatic Products Distribution Center and the Qian-Zhen fish market renovation projects in 2025.

The Woo-Chi Fishing Port in Taichung is the most important coastal fishing base in central Taiwan, and NT\$1 billion was set aside for its improvement as well as the installation of cold-chain, processing, and other equipment. Work was begun on the "fish market construction project" on June 4, 2023, and it is expected to be completed by April of 2025. The "freezer and icemaking facility project" was begun on November 9, 2023, and it is expected to be completed by May of 2025. The "small boat docking area and floating wharf construction project" was begun on May 8, 2023, and it is expected to be completed by July of 2026. The completed program will drive growth in the local economy and upgrade the value and competitiveness of seafood products.



▲ Renovation project at the Qijin (Cijin) Fishing Port deepwater wharf.



(2) Renovation of hardware and software of aquaculture production special zones

In response to the frequent occurrence of short-duration heavy rainfall caused by extreme weather in recent years, the MOA's Fisheries Agency has worked to protect the safety of the aquaculture industry. We have proposed programs for “overall improvement of drainage in locally managed rivers and areas” and “revitalization of the aquaculture industry” as well as implemented the budget under the “Special Act for Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience and Public Sharing of Economic Achievement in the Post-pandemic Era” to continually improve aquaculture environments. In 2024 we undertook 40 projects to build roads and renovate drainage facilities in aquaculture zones, purchased five mobile water pumps, and added 350 hectares to the area of protected aquaculture zones.

In addition, to help the public better understand the implementation goals and effects of improvement projects, we have continued to work with local governments to hold explanatory meetings before project design and implementation has begun. We have also held disaster prevention exercises and information-sharing meetings in major aquaculture cities and counties, to facilitate the use in real time of public disaster prevention facilities near aquaculture ponds during periods of torrential rains and heavy winds in order to protect the ponds and their equipment, thereby reducing losses and stabilizing the development of Taiwan's aquaculture industry.



▲ The scene prior to the implementation of improvement work on the downstream section of the Houzhen 8th drainage channel in Yizhu Township, Chiayi County (2024).



▲ The scene after the implementation of improvement work on the downstream section of the Houzhen 8th drainage channel in Yizhu Township, Chiayi County (2024).



▲ Water pumps operate in the Xiahukou aquaculture zone in Yunlin County following Typhoon Gaemi in 2024.

10. Strengthening Disaster Prevention and Mitigation as well as Soil and Water Resources Conservation

(1) Promotion of overall slopeland treatment and disaster prevention

Based on the concepts of overall planning and management of watersheds, and taking into account the principles of national land restoration—including respect for nature and not resisting the forces of nature—in 2024 the MOA undertook a series of disaster prevention and mitigation measures, worked at conservation of soil and water resources and water sources, and reduced the risk of disasters. We took measures including debris flow disaster prevention, conservation of watershed areas, enhancing the resiliency of slopeland, resource conservation, and restoration of “designated soil and water conservation areas.” The goals were to strengthen the ecological resiliency of slopeland and reservoir watersheds while protecting public safety and promoting the rational use of land.

In 2024, we undertook 371 construction projects for matters including conservation and restoration of reservoir watersheds and debris flow disaster prevention and stabilized about 5.99 million cubic meters of sediments, significantly reducing the downward flow of debris, protecting the surrounding water sources and ecosystems, reducing disaster risks, bolstering soil and water conservation capabilities in watershed areas, and ensuring a stable supply from water sources. We also completed 12 watershed survey projects. These efforts effectively reduced debris flow disasters and protected soil and water resources.



▲ Restoration project for the Zhongguakeng torrent (construction of the Binxidai ecological habitat and planting of vegetation in a barren area).



▲ Restoration project for the Zhongguakeng torrent (environmental education venue, technical exchange).

(2) Disaster prevention and mitigation for debris flow, large scale landslides, and unstable sediments

The MOA announced 1,736 potential debris flow creeks as well as 65 locations prone to large-scale landslides, and reexamined and updated the rainfall threshold value for warnings. We also supervised local governments in updating the “2024 debris flow disaster and large-scale landslide prevention and evacuation plans” for 700 communities in 159 townships in 17 counties and cities and listed data on 50,650 people to be protected.

The MOA completed instrument testing and operational maintenance tasks for 70 debris flow observation stations and 92 automated rainfall stations, continued to integrate the automated rainfall stations on slopeland in Taiwan, and interfaced with the Central Weather Administration’s precipitation forecasts, in order to announce debris flow disaster and large-scale landslide warning information in a timely manner. The goal is to facilitate the timely launch of evacuation work for protected households in the areas covered by warnings.

The MOA also promoted the formation of “voluntary disaster-resistant communities 2.0,” held 176 war games and 62 actual exercises, and upgraded independent disaster prevention equipment in 56 locations. In addition, we trained 389 debris flow professional volunteers, and currently there are 3,633 volunteers in Taiwan. Moreover, the MOA assisted governments at all levels in debris flow and large-scale landslide disaster prevention work including automated rainfall measurement, disaster situation reporting, and evacuation of protected households.

Based on surveys of landslide areas across Taiwan over the years and evaluations of potential sites of unstable sediments in watershed areas, the MOA completed updating of a map of 1,218 such sites in all of Taiwan. We published this map on the “BigGIS” (Big Geospatial Information System) platform of the MOA’s Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation to be downloaded by agencies at all levels and members of the public.



▲ The 2024 flag presentation and awards ceremony for debris flow professional volunteers.

(3) Revitalization of farm ponds and improvement of farm roads

The MOA has been working to revitalize and improve farm ponds on slopeland. Such work, which has been based on the principles of using grass to ease the grade of pond slopeland, reducing use of concrete, and expanding water storage and flood diversion space, aims to restore the ponds’ preexisting irrigation functions while expanding flood diversion space and reducing the risk and damage from flooding in downstream areas. We conducted 26 pond revitalization projects, providing 320,000 cubic meters of water storage and flood diversion space and benefiting about 278 hectares of farmland with irrigation.

In addition, the MOA has improved roads in slopeland areas. Taking the roads most in need of improvement as the focus, in 2024 we undertook 400 construction projects and improved about 315 kilometers of road. These projects included strengthening soil and water conservation facilities, maintaining slope stability, and improving road drainage facilities, in order to maintain the integrity of the road bed and smoothness of traffic flow.

Based on the “Overall Improvement Plan of County and City Management of Rivers and Regional Drainage” under the “Forward-looking Infrastructure Development Program,” the MOA has improved farmland drainage, ponds, irrigation channels, and structures in farmland water conservancy activities areas, with equal attention to flood management and environmental protection. The plan, begun in 2017, will continue into 2025. Taking into account the need to enhance drainage capacity in agricultural zones, we



also continued to maintain the smooth flow of farmland drainage channels during flood season in order to reduce the risk of flooding and better protect agricultural production. As of 2024 the MOA improved nearly 188 kilometers of drainage channels.



▲ Improvement project on a flood diversion agricultural pond at the Zihciang Minimum-Security Prison in Hualien County.



▲ Management project to improve the flood discharge cross-sections and side slope of the water release channel of Xuejia branch irrigation line No. 1, reducing flood risks and maintaining water transport capacity.



▲ The Ca Ya Ma Vana access road improvement project won a "Public Construction Golden Quality Award."



▲ This improvement project on the Babao second main irrigation channel (Tianzhong section, stages 6 and 7) reduced irrigation channel sedimentation from landslides that reduced flood diversion capacity. It also improved water transport functions.

(4) Dredging of torrents

In order to avoid channel fill deposit caused by earthquakes and typhoons that could lead to losses of life and property among citizens, in 2024 the MOA conducted 47 torrent dredging projects, dredging up 2,461,700 cubic meters of debris and restoring the torrents' capacity to drain floodwater.

With respect to torrents in national forest, the MOA continued, on the basis of the strategies and methods in the "Program to Strengthen Dredging in Rivers, Torrents, and Reservoirs," to manage torrents and handle dredging at bottleneck sections of rivers and at areas where public safety can be affected. We observed the principle of "dredge in the right places, dredge at the right times." The goal for 2024 was set at 400,000 cubic meters, but in fact the MOA actually dredged 456,300 cubic meters, exceeding the target.

(5) Comprehensive management of soil and water conservation on slopeland

To reduce the risk of disasters caused by large-scale landslides, the MOA accelerated the demarcation of large-scale landslide areas as "designated soil and water conservation areas" and drafted long-term soil and water conservation plans in order to strengthen soil and water conservation work and reduce the potential for disasters. In 2024 the MOA demarcated and announced four designated soil and water conservation areas, comprehensively reassessed the long-term soil and water conservation plan for one such area, and abolished three such areas.

The MOA gave approval in 2024 to 5,433 soil and water conservation plans (including simplified soil and water conservation statements) for development and use of slopeland, and there were 7,153 inspections of ongoing work. We also increased the frequency of satellite monitoring reports to once a week starting in 2024, and discovered 11,799 cases of surface changes. There were 1,803 cases of investigation and interdiction of illegal slopeland development, with administrative fines totaling NT\$117.22 million and 79 cases transferred to judicial authorities for handling. The MOA also strengthened public awareness about maintaining safety in the development and use of slopeland.



11. Comprehensive Upgrading of Environmental Quality and Competitiveness in Rural Communities

● Cooperative promotion of Rural Regeneration by the central and local governments

In 2024 the MOA assisted 22 local governments to use cross-domain resources in an integrated manner to undertake comprehensive rural development programs and annual implementation plans. They assisted 507 Rural Regeneration communities to implement 301 projects for environmental improvement and public infrastructure, 46 projects for ecological conservation, 434 projects for industrial stimulation, and 118 projects for preservation and revitalization of rural culture.

The MOA also held the third “Golden Village” competition. Following preliminary competitions at the local level, there was a national final selection. A total of 974 rural communities signed up to participate, of which 22 were named Golden Villages. The awards were personally presented by Vice President Hsiao Bikhim, thereby affirming the value of the Golden Village competition.

● Implementation of the “Cross-regional Rural Industry Plan and Regional Shining Spot Plan in Rural Area”

In order to upgrade basic production conditions and the quality of life in rural communities, the MOA has strengthened cross-domain coordination and integration and promoted participation by diverse organizations to advance the construction of “Regional Shining Spot” venues in rural areas (including venues for agri-food education, rural community experiential activities, and promotion of the Satoyama Initiative). We have worked in various fields including rural industries, cultural preservation, and ecological conservation. The MOA has created a total of 36 regional or themed Shining Spot zones, undertaken 150 projects for environmental improvement, and assisted 134 rural communities with improvement of their overall environments for production, life, and ecology.

In addition, the MOA has undertaken 333 software infrastructure investments covering areas including industrial planning and design, marketing and promotion, cultural preservation, and ecological conservation. We also introduced 12 new technologies into rural industrial development and assisted with energizing of rural industries and sustainable development of traditional culture. The vision is to achieve “harmonious coexistence between people and nature” that takes into account both biodiversity preservation and sustainable use of resources.

● Rural manpower training and educational extension programs

By the end of 2024, the “Rural Up!” competition for college and university students to return to rural communities attracted participation by 6,954 students from over 100 colleges and universities, with 2,618 students residing in rural communities. Meanwhile, as of the end of 2024 the “Rural Up! Stay” program had attracted enrolment by 3,632 students from nearly 100 colleges and universities, with a total of 1,472 students getting rural experiences. The “Incentive Program for Youth Returning to Rural Communities” and a plan for “rural innovation by young people returning to stay in the countryside” had, by the end of 2024, assisted 1,416 young people to use innovative business models to create new value in rural communities.

● Guidance of fishing communities to implement community sustainable development

The MOA has commissioned schools to form guidance teams which in 2024 visited 45 fishing communities to guide organizations including community development associations and fishermen’s associations to foster local revitalization (placemaking). We identified 22 fishing communities as places for “main point guidance” and implemented Rural Regeneration programs utilizing characteristic local resources. These measures improved the economies and quality of life in fishing communities with the aim of realizing fishing village community sustainable development. On December 5, 2024 we held an activity that brought together actors concerned about fishing community development including government agencies, fishermen’s associations, fishing community representatives, and young people from the fisheries industry to collectively think about a roadmap for sustainable development that incorporates collective prosperity and co-existence with nature.



▲ The “Jushanshui” corridor in Huxi Village, Yuanshan Township, Yilan County, is multi-functional, with ecological, scenic, and environmental education benefits.



▲ For the 14th “Rural Up!” competition among college and university students who returned to the countryside, a team from National Yunlin University of Science & Technology worked with the Tiantou community in Dounan Township, Yunlin County to develop multi-colored mashed potatoes and used 3D printing to make toast decorated with mashed-potato icing. Vice President Hsiao Bi-khim was effusive in her praise of the project.



▲ Vice President Hsiao Bi-khim personally attended the “Golden Village” awards ceremony, affirming the value of the Golden Village competition.



▲ Experiential casual travel in the Haomei community of Budai Township, Chiayi County.



▲ A guided tour of set-net fishing apparatus in the Dong'ao community of Yilan County.

12. Promotion of Sustainable Forestry and Biodiversity

(1) Expansion and strengthening of afforestation and vegetation coverage in national forest

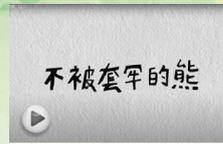
The MOA continued to promote new plantation and afforestation in national forest, on reclaimed illegally developed land, in landslide areas, in areas of ecological concern in foothills, along coastlines, and in offshore islands. We expanded forest carbon sequestration capacity while completing 235 hectares (ha) of afforestation. The MOA also promoted programs to reward and assist afforestation on slopedland and greenify public and private lands in plains, with afforestation completed on 680 ha.

The MOA moreover continued to promote the “Forestry Sustainable Multi-Guidance Incentive Program,” guiding 14 forestry production cooperatives or agribusinesses to engage in new plantation based on forest business plans over 9.97 ha, adopt trees on 115.21 ha, produce 13,500 tree seedlings, and manage 5.54 ha of bamboo forest. Also, in order to increase the willingness of private forest owners to engage in afforestation, we completed draft amendments to the “Regulations of Rewards and Assistance in Reforestation” and are proactively creating a regulatory framework.

(2) Establishment of public-private cooperation for forestry management

Based on the “Follow-up to the Implementation Plan for the Provisionally Approved Leasing of National Forest Land for Use as Construction Sites, Paddy Fields, or Dry Farmland,” the MOA continued to arrange to eliminate forest compartments and transfer this land to the National Property Administration. We provided compensation for recovery of 1,280 hectares of environmentally sensitive rented afforestation land and completed land lease modifications in 480 cases covering 832 hectares.

Forest protection focused on prevention of illegal use of land, illegal logging, and forest fires. The MOA mobilized 1,136 forest rangers while drawing on the capabilities of hi-tech management and cooperation with communities, universities, and volunteers. During 2024 patrols were conducted 16,650 man-times, with 236 cases of illegal behavior reported. Also, we established the “forest fire risk assessment system” and integrated cell broadcast warnings to reduce risks and losses from forest fires.



In 2024 the MOA cooperated with 160 public and private organizations to maintain protection forests and engage in tree planting. Patrols were conducted on 11,456 hectares of protection forest and 16,862 participants engaged in environmental education activities. We promoted a communications platform for protection forest and held a forum on sharing its benefits to strengthen social participation and build consensus.



▲ At the forum on “sharing the benefits of protection forest,” attendees exchanged views during a general discussion.



▲ Fire hose training for the National Airborne Service Corps.

(3) Promotion of nature conservation

● Strengthening management of terrestrial protected areas

The MOA strengthened the operational management of 87 areas designated by law as “terrestrial nature conservation areas.” These included 22 terrestrial natural reserves, 10 terrestrial natural monuments, 16 terrestrial Wildlife Refuges, 33 Major Wildlife Habitats, and six forest reserves. Also, through promotion of “Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures” (OECMs) we expanded nature conservation to foothills and plains areas to build a more comprehensive conservation network.

● The “Payments for Ecosystem Services for Endangered Species and Critical Habitat Promotion Program”

Ten endangered species (including the leopard cat, eastern grass-owl, and Asiatic banded water snake) and four types of important habitats are included in this program. A total of 18 cities and counties are participating, forming 957.55 hectares of wildlife-friendly land and 532 habitat sites. Meanwhile, 137 communities have formed patrol teams to safeguard foothill environments.

● Conservation action plans for endangered species

The MOA helped implement conservation action plans for 23 endangered species using interagency cooperation and collaboration with academia and non-governmental organizations. We held a conference in 2024 to exchange information on achievements in conservation action plans for endangered species, where in-depth discussions were held on progress and challenges in animal conservation. Monitoring indicates that the populations of a number of animals, including the russet sparrow and the Formosan flying fox (Formosan fruit bat), have begun to increase, showing that multi-domain cooperative conservation actions are proving effective.

● Deepening of the Satoyama Initiative

The MOA’s Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency shares international Satoyama Initiative information through the “Taiwan Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative” (TPSI). Moreover, as of the end of 2024, 28 of the 328 members of the “International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative” (IPSI) were from Taiwan. In 2024 the MOA went to Japan for Taiwan-Japan Satoyama exchange activities to share experiences in community conservation and promotion of the Initiative. Meanwhile, the MOA’s Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation completed sharing of 11 Satoyama case studies in 2024, two of which (on the Wufu Community in Wufeng District of Taichung City and the Kuibi’tao Satoumi area in Penghu County) were selected to be published on the IPSI website. The MOA also assisted 34 communities across Taiwan to promote the Satoyama Initiative and produced a list of 80 communities with Satoyama potential as we continued to guide communities to advance toward Satoyama goals.



▲ A rice paddy field in New Taipei City where the “Payments for Ecosystem Services for Endangered Species and Critical Habitat Promotion Program” is being promoted.



▲ A class in eco-friendly farming held by Miaoli County.



▲ In October of 2024 the MOA sent staff to attend Taiwan-Japan Satoyama Initiative exchange activities held in Japan.

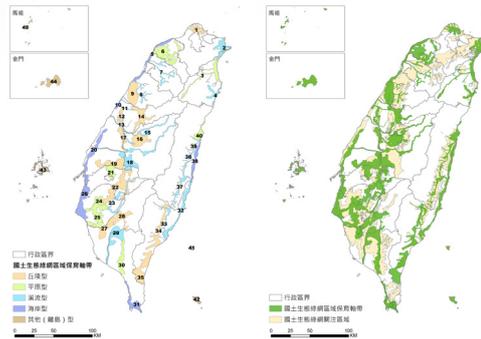
(4) Mapping out terrestrial biodiversity protection strategies

In accordance with action targets of the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the MOA conducted an inventory of domestic policies, figured out ways to link Taiwan's own Sustainable Development Goals with the targets, and consulted with experts to complete the draft of a "National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan." We also invited government agencies to collectively confirm relevant strategies, the proper division of labor, and evaluation indicators. The MOA organized a delegation to participate in the "16th Conference of the Parties to the CBD," and shared Taiwan's successes and experiences in promoting biodiversity in multiple side events.

The MOA also continued to promote the Taiwan Ecological Network, extending biodiversity conservation work beyond national forests. We have already identified 44 TEN biodiversity priority areas and 45 regional conservation corridors. We have extended ecosystem restoration work to foothills, plains, and agricultural production zones, giving rise to 65 cross-sectoral cooperation projects. Moreover, in 2024 the MOA completed reassessment and updating of cartographic information for the "TEN Mapping" platform and began work on a categorization framework for terrestrial ecosystems as we continued to refine ecological conservation spatial tools.



▲ Taiwan participated in the "16th Conference of the Parties" of the UN's Convention on Biological Diversity as a "non-governmental organization."



▲ Regional conservation corridors of the Taiwan Ecological Network (as of December of 2024).

(5) Integrated management of watershed areas in national forest

In 2024 the MOA conducted construction projects that took the watershed as the unit of management and were based on the results of surveys of landslides in national forest and watershed risk evaluations. They were conducted with eco-friendly measures for the complete life cycle of the projects and efforts to reduce their environmental impact. With appropriations of NT\$745 million, we undertook 154 management projects to handle a total of 68.42 hectares of landslide areas, do maintenance work on forest roads and slope management over 55.86 kilometers, and stabilize about 2,133,300 cubic meters of sediments from shifting downward.

The MOA moreover implemented graded management of areas prone to large-scale landslides and did detailed surveys of high-risk areas. Related tasks included operating a real-time monitoring system and establishing rainfall warning thresholds. As of the end of 2024 we announced a total of seven areas prone to landslides and issued yellow or red alerts during disaster response periods in a timely manner as the basis for local governments to evacuate residents of affected areas, thereby enhancing their disaster response capabilities.



▲ Improvement project for a check dam on the Dongmao River.



▲ Second phase of the management project for a gully in forest compartment 16 in the Puli area.

(6) Prevention of foreign invasive species

The MOA adheres to the principle of “discover early, respond early” and uses eco-friendly methods to eradicate invasive species and rigorous monitoring to minimize damage. In 2024, on the Hengchun Peninsula, we cleared 685 hectares (ha) of the river tamarind and implemented reforestation on 342.22 ha, planting multiple mixed native tree species to create suitable habitats for wildlife. Also, the MOA eradicated 41 African sacred ibises, 82,595 green iguanas, and 22,613 American crawfish and giant snakeheads, as well as cleared 1,349.91 ha of the mile-a-minute weed (*Mikania micrantha*), the Santa Maria feverfew, and giant sensitive trees. With regard to the small hive beetle infestation in seven cities and counties in central Taiwan in May, we completed emergency prevention measures for 821 hives at 18 locations in June, and there was no reoccurrence as of the end of 2024.



▲ Eradication of green iguanas (courtesy of the Pingtung County Government).

(7) Promotion of forest co-management

The MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency has proactively promoted co-management with indigenous peoples, for which the agency won a 2024 “Civil Service Outstanding Contribution Award” in the group category. It also shared Taiwan's experience with indigenous peoples' co-management at the 16th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. The MOA worked with the Saisiyat indigenous people of Nanzhuang Township, Miaoli County and National Chengchi University to establish the “PaKaSan International Educational Center” to promote international interactions. Out of respect for indigenous hunting traditions, we have mobilized 16 indigenous communities to establish hunting self-management demonstration programs. Moreover, amendments to the “Wildlife Conservation Act” now allow indigenous people to hunt, slaughter, or use wildlife for “non-profit personal use” under specified conditions including approval or recording by the authorities.



▲ The MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency (FANCA) won a "Civil Service Outstanding Contribution Award" in the group category. This commemorative photo was taken with representatives of the Saisiyat indigenous people of Nanzhuang Township, Miaoli County.



▲ Lin Hwa-ching, director-general of the MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency (FANCA), Shia Jung-Sheng, branch director of FANCA's Hsinchu Branch, and Ken Chih-you, a Saisiyat elder from Nanzhuang Township, Miaoli County, went on-stage to take this commemorative photo with the ROC President and other award winners in the group category of the "Civil Service Outstanding Contribution Award."

(8) Preservation and redevelopment of forestry culture resources

Renovations were completed on dormitories located on Jinshan South Road in Taipei City of the forestry authority of the former Japanese Governor-General's Office. Under the "Act for Promotion of Private Participation in Infrastructure Projects," management of the area has been commissioned to a non-governmental organization. Named the "0km" area, it has become an urban entrée to mountain forests. It opened to the public on March 22, 2024, and has generated 120,000 visits and NT\$28 million in revenues.

With four Forestry Culture Parks (in Luodong, Dongshih, Chiayi and Lintianshan) as the core, the MOA has traced back old forestry culture and linked up with forestry-related buildings of historic interest in urban areas to organize Taiwan forestry culture landscape corridors. In 2024 we completed 21 projects including integrating forestry culture resources, renovating historic buildings, conducting hi-tech disaster prevention, energizing reuse of cultural resources, and improving scenic landscapes along the Alishan Forest Corridor. The MOA also promoted bidding for renovation and

revitalization work at old buildings and the manager's dormitory in the southern part of the Luodong Forestry Culture Park (FCP), the repair workshop and old dormitories of the Dongshih FCP, and old buildings in the Lintianshan forestry building cluster.

The MOA also organized various activities including the centennial of the Luodong forestry area, the Dongshih Hikari Market, and the Chiayi Wood Market, attracting 3,347,200 participants and driving regional tourism revenues of about NT\$6.9 billion. In 2024 we also proactively collaborated with local industries. On February 2 the Luodong FCP established Taiwan's first dealer in certified traceable domestic timber; on October 30 the Dongshih FCP opened a tea house featuring Taiwanese teas and tea culture; and on February 29 the Chiayi FCP completed priority contracting to commission an operator contracted through February of 2029.

Finally, we continued to research and draft a "medium- and long-term program for preservation and redevelopment of forestry culture resources" (phase 2, 2025-2028), which was sent to the Executive Yuan for approval on November 12, 2024.



▲ An old building at the Luodong Forestry Culture Park was renovated to create a shop that specializes in selling Taiwan certified traceable wood products.



▲ The Chiayi Forestry Culture Park signed a contract to commission an outside operator for its "Hinoki Village."



▲ "0km," a commercial area housed in old Japanese dormitories belonging to the Japanese-era forestry authority, opened for business on March 22, 2024.

13. Implementation of Agricultural Source Management

(1) Strengthened agro-pesticide management

● Elimination of high-risk agro-pesticides

The MOA has established preliminary agro-pesticide risk indicators for Taiwan drawing on the classification framework of the European Union's Harmonized Risk Indicators (HRI) and incorporating Taiwan's local criteria for identifying "highly hazardous pesticides" (HHPs). We have conducted risk

assessments including exposure evaluations as well as research into risk mitigation measures. With reference to international scientific evidence and regulatory practices, the MOA has reassessed and refined Taiwan's agro-pesticide management policies on a rolling basis.

A ban on the export, sale, and use of chlorpyrifos came into effect on April 1, 2024. In the same year, a nationwide buyback and disposal program was launched to purchase and destroy existing formulated chlorpyrifos agro-pesticides. By the end of 2024, all 42 metric tons of chlorpyrifos products had been successfully bought back and destroyed, substantially reducing their circulation in the market and lowering pesticide-related risks. Through the prohibition of high-



risk pesticides such as chlorpyrifos, together with efforts to strengthen integrated pest management (IPM) and promote eco-friendly farming practices, the overall agro-pesticide risk in 2024 was reduced to approximately 63% of the baseline level recorded between 2014 and 2016.

● Strengthened safety management of agro-materials

To strengthen the safety management of agricultural inputs and to supervise matters related to the manufacture, sale, use, and quality inspection of agro-pesticides, in 2024 the MOA supervised local governments in conducting 557 inspections of pesticide vendors, 48 inspections of pesticide manufacturing plants, and 21 inspections of pesticide spraying service providers. Also, local governments and local Plant Protection Associations jointly organized 90 retraining seminars and workshops for agro-pesticide dealers, with a total of 12,841 participants, as well as 16 training sessions for pesticide manufacturers, with 579 participants. These initiatives aimed to promote the policy for reducing chemical agro-pesticide usage by 50% within ten years, raise awareness of agro-pesticide management regulations, and disseminate updated knowledge on agro-pesticide safety and practices.

In addition, to ensure that the agro-pesticides used by farmers meet the required standards and are legally authorized, the MOA conducted market sampling and testing of 1,012 commercially available formulated agro-pesticides. Among these 888 products met the standards, 27 were classified as inferior agro-pesticides, and the rest are still under inspection or re-inspection. We will continue to monitor, regulate, and provide guidance for improvement. Moreover, in coordination with judicial authorities, customs, the coast guard, and local governments, the MOA participated in 47 joint pesticide enforcement operations, resulting in seizure of more than 13.72 metric tons of illegal technical grade agro-pesticides, formulated agro-pesticides, semi-finished products, and raw materials.

● Promotion of the agro-pesticide spraying service provider system

In response to the demand for agricultural labor and in consideration of the high agro-pesticide exposure risk faced by agro-pesticide spraying service providers, since 2000 the MOA has implemented a policy requiring that agro-pesticide spraying operations be conducted exclusively by certified technicians who have completed professional training. As of 2024, a total of 3,969 agro-pesticide spraying technicians completed the required

training, and 854 agro-pesticide spraying service providers were officially registered. In 2024, the MOA organized nine sessions of general courses and 13 sessions of professional courses (for drone application), with 574 participants in the former and 396 in the latter. A total of 390 individuals obtained certification as qualified agro-pesticide application technicians.



▲ The MOA has been promoting agro-pesticide spraying by unmanned aerial vehicles.

(2) Implementation of the registration and management of veterinary drugs

In order to maintain and increase the number of drugs available for treating diseases of economic animals and pets in Taiwan, in 2024, the MOA approved and issued 116 veterinary drug licenses to manufacture or import veterinary pharmaceuticals and handled 1,608 applications for extension or alterations of such licenses. To meet the needs of the veterinary drugs industry and clinical veterinarians treating companion animals, we processed 989 cases of imports of raw materials for veterinary drugs and 768 cases of imports of giveaway veterinary pharmaceuticals, as well as issued 417 export certificates for veterinary drugs. In addition, in response to the need for batch testing of vaccines, we amended the "Test Standards for Veterinary Drugs" to increase alternatives for testing methods.

(3) Strengthened monitoring and control of the safety and quality of farm, fisheries, and animal husbandry products

The MOA does relevant testing to enhance the food safety of farm, fisheries, and animal husbandry products as well as pet products on the market. We also have guided fruit and vegetable markets in Taipei City and elsewhere to purchase high-resolution mass spectrometers for rapid precision detection of agro-pesticides widely used in Taiwan. Agriproducts that are not up to standard are destroyed on the spot and follow-up work is done to trace the source and halt supplies, in order to ensure the safety of consumers.

In terms of agri-food products, in 2024 the MOA conducted 20,653 tests of items for pesticide residue at the production end, with 97.26% up to standards. Of these, there were 14,226 sample tests of fruits and vegetables, with 96.57% being up to standards; 3,056 sample tests of tea, with 98.79% being up to standards; and 3,371 sample tests of rice, with 98.8% being up to standards. As for aquatic products, there were 2,211 sample tests of aquatic products that had not yet reached the market, with 99.23% being up to standards, and 19,233 sample tests of aquatic products on sale in wholesale fish markets, with 99.96% being up to standards. We also tested livestock and poultry farms and live pig auction markets for veterinary drugs, with 28,343 sample tests and 99.89% of tested samples being up to standards.

The MOA also conducted 2,762 sample tests on domestic fresh traceable pork with Traceable Agricultural Product (TAP) or Certified Agricultural Standards (CAS) certifications, with 100% being up to standards. In addition, we conducted 417 tests of the quality of certified (including TAP and CAS) products including milk, beef, and goat milk and also did 630 quality tests of products with fresh milk certification labels; all were up to standards. The MOA also did 347 sample tests of the safety and quality of traceable aquatic products (with CAS, TAP, or Organic certifications or traceability QR Codes), with 100% up to standards.

In all cases in which sample-tested products did not meet standards, farmers or fishermen were forbidden from selling their products and we asked local governments to hand out punishments under relevant regulations and guide these farmers or fishermen to take corrective action.

Meanwhile, with respect to the healthiness and safety of pet foods on the market, starting in 2024 the MOA asked local governments to undertake routine healthiness and safety audits and rolling special-case audits to increase the number of sample tests of pet food. Items being tested for include pathogenic microorganisms, aflatoxin, heavy metals, agro-pesticides, preservatives, antioxidants, melamine, propylene glycol, and radiation (caesium-134 and 137). A total of 510 sample tests were conducted, with 97.45% of tested products being up to standards and 83.22% of packaging labels meeting requirements.

In 2024 the MOA also conducted 531 sample tests for heavy metal content in food crops in farmland with high potential for pollution, with 33 cases in which heavy metal content surpassed the limits for grains or fruits and vegetables stipulated in the "Act Governing Food Safety and Sanitation." In such cases the crops were immediately destroyed to prevent them from entering the market, while the environmental authorities were notified to investigate the polluted soil

and follow up to cut off the sources of the pollution. Local governments guided farmers to leave such land fallow, switch over to non-food crops, or cultivate crops (varieties) that absorb heavy metals, as well as use horticultural management methods, to reduce the risk of pollution from heavy metals like cadmium, lead, and inorganic arsenic.

In addition, the MOA promoted an ID-based registration system for purchasing fertilizer, ensuring provision of precise supplies of fertilizer and establishing a rational allocation mechanism. When farmers buy fertilizer, the recommended amount is based on data including the category of crops and cultivated area. There was a shipping subsidy of NT\$20 per 40-kilogram bag of fertilizer, reducing shipping payments for farmers by a total of NT\$290 million. We asked suppliers to manufacture and prioritize delivery of fertilizer based on demand.



▲ Sample test of an agriproduct for agro-pesticide residues.



▲ Local governments sample-tested pet foods and checked the packaging labels.

04



Upgrading Industrial Competitiveness





Upgrading Industrial Competitiveness

1. Promotion of Certification Systems for Organic and Eco-Friendly Farming, Traceable Agricultural Products, and Certified Agricultural Standards

(1) Continued promotion of supplies of certified domestic agriproducts

To continue to promote the supply of certified domestic agriproducts, in 2024 the MOA, in accordance with law, promoted the three main certification systems: "Taiwan Organic," "Traceable Agricultural Products" (TAP), and "Certified Agricultural Standards" (CAS). We also continued to help consumers better understand and trust these labels.

As for the Taiwan Organic system, in 2024 total area devoted to organic agriculture and eco-friendly farming reached 27,012 hectares (ha), an increase of 12.01% compared to 2023. Organic equivalency agreements have been signed with eight countries including New Zealand, Australia, Japan, the US, Canada, India, Paraguay, and the UK, and in 2024 exports of organic agriproducts reached 161 metric tons. Meanwhile, the 21st Organic World Congress was held in Taiwan for the first time in 2024. There were more than 2,000 participants from 61 countries at the meeting, which featured exchanges on international organic agriculture policies, technologies, and marketing.

As for the TAP system, the MOA increased farmers' willingness to participate through subsidies for certification fees and TAP-based environmental subsidies. In 2024 7,315 operators had TAP certification, with production area of 112,418 ha, increases of 18.8% and 14%, respectively, compared to 2023. The MOA continued to strengthen supervision and auditing of accreditation and certification institutions as well as inspection and testing of certified products to ensure the quality of the accreditation and certification systems. In 2024 we conducted 7,366 sample tests of TAP-certified agriproducts, with 99.5% being up to standards.

As for the CAS system, in 2024 255 companies had CAS certification, with production volume of 905,027 metric tons and production value of NT\$76.1 billion. In 2024 the MOA conducted 7,992 sample tests of CAS-certified agriproducts, with 99.9% being up to standards, thereby verifying the quality and safety of these products. We also held 18 events such as sales in special areas and label promotion and education to enhance consumers' identification of and support for CAS products.





▲ An organic equivalency agreement was signed with the UK in May of 2024.



▲ Traceable Agricultural Products-certified vegetables are used as non-staple food in the military.



截至2024年底，通過農糧產品產銷履歷驗證面積108,756公頃、生產單位數5,847戶、生產人數40,774人、估計產量約120萬公噸、估計產值約399億元。

▲ The growth of land area growing certified “Traceable Agricultural Products” agri-food products over the last seven years.



▲ The opening ceremony of the Organic World Congress on December 2, 2024.

(2) The use of Traceable Agricultural Products (TAP) and Taiwan Organic ingredients in school lunches

The MOA has been working with the Ministry of Education since 2017 to promote the use of domestic traceable ingredients in school lunches. We have also provided subsidies to reduce the burden on schools of the higher costs of purchasing Three Labels and One QR Code ingredients. As of the end of 2024, 98.73% of ingredients used in school lunches in 22 municipalities, cities, and counties had Three Labels and One QR Code marks. The MOA also sample-tested such ingredients: There were 3,655 sample tests for pesticide residues in fresh fruit and vegetables, with 96.74% up to standards; 801 sample tests for veterinary drugs

residues in livestock and poultry products, with 100% up to standards; and 23 sample tests of seafood, with all conforming to Taiwan's testing standards for aquatic products. In addition, we promoted a special program for schools to use domestic traceable dairy products which benefited 1.275 million students.

In order to enhance the supply capacity of certified seafood under the Three Labels and One QR Code program, the aquatic products traceability system was introduced and further expanded. In addition, a “Joint Procurement and Supply Platform for School Lunch Aquatic Products” was established to ensure a stable supply of domestically produced and traceable seafood for school meal programs. From the beginning of the 2023 fall semester (September 2023) through December 2024, a total of 247.88 metric tons of aquatic products were procured through the platform, with a cumulative purchase value of NT\$34,579,562.

Meanwhile, to ensure the safety of non-staple food served in the military, in September of 2017 the MOA began promoting the use by the military of traceable vegetables (including ones with TAP and Taiwan Organic certifications) provided by farmers' groups. During the initial trial period 16.08% of purchased ingredients met this criterion, whereas this number reached 50.1% in 2024, showing concrete progress.

As for seafood for the military, since 2001 the MOA has guided the National Fishermen's Association to organize 10 district fishermen's associations to handle the supply of fisheries products to the military, with QR Code traceability management for 29 fisheries products (including tilapia, fresh squid, and whiteleg shrimp). In 2024 about 625 metric tons of seafood were sold to the military under this program, with sales value of about NT\$120 million. In addition, all egg products used by the military, including CAS-certified eggs, TAP-certified eggs, and washed & graded eggs, had packaging labels that made it possible for them to be traced back to their farm of origin.



▲ A business matchmaking and visit activity for traceable fisheries products used in school lunches.



▲ The MOA promotes the use of organic and Traceable Agricultural Products-certified ingredients in school lunches.

(3) Construction of a systematic food and agricultural education system

Based on the “Food and Agricultural Education Act,” in May of 2023 the MOA completed planning for the first phase of a food and agricultural education (FAE) promotion program (2023-2027). As of the end of 2024 governments in 22 local jurisdictions (municipalities, cities, and counties) had established FAE promotion associations, and all had completed mid-term plans for this program, enabling all stakeholders to rapidly understand and implement FAE.

In addition, the MOA has continued to encourage diverse organizations (including farmers’ and fishermen’s associations, rural communities, and schools) to hold all kinds of FAE experiential activities and classes. In 2024 we guided 462 organizations to hold 2,969 activities with 578,557 participants. Also, the MOA held an “FAE forum” to bring together all stakeholders to make a concerted effort to promote FAE.

In terms of agri-food FAE, the MOA continued to promote the use of domestic ingredients by government agencies, state-run corporations, the military, and schools; produced FAE illustrated books and games; and integrated the promotion of FAE with school curriculums and local specialty products.

In terms of fisheries FAE, the MOA held lectures about food and fisheries culture in 20 primary schools, with 6,808 participants. We also held two family-oriented seafood culture activities, to enable the public to learn more about the special features and diversity of

Taiwan’s fisheries industry, with reach of 22,385 man-times. The MOA also organized two food and fisheries education, training, and learning sessions, with 167 participants. In 2024 we accepted submissions of proposed food and fisheries education promotional plans, of which we selected the best ten and subsidized their implementation.

As for animal husbandry FAE, we held 30 school/ community awareness-raising activities to promote two servings of milk per day, educate students about dairy product ingredients and nutrition labels, build up awareness of proper nutrition for children’s growth, and extol the idea of using fresh domestic milk locally. We also held 12 marketing activities for animal husbandry products and linked up with FAE and experiential activities at animal husbandry farms and rural communities to promote domestic animal husbandry products.

The MOA also continued to enrich and optimize the integrated platform for FAE information. It includes information on 137 local specialty products, 2,479 sets of learning resources, and data about 370 food and agricultural experiential venues, as well as a special area about “local production, local consumption.” As of the end of 2024 the site was browsed over 2.9 million man-times.



▲ A family seafood culture activity was held at the Taipei Zoo in 2024 (the photo shows fourfinger threadfin origami).



▲ An organic and eco-friendly farmers’ market.



◀ The integrated platform for food and agricultural education information.



▲ Awareness raising about two servings of milk per day at schools.

2. Promotion of Smart Agriculture

(1) R&D into and applications of smart agricultural technology

The MOA has been promoting smart agriculture since 2017. In 2023 we launched the “Program for Smart Agriculture Promotion and Popularization,” which will run to 2026, whose strategic goals are “making production and marketing smart and automated, adding value to services, and creating industrial networks.” While working with the Ministry of Economic Affairs to undertake cross-domain R&D, the MOA has also been encouraging local governments to cooperate in accelerating scientific and technological research and expanding its applications. The aims are to encourage upgrading and transformation of agriculture in Taiwan through smart agriculture and promote the formation of sound ecosystems for agricultural industries.

In 2024 the MOA used smart agritechologies to assist agricultural industries to increase production value by over NT\$82.93 million and reduce production-and-marketing costs by over NT\$42.98 million. We also stimulated the private sector to invest NT\$30.34 million in coordination with a program for technological innovation and participation in construction of ecosystems, and triggered over NT\$193 million in investment by agribusinesses in smart agriculture. Moreover, in recent years the MOA has also promoted the founding of agricultural start-ups, such as Yongxing Agri-Visual Technology Company (in the poultry field) in 2023 and Digital Agriculture Intelligence Consolidation Company (which uses digital technology to provide agricultural services) in 2024. Our goal is to promote practical applications of smart agriculture.

(2) Promotion of “cloud generation” digital transformation and technology services systems

The MOA has stipulated standardized rules for formatting for 59 categories of agricultural Internet of Things (IoT) data to facilitate practical applications and get in line with international standards while building a Big Data sharing ecosystem. On the “agricultural spatial information assistive platform,” we added the results of overall planning of the use of agricultural land, and through data formatting and sharing, we have assisted central and local agricultural agencies to monitor the spatial distribution of agricultural industries. Meanwhile, the MOA has utilized cloud weather data collection and destructive sampling to accurately predict sweet potato growth. We have also used AI imaging in combination with IoT environmental sensing equipment to develop a predictive model for the pineapple production season, assisting in production scheduling, management of purchasing orders, and supply of pineapples for export, thereby aiding production-and-marketing decisions.

The MOA promoted applications of smart agritechology services and “cloud generation” digital transformation and upgrading in 150 locations in 2024, extending this work to over 370 hectares and increasing farmers’ incomes by NT\$11 million. We also mediated 13 cases of cooperation between technology services providers and businesses at the production-and-marketing end of the industrial chain, with a cooperative amount of NT\$5.39 million; the number of cases increased by 50% and the amount of funding increased by 130% compared to 2023. The MOA also assisted small and micro agriculture operators to use suitable digital tools to appear on the “cloud market agricultural pavilion” in 1,135 cases. In these ways we helped resolve industrial problems.



▲ An explanatory meeting to promote standardization of formatting of agricultural Internet of Things data.



▲ A display of achievements in cloud-generation digital transformation as part of Taiwan Smart Agriweek 2024.

(3) Provision of integrated agricultural digital information services

The MOA has long promoted the “Farm Production Management System” fieldwork mobile management system. This was newly introduced to 6,755 farms in 2024, with 7,251 new users and a managed area of 85,439 hectares. The “Pig Farm Production Management System” was newly introduced to 101 pig farms, enhancing competitiveness and operational efficiency. In addition, with respect to the “raw materials acquisition phase” of the agriproduct production process, we strengthened functional modules for fieldwork and operational management, enabling users to record information on aspects including agricultural machinery, materials, energy, water and power use, seedlings, and waste handling, while also collating multiple report forms covering items including transport, materials, and energy. These capabilities assist farmers in effectively gathering and verifying data related to carbon emissions produced by agricultural activities.

The MOA continued to promote open data, adding 500 new “platinum label” datasets in 2024. We also held a conference on upgrading the value of open data. Meanwhile, a voice input function was added to the “Field Side Assistance” App as we continued to use its multiple channels to provide personalized agricultural information, with services volume surpassing three million man-times (messages).

In 2024 search functions were added to the “agriculture and food production-and-marketing information integrated platform” for nine new types of fruit and vegetables, providing farmers with data on prices, trading volume, and cultivation area as well as imports and exports, for use in data analysis.

The MOA continued to promote use of the “agricultural natural disaster on-site photo App,” which helps farmers rapidly secure evidence of losses and accelerates the work of on-site disaster inspections by

local officials. In 2024 the App was downloaded 49,000 times (44,000 times during typhoon season from July to November), with 860,000 photos uploaded (750,000 during typhoon season). Relevant photos were also immediately provided for interface with the “agricultural natural disaster relief system,” helping local officials to search for disaster loss photos based on land parcel number when evaluating disaster loss reports. Taking Typhoon Gaemi as an example, for about 22% of agricultural loss reports, the cadastral address could be used to refer to photos of damage uploaded to the App.

The MOA also, as of the end of 2024, has integrated a total of 320 terabytes of cartographic information using the “Big Geospatial Information Services” system, supplying over 19,000 satellite images, 84,000 aerial photographs, 3,000 results of unmanned aerial vehicle surveys, and 85,000 photographs of disaster incidents and landscapes.



▲ Image of achievements in the promotion of the “Farm Production Management System.”

(4) Use of smart technology to adjust industrial structures

The MOA has proactively constructed a network of four major smart agricultural services ecosystems, covering facilities-grown vegetables, paddy rice, intelligent closed waterfowl buildings, and the combination of smart and low-carbon aquaculture with micro-green energy, thereby accelerating the formation of industrial services chains and applications of scientific and technological research. An AI precision irrigation system is already being used on 21.25 hectares of facilities-grown vegetables, covering 724 greenhouses and reducing irrigation labor requirements by about 90%.

To reduce the impact of climate change and enhance disaster-resistant production, the MOA continued to guide farmers to install structurally reinforced (net) greenhouses, introduced smart environmental control equipment, and promoted automated labor-saving cultivation. As of 2024 (net) greenhouses were erected on 335 hectares of land, for industries including vegetables, fruit, flowers, and seedlings. This effort was combined with certifications



of products grown in these facilities as “Taiwan Organic” or “Traceable Agricultural Products” (TAP), in order to promote eco-friendly cultivation, improve the quality of agriproducts, and stabilize their supply.

In addition, the MOA introduced precision feeding, aquaculture environmental monitoring, and artificial intelligence production decision systems into the sea bass aquaculture industry. These help aquaculture operators reduce labor requirements and feed costs and provide real-time environmental alerts. Moreover, in accordance with international trends in fisheries management, we developed an electronic monitoring system (EMS) to enhance the effectiveness of fisheries management.



▲ The construction of modernized (net) greenhouse facilities can optimize production environments and stabilize the supply of fruit and vegetables.



▲ The MOA keeps track of operational behavior in the fishing industry through an “electronic monitoring system” (EMS) and identifies fish species using AI, effectively managing distant water fisheries.

3. Construction of an Agri-food Production-and-Marketing Structure Benefiting Farmers and Consumers

(1) Establishment of group production zones for agri-food crops

To strengthen the agri-food crop production structure, in 2024 the MOA established 84 paddy-rice group production zones, with 35,000 hectares (ha) of land used for contract production and 16,564 contract farmers. The unhulled rice could not be sold

to the government for public stocks, but all the rice was covered by rice income insurance (strengthened insurance for quality). We have also guided operators to found 78 self-managed brands to improve sales.

Meanwhile, with regard to other agri-food products, the MOA established 41 vegetable group production zones, with an area of 1,818 ha, implemented education in safe use of pesticides by contract farmers in their fields, introduced collective pesticide-use prevention, promoted TAP certification, encouraged applications of new varieties and technology, and built corporate-style management models. We moreover established 88 miscellaneous staple crop group production zones, with an area of 10,867 ha; guided the establishment of group production zones for tea and special-use crops, including 13 for tea, two for camellia oil, two for coffee, one for mesona, and three for flax, with a combined area of 350 ha; and established 67 fruit tree group production zones, with an area of 2,552 ha. The MOA has in these ways expanded group operations models at the production end and created eco-chains for agricultural industries.

Furthermore, to assist with revitalization of fallow farmland, in 2024 the MOA guided Big Professional Farmers and grass farmers to adopt more corporate-style operations and subsidized the purchase of 23 pieces of equipment related to production of forage and fodder crops.



▲ A rice-paddy group production zone whose farmers were guided to join in order to expand economies of scale.



▲ A sorghum group production zone.



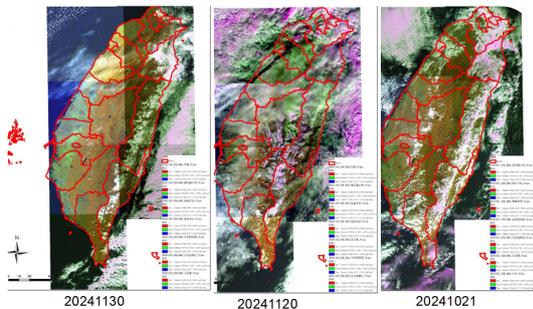
▲ A buckwheat group production zone.



(2) Improvement of the production early warning system

In Taiwan, autumn and winter growing of cabbages is prone to overproduction. To improve the production early warning mechanism, since 2000 the MOA has been building the “cultivation registration and early warning system for sensitive vegetables.” Using data including seedling volume, remote sensing interpretation, and surveys, we predict peak production periods and issue early warnings when necessary for farmers’ reference in evaluating cultivation risks.

In 2024 the price of cabbages rose after disasters, causing farmers to replant this crop from mid-October to early November, creating a situation of overcultivation. The MOA’s Agriculture and Food Agency immediately issued an early warning through multiple channels (including LINE, Facebook, news reports, news tickers, letters, broadcasts, text messages, and picture cards) urging farmers to spread out cultivation periods or reduce cultivation. Thereafter, farmers reduced cultivation by about 20%, showing that the system effectively provided farmers with reference information to reduce risks.



• 2024年12月平地甘藍預測為利用20241130、20241120及20241021 Sentinel-2 衛星影像進行判釋。

▲ Using satellite imagery, the MOA can track vegetable cultivation areas and land parcel numbers.



▲ Using satellite imagery, the MOA can precisely monitor cabbage cultivation areas.

4. Development of Diversified Forest Industries

(1) Increasing wood self-sufficiency and developing and using wood byproducts

To reach the goal of 5% self-sufficiency in domestic wood by 2028, production volume must increase by 18 to 33% per year. In 2024 Taiwan produced 84,400 cubic meters of domestic wood and 1.11 million stalks of bamboo, with self-sufficiency reaching 2.01%. The MOA has promoted traceability management of domestic wood, and as of the end of 2024 had approved 4,216 applications for production traceability codes from 215 firms, covering about 69,400 cubic meters of wood.

The MOA has also worked to utilize all wood material. We have used branches and residual material formerly left on the forest floor to produce high-value forest essential oil products, carbonized them to make biochar and wood vinegar, or crushed them to manufacture biomass pellets. Such wood byproducts create new economic value and maximize the use of wood materials.



▲ Hands-on demonstration and training for use of bamboo felling machinery.

(2) Promotion of location-appropriate under-forest economy activities

The MOA has been promoting the under-forest economy since 2019, successively permitting items including log-cultivated shiitake and wood-eating mushrooms, *Anoectochilus formosanus* (Taiwan jewel orchid), forest beekeeping, *Camellia formosensis* (Taiwan mountain tea), *Strobilanthes cusia* (Chinese rain bell), and *Ficus formosana* (Taiwan fig-tree) to be lines of business that can be carried out in forest areas. Thus far we have approved 105 projects, covering 24.6 hectares of forest, with 2024 economic value of NT\$42 million.

In addition, the MOA has established “under-forest economy development centers” in northern, central, southern, and eastern Taiwan and accelerated

evaluation of new under-forest economy lines of business while developing local specialty products. In 2024 we approved bamboo fungus, *Gynostemma pentaphyllum* (five-leaved gynostemma), *Bletilla formosana* (Taiwan ground orchid), and the Zhuluo variety of *Camellia formosensis* as new products. The MOA has also developed molecular identification techniques for *Camellia formosensis* and its hybrids to ensure that adulterated varieties of Taiwan mountain tea are not cultivated in forest plantations.



▲ A new product approved for the under-forest economy: Bamboo fungus.



▲ A new product approved for the under-forest economy: *Bletilla formosana* (Taiwan ground orchid).



▲ A new product approved for the under-forest economy: *Gynostemma pentaphyllum* (five-leaved gynostemma).

(3) Stimulation of mountain community economies and promotion of forest therapy

The MOA in 2024 continued to implement the program to stimulate the green economy of mountain villages, driving 201,900 recreational and leisure visits and creating NT\$105 million in economic value for these communities.

In order to energize the forest therapy industry, the MOA established a “forest therapist training and certification platform.” Already 50 people have been certified as forest therapists, and in 2024 they planned a series of “100 forest therapy activities.”



▲ Forest therapy and waterfall yoga at the Basianshan National Forest Recreation Area.



▲ The first ever forest therapy wedding held at Alishan National Forest Recreation Area.

5. Promotion of Responsible Fishing and Upgrading of Crew Welfare

(1) Deepening of international fisheries cooperation and participation in international fisheries organizations

In response to trends in international fisheries management, since 2023 the MOA has been implementing a buyback program to reduce the number of fishing vessels. Thus far 94 distant water fishing vessels have been decommissioned, including 47 in 2024. This program helps vessel owners who no longer wish to engage in fishing to exit the industry and pares down Taiwan’s distant water fishing fleet while enhancing its competitiveness.

Moreover, through the signing of fisheries-related agreements with coastal nations, the MOA can effectively monitor the overseas operations of Taiwan’s fishing vessels. We have also strengthened contacts and cooperation with market countries and non-governmental organizations to collectively combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. We



strictly enforce the rules to promote responsible fishing by Taiwan's distant water fleet, build an image as a rule-abiding nation, correct international misperceptions, stabilize the development of the industry, and ensure the sustainable use of marine resources.

On another front, the MOA proactively participates in multilateral international fisheries organizations and bilateral negotiations on fisheries issues in order to win larger catch quotas and more operating space for fisheries activities. For example, Taiwan and Japan held the 11th experts' meeting of the Taiwan-Japan Fishery Committee from November 13 to 15, 2024 in Tokyo, where the two sides discussed issues including rules for tuna longline fishing vessels operating in an inverted triangular ocean area north of the Yaeyama Islands where the "Taiwan-Japan Fisheries Agreement" applies as well as operations in other seas where Taiwan's and Japan's exclusive economic zones overlap. At the meeting, the MOA upheld the rights and interests of Taiwan's fishermen.



▲ The buyback program to reduce the number of fishing vessels helps owners who no longer wish to engage in fishing to exit the industry.

(2) Continued promotion of eco-friendly fishing methods

The MOA continued to promote "measures for demarcating areas where gillnet fishing is banned and for guiding transformation of the gillnet fishing industry." As of 2024, we guided 16 local governments (municipalities, cities, and counties) in defining areas (or time periods) where/when gillnet fishing is banned. In addition, in 2024 we guided 363 fishing vessels (rafts) that had been engaged in gillnet fishing to switch over to line fishing or trolling; thus far 4,069 gillnet fishing vessels (rafts) have been guided to switch over to other methods.

To solve the problem of abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear, the MOA continued to promote the ID-based gillnet marking policy which ensures user responsibility for gillnets. In 2024 local governments carried out inspections of gillnet fishing vessels entering,

leaving, or docked at ports on 3,220 occasions. All gillnet fishing vessels that actually leave port for fishing operations have complied with the gillnet marking policy.

The MOA also continued to clear away abandoned fishing nets in artificial reef areas, strengthening clearing in "hot spots" chosen based on scientific research. In 2024 we subsidized the Ziguang District Fishermen's Association in Kaohsiung and the Tainan City Fishermen's Association to clean up three artificial reef areas. Our goal has been to maintain the ecosystems of artificial reefs and the effectiveness of their fish aggregation functions.

Also, the "Regulations for the Management of Catching Dolphinfish," which went into effect on September 1, 2024, prohibit the catching by the fisheries industry of any dolphinfish less than 50 centimeters long. This allows immature dolphinfish to grow naturally in the sea.



▲ Inspection of ID-based gillnet markers at a fishing port.



▲ Awareness-raising materials on the "Regulations for the Management of Catching Dolphinfish" produced by the MOA's Fisheries Agency include comparison pictures and rulers to help fishermen ensure that they only catch dolphinfish that are at least a certain minimum length.

(3) Cross-domain collaborative training of crew and officers of Taiwanese vessels, improvement of crew welfare

In order to accelerate training of a new generation of skilled agricultural manpower, the MOA, based on the "New Farmers' Training Program" approved by the Executive Yuan, has engaged in cross-domain collaboration with the Ministry of Education to build a youth-friendly environment for agriculture as a profession, including publicly funded agriculture classes (groups of students) at various schools, of which some are fisheries related. Since 2020 the MOA

has worked with National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology to recruit a publicly funded class in aquaculture and another in fishing. The first publicly funded fishing class, with four students, completed internships in 2024. In addition, we worked with National Chiayi University to create places for publicly funded aquaculture students, with five participants.

Moreover, in compliance with the “International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers,” in 2024 the MOA, through government-academia cooperation, organized training for crew and officers of Taiwanese fishing vessels. We set up training bases in northern, central, southern, and eastern Taiwan and in Penghu County. Under this policy, 3,149 crew and 704 officers were trained in 108 sessions. The goals are to improve training of fishing vessel manpower and ensure operational safety at sea.

The MOA cooperates with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, the Ocean Affairs Council, and the Ministry of Justice to implement the “Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights” (2022-2025). The MOA amended the “Regulations on the Authorization and Management of Overseas Employment of Foreign Crew Members” in 2022 to enhance the enforcement of human rights for fisheries labor. The changes raised the minimum wage for migrant crew hired overseas to US\$550 per month and improved regulations stipulating the payment of remuneration and the provision of rest periods.

In 2024 the MOA also (i) subsidized the purchase of 6,133 inflatable life jackets and the installation of CCTV systems on 396 fishing vessels as well as facilitated Wi-Fi sharing on 109 vessels; (ii) constructed four additional onshore living facilities; (iii) inspected 774 distant water fishing vessels, 351 operators’ premises, and 50 foreign crew recruitment agencies; and (iv) held 48 “crew care” activities, five seminars with non-governmental organizations concerned about human rights, and 33 awareness-raising activities about the International Labour Organization’s “Work in Fishing Convention.”



▲ Basic safety training: At-sea rescue course.



▲ The International Forum on Fisheries and Human Rights.

6. Modernization of Animal Husbandry

(1) Improvement of the livestock and poultry industries through precision rearing

● The pig-raising industry

A. In 2024 the MOA implemented the “program for upgrading the competitiveness of the pig-raising industry,” introducing six new-type facilities (equipment) to pig farms that received subsidies between 2021 and 2023. These included devices to bring male pigs into direct contact with sows for potential breeding, pig ultrasound back fat scanners, pig ultrasound pregnancy test devices, sow gestation crates, phase contrast sperm microscopes, and intelligent smart sow feeding systems.

Next, MOA guidance teams used regional qualitative and quantitative surveys to do a comparative analysis of breeding performance data at pig farms. The results indicated that farms that received subsidies to introduce the new facilities (equipment) mentioned in the last paragraph showed improved performance in sow breeding rate, litter size, number of live births, number of pigs weaned, weaned pig rearing rate, and number of weaned pigs per sow per year compared to the time prior to the installation of the new facilities (equipment). There was a high level of satisfaction with the new technologies, which are capable of enhancing the production efficiency of the pig-raising industry. The improved performance will be an important basis for promotion of modernization of pig farms in the future to strengthen the competitiveness of the industry.



B. To promote the use by pig farmers of new-type production system management models, the MOA provided guidance to pig farms 1,047 times as of the end of 2024. We promoted batch production and target management, implemented accurate production records, and introduced appropriate new facilities (equipment) to enhance production efficiency. Guided farms showed an increase of 4.28% in marketed pigs per sow per year. Moreover, through the “program for comprehensive transformation and upgrading of the pig-raising industry,” we utilized methods including source regulation and total quantity management to maintain the wholesale price of pigs, which averaged NT\$90.7 per kilogram for all of 2024.

Furthermore, the MOA continued to develop overseas sales of Taiwan pork. In 2024, exports of live pigs, pork, and related products totaled 2,838 metric tons with production value of NT\$690 million. We also continued to promote modernization of slaughterhouses and upgrading of meat cold chains. So far, a total of 10 pig slaughterhouses have received HACCP certification. Meanwhile, the MOA continued to guide the modernization, transformation, and upgrading of pig farms, with 687 farms installing labor-saving equipment. As of the end of 2024 we guided 2,165 pig farms, accounting for 37.86% of all pig farms nationwide, with excellent results.

● The poultry industry

In 2024 the MOA completed certification of the introduction of smart technology at six demonstration poultry farms and optimization of three related smart technology modules. We guided 255 poultry farms to introduce intelligent closed environmentally controlled poultry buildings, automated facilities (equipment), and Internet of Things systems. We continued to promote the use of smart and labor-saving technologies for poultry production to reduce demand for labor and enhance efficiency.

In addition, the development of smart agricultural technology—such as modular technology products, image identification, acoustic fingerprint early warning systems, and inspection and work robots—has driven poultry industrial upgrading and transformation. Also, to fundamentally enhance biosecurity and adversity-resistant capabilities at poultry farms and accelerate industrial upgrading, the MOA has guided poultry farms to upgrade to non-open or closed water-curtain poultry buildings. Priority for investment in construction has been given to medium and small-sized traditional poultry farms. At the same time, we have formed a technical team of experts to assist poultry farms with on-site technical guidance. In 2024 subsidies were provided to 61 farms.

● The herbivore industry

In 2024 the MOA guided 307 herbivore livestock farms to introduce production machinery and tools related to net-zero intelligent circular sustainability as well as automated and labor-saving facilities (equipment) to deal with the impact of extreme weather and the net-zero carbon emissions policy. We also assisted the herbivore industry to upgrade, implement production modernization, and commit to low-carbon transformation. The goals are to ameliorate the labor shortage in the livestock industry, enhance production efficiency, improve the industrial chain environment, provide citizens with high-quality livestock products, maintain the development capacity of the herbivore industry, and ensure environmental sustainability.



▲ Robots autonomously patrol chicken buildings to collect data.



▲ Sow gestation crates (left) and a pig ultrasound pregnancy test device (right).



▲ Automatic recording of poultry food and water amounts contributes to building a precision rearing model.



(2) Building a pork and poultry domestic and international sales industrial chain

- To stabilize supplies of domestic livestock and poultry, the MOA guides production-and-marketing adjustments in accordance with law. We set production targets for each year, and invite industry groups to discuss production-and-marketing information, study trends, and take adjustment measures, to strengthen balance between production and sales of livestock and poultry.
- To protect the rights and interests of consumers, the MOA has continued to strengthen the domestic pig traceability code system, which can be used to trace pigs back to their farm of origin, facilitating the differentiation of domestic from imported frozen pork. As of the end of 2024 we reached our target of having 93% of all domestic fresh pork be traceable. In addition, we have implemented a “traceable agriproduct certification guidance, safety management, and marketing program” to raise the rate of traceability for domestic poultry and expand sales channels for domestic traceable poultry products. As of 2024 the traceability rate for poultry reached 87%, and remained at 100% for eggs.
- In addition, to differentiate between sales channels for imported as opposed to domestic pork and chicken, we have strengthened separate-track management for refrigerated and frozen meats. We continued to ask local governments to assist with testing measures to avoid passing off imported meat as domestic meat and ensure hygiene and safety. In 2024 there were 80 sample tests of pork and 150 of chicken, with all up to standards. The MOA continued to implement measures to ensure the safety and quality of livestock and poultry products and strengthen the differentiability and dependability of these products.



- ▲ A traditional meat vendor has a sign indicating that the pork sold there is traceable domestic fresh pork.

7. Development of Primary Processing, Cold-Chain Systems, and Diversified Marketing Channels

(1) Guidance of integration and uniformity from agricultural production to primary processing

On the basis of the “Regulations Governing Primary Agricultural Products Processing Yards,” the MOA continued in 2024 to promote an integrated and uniform management system for primary-processed agriproducts and assist farmers to develop marketing and sales channels. Accomplishments in 2024 included: (i) 61 sessions of education and training on agri-food product processing technology as well as hygiene and safety, with 2,891 participating farmers; (ii) three meetings on policy promotion and explanation for aquatic product operators; (iii) six sessions of education and training for aquatic product producers and local governments; and (iv) 35 on-site visits to aquatic product operators. Altogether we have guided 67 agriproduct primary processing yards to receive certification, including 56 for farm products and 11 for aquatic products. We also integrated scientific research with the food and beverage industry, proposing the use of bamboo leaf extract in functional foods and the development of innovative bamboo leaf liquor.



- ▲ A lecture on hygiene for operators of agriproduct primary processing yards.



- ▲ Experts provide on-site guidance at agriproduct primary processing yards.



(2) Construction of a nationwide agriproduct cold-chain network

To reduce losses and waste of agriproducts in transit, the MOA has continued to build flagship logistics centers and regional logistics centers for the farm, fisheries, and animal husbandry industries; upgrade cold-chain equipment at large wholesale markets; assist agribusinesses and farmers' organizations to acquire cold-chain storage and transport equipment for production areas; and help traditional vendors to install temperature-control equipment. Outcomes in 2024 included the following:

● The agri-food industry

The MOA has set up flagship logistics centers in Pingtung County and Taoyuan City. The International Freshness Logistics Center in Pingtung was completed in September of 2022 and a firm in the Pingtung Agricultural Technology Park has leased and operated the Center since then. It provides services including post-harvest handling, washing and grading, cutting, processing, packaging, cold-chain warehousing, and logistics (delivery), expanding the scale of production and marketing and upgrading cold-temperature storage and delivery capabilities.

Meanwhile, construction work was continued on the Taoyuan Agricultural Logistics Park. As of the end of 2024, work was completed on infrastructure, while a joint management center, water pollution treatment facility, and inspection and quarantine building were still under construction. About 35% of the project was completed, and it is all expected to be finished by the end of 2026. At that time firms will be recruited to operate in the Park, which will expand Taiwan's cold-chain handling, logistics, and marketing capabilities.

The MOA also (i) guided local governments and farmers' organizations to set up regional cold-chain logistics centers, of which three are in operation, work has been completed on the main building for one, one is under construction, and three are in the preparatory phase; (ii) guided nine fruit and vegetable wholesale markets to upgrade their cold-chain equipment; and (iii) promoted the use of new-type reusable foldable plastic crates at Taipei fruit and vegetable wholesale markets to reduce trash from single-use disposable packaging and reduce carbon emissions.

The MOA furthermore guided two wholesale flower markets to improve their cold-chain logistics equipment, which helps reduce losses, keeps flowers fresh, and increases their value. This measure extends the work of production area cold chains and improves the overall cold-chain system, allowing for minute adjustments of supplies at times of peak production

and stabilizing transactions in the floriculture wholesale market. In addition, in 2024 the MOA implemented 253 cases of upgrading of cold-chain facilities (equipment) at the agri-food production end; produced handbooks on storage, transport, and marketing cold chains for mangoes and large tomatoes; and organized four hands-on demonstrations and one business matchmaking session for companies.

● The fisheries industry

The MOA aims to ensure that fisheries products, which have concentrated production seasons, are still fresh when they go on sale and can be rapidly stored, transported, processed, and marketed. To this end, based on the special cold-chain needs of various fisheries production zones, we have guided fishermen's groups to upgrade cold-chain equipment needed for things like ice-making, freezing, and processing.

In 2024 the MOA, continuing to stay abreast of and respond to the needs of fisheries industries, strengthened the installation of cold-chain equipment in areas where it was insufficient and introduced diverse processing and freezing-and-storage technologies, in order to extend the shelf life of stored products, increase the usage rate of raw materials, reduce food losses and waste, and achieve the goals of sustainable consumption and stable production and marketing. As of the end of 2024, the MOA completed the design for four fisheries regional logistics centers, upgraded cold-chain basic facilities at eight fish markets, and guided fishermen's groups to install or update cold-chain facilities in 26 locations (19 completed, seven under construction) and processing facilities in 13 locations (11 completed, two under construction).

● The animal husbandry industry

The MOA has guided two poultry wholesale markets to plan cold-chain upgrades and guided poultry slaughterhouses to get HACCP certification (nine had done so by the end of 2024). We have also upgraded poultry slaughterhouse cold-chain facilities and equipment in 181 locations and improved livestock and poultry vendors' stalls and small trucks with temperature-control equipment in 218 cases.



▲ This equipment is used for steam-heat treatment at a processing and packaging plant in Pingtung County that conforms to international standards.



▲ New-type foldable crates are employed at a fruit and vegetable wholesale market in Taipei City.



▲ Cold-chain facilities for potted flowers at the Taipei Flower Market: Updating of fan equipment.



▲ The Taoyuan Agricultural Logistics Park has many ongoing construction projects. Expected to begin operations at the end of 2026, it will expand Taiwan's cold-chain handling and transport-and-marketing capabilities.



▲ The installation of new-type ice-making and storage equipment ensures that fish markets will have enough ice to prevent interruptions in cold chains.



▲ The national fisheries cold-chain network.

(3) Assisting farmers in primary processing and prototyping of agriproducts

● Regional agriproduct processing centers

The MOA has selected agricultural processing factories with a certain scale of operations and production capacity located in major crop production areas and that coordinate with policy to establish regional agriproduct processing centers. In 2024 the Shan Yang Foods Cooperative was selected to introduce post-harvest handling and processing equipment and to build a fruit processing venue that meets ISO 22000 standards. The Cooperative cultivated 55 hectares of land under contract in 2024 and processed about 800 metric tons of fruits such as atemoya, adding value to its agriproducts and effectively stabilizing the incomes of its farmers.

● Regional seafood processing centers

The MOA has guided the Pingtung County Government and the Keelung District Fishermen's Association in building processing plants. We have also assisted processing plants for fisheries (fishermen's organizations including the district fishermen's associations in Su'ao, Ziguan, and Penghu to purchase processing and related peripheral equipment (facilities), in order to put local fishermen in close proximity to factories to handle their catch. Using freezer warehousing, it is possible to balance supply and demand and promote diversification of sales channels and markets.

● Creation of a system of "Agricultural Products Value-Added Prototyping Centers"

The MOA has promoted an integrated services system for agriproduct processing, including prototyping centers. Through cooperation between our subordinate research institutes and universities, we have already established 16 Agricultural Products Value-Added Prototyping Centers and the Agricultural Products Processing Integrated Services Center to provide integrated services from consultations and guidance, value-added prototyping, and branding to packaging and marketing of agriproducts. The MOA has also brought together local universities and prototyping centers to form four regional processing alliances, which link primary processing to high value-added industries to help farmers access new and diversified commercial opportunities. In 2024 these institutions provided farmers with processing consultation services



3,794 man-times, prototyping services in 1,445 cases, packaging services in 105 cases, and matchmaking to get products into sales channels in 94 cases, adding about NT\$142.33 million in production value to rural economies.

● Upgrading the quality of agriproducts

To ensure the quality of agriproducts, in 2024 the MOA completed guidance of nine produce wholesale markets to upgrade their cold-chain facilities (equipment). We also promoted the use by wholesale markets of new-type foldable crates to pack and transport products. These crates, which were used over 2.42 million times as of 2024, help preserve the quality of agriproducts in the post-harvest and pre-cooling stages while also reducing waste and carbon emissions. Meanwhile, the MOA completed updating of the product concentration/distribution and grading equipment at one inspection and quarantine handling venue; optimized cold-chain and auction equipment at two wholesale flower markets; and guided about 45 farmers' groups to update cold-chain concentration/distribution, transport, and marketing facilities and equipment. These measures helped to ensure post-harvest and pre-cooling product quality and improve the cold-chain logistics system.

In addition, to improve the hygiene and safety of fisheries products supply chains and the quality of these products, the MOA continued to guide fish markets to improve their hardware equipment and operational environments. In 2024 we guided nine fish markets (including ones in Taichung, Fangliao, Zhongyun Fishing Port, the Gengfang Fishing Port offloading area, Gangshan, Chiayi, and Tainan as well as the Sanchong demonstration fish market and a Taipei wholesale fish market) to complete repair/renovation (or improvement) of facilities and equipment. The MOA also continued new construction at the Woo-Chi Fishing Port fish market, the Badouzi fish market, and the Yanpu fish offloading area.



▲ This low temperature pineapple packaging room ensures the quality of the products that reach consumers.



▲ Cold-chain facilities (equipment) installed by the Fu Fruit fresh agriproduct company ensure the quality of the products that reach consumers.

● Promotion of premium agricultural products

To cope with international competition, the aging of the rural population, and upgrading of consumer tastes, the MOA has continually promoted the optimization of premium agriproducts. Through strategies including place-of-origin branding, certification systems, refined packaging, and smart agriculture, we have enhanced the value-added of agriproducts and their international competitiveness.

In 2024 the MOA held the 10th "Rural Good Products" selection to encourage rural communities to continue to develop specialty products that add value to rural industries. A total of 483 products were selected and collective brand management was deepened to guide winners to expand sales channels. Not only have we arranged to have selected products sold at well-known sales channels including Far Eastern SOGO department stores, Shin Kong Mitsukoshi department stores, eslite flavor Marché supermarkets, and Hsin Tung Yang stores, through brand displays and sales activities and the promotion of a brand licensing mechanism, we have continued to deepen the influence of the "Rural Good Products" brand.

Moreover, the MOA held the first ever competitions for Taiwanese plum wine and for domestic fruit-based alcoholic beverages, selecting 13 winners. We also nominated rural alcoholic beverages for participation in the "Concours Vinalies Internationales"



▲ There was a dedicated area for selected Taiwan domestically produced plum wines at the Rural Winery Pavilion at the 2024 Taipei Int'l Wine and Spirits Festival.

in France and the "Mundus Vini" in Germany, winning 13 gold medals. At the same time, we held a competition for domestic tea and coffee gift and souvenir sets to identify 15 representative premium gift and souvenir sets (including the "top ten" and five "honorable mentions"). As for rice products, the MOA developed two new items, rice galettes Bretonnes and rice pizza, for sale in 1,240 outlets nationwide. We also held the "Gourmet Rice Awards," with 69 products participating, to encourage businesses to strengthen rice quality, packaging, and brand marketing.

Meanwhile, with regard to forestry products, the MOA participated in the 2024 Taipei Building Show, winning an "Excellent Exhibitor Image Award" for the 8th straight year. Our Taiwan Wood and Bamboo Pavilion highlighted the importance of forest carbon sequestration and forest protection and raised the international visibility of Taiwan wood and bamboo. In addition, we opened Taiwan's first ever experiential hall for domestic wood products in a dormitory area, located on Jinshan South Road in Taipei, of the former forestry authorities from the era of Japanese rule. It features building materials, furniture, and cultural and creative products made using domestic wood, creating a homey atmosphere. Visitors bring all five senses into play in experiencing this relaxing and interesting space with the ambience of domestic wood. In 2024 there were 12,719 visitors.

In response to Taiwan's aged society, the MOA has promoted elderly-friendly foods. In 2024 we completed development of four easy-to-chew farm and livestock foods and texture modification of three others, giving elders more options for their food. We also held a competition to select 204 elderly-friendly foods made with high-quality local ingredients, presenting outstanding products with awards, while also setting up a special area at the Food Taipei expo and inviting award winners from over the years to display their

products there. The MOA also mediated the selling of 80 items through special Eatender label (elderly-friendly) areas in brick-and-mortar and online sales channels, helping businesses to create commercial opportunities and driving the use of domestic farm, fisheries, and animal husbandry raw materials to promote the healthy development of our aged society.



▲ 2024 Taiwan Plum Wine Evaluation Event.



▲ The MOA guided businesses to mass produce rice pizza products.



▲ The Taiwan Wood and Bamboo Pavilion at the 2024 Taipei Building Show.



▲ The awards presentation activity for the "10th Rural Good Products."



(4) Development of e-commerce for agriproducts

To guide more farmers to participate in e-commerce sales channels, the MOA has assisted e-commerce platforms to access a stable supply of premium agriproducts and expand the types of these products that they sell. We have provided training and guidance to e-commerce farmers as well as assisted in improving packaging and branding of domestic e-commerce agriproducts. The MOA also brought together more than 90 e-commerce platforms including its "Afasale" website to create the "Taiwan Agricultural Products Celebration" e-commerce website. In these ways we increased e-commerce sales by nearly NT\$1.1 billion. Meanwhile, the Fisheries Agency promoted NT\$84 million in sales through its "GoFish" and "FishGo" platforms.

The MOA mediated large purchases, community group purchasing, and agricultural technology park display and sales events, while using diverse online and offline marketing and promotional activities and extending outward to brick-and-mortar outlets, to expand domestic sales of agriproducts and assist farmers to increase their incomes. In 2024 training was completed 377 man-times under a "special program for training and guidance of e-commerce farmers," while practical guidance was provided in 16 "highlight cases." We also developed five regional integrated systems, held six sessions of e-commerce business matchmaking, and assisted ten small farmers to become e-commerce brand operators.

The MOA also took e-commerce steps to help farmers affected by the April 3 Hualien earthquake. The quake cut the Suhua Highway connecting eastern Taiwan with northern Taiwan and knocked out many bridges, causing transport costs to skyrocket and severely impacting local fresh agriproduct sales and agrotourism in eastern Taiwan. In response, the MOA set up special areas on relevant e-commerce platforms to market specialty agriproducts from Hualien and enhance its farmers' competitiveness. In 2024 about 500 companies participated, selling 1,913 items with sales of NT\$8.66 million.

Besides agriproducts, the MOA has also promoted online sales of domestic wood and bamboo, setting up the "Taiwan Wood" and "Taiwan Bamboo" websites. They provide maps and information about locations of wood and bamboo companies and serve as platforms for buying and selling of these products. We have thereby given rise to an industrial chain and built up brand value for Taiwan wood and bamboo.



▲ The "Afasale" e-commerce website has sold New Year's gift and souvenir boxes designed by internationally renowned designers.



▲ Huang Chao-chin, deputy minister in the MOA, and Wang Cheng-Fan, acting director-general of the Fisheries Agency, jointly promoted barbecue gift and souvenir sets for Mid-Autumn Festival.



▲ Co-branding with a famous creator of stickers to promote a packaged set of seafood-based snacks.

(5) Building direct sales and multiple sales channels for agriproducts

In order to assist farmers to develop multiple sales channels, the MOA continued to guide the setting up of weekend farmers' markets at regular intervals at two locations in the Taipei metropolitan area: the Taipei Hope Plaza and the Taipei Expo Park. This has involved coordinating with local governments to assist farmers to hold exhibition and sales activities for in-season agriproducts on Saturdays and Sundays in order to raise farmers' incomes. In 2024, we organized farmers' markets at the Hope Plaza and Expo Park on 92 occasions, with total sales of over NT\$400 million.

Since 2013 the MOA's Agriculture and Food Agency has guided the setting up of "Direct Sales Points for Farmers" in order to provide consumers with agriproducts that are fresh, safe, eco-friendly, high quality, and/or are local specialty products. In 2024 we newly established or continued to guide existing rural community agriproduct sales points in 135 locations, encouraging "local production, local consumption" and energizing local rural economic development. Total revenues reached NT\$1 billion.

Meanwhile, the MOA also acted to innovate a new model for nationwide agriproduct logistics by adopting a cross-industry cooperation model to mediate the creation of logistics networks by a convenience store chain on behalf of farmers' and fishermen's associations (F/FAs), enabling the smooth flow of products between F/FAs. The network formally went into operation on August 21, 2024, and as of the end of December, 217 F/FAs were participating in the network, with the number of inter-F/FA orders surpassing 15,000. Consumers used F/FA service points to send (or pick up) items more than 430,000 items.

In addition, in order to diversify marketing channels for domestic wood and establish a platform for matchmaking of supply and demand for it, the MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency set up the "Taiwan Wood" information platform. Already data has been compiled on 44 firms providing forestry operational services and 150 firms producing products made from domestic wood or bamboo. A total of 582 cases of forestry operational services matchmaking have been arranged, along with transactions involving about 39,341 cubic meters of domestic timber.



▲ Agriproduct market in Taipei City's Hope Plaza.



▲ The International Forum on Local Production and Consumption and the ceremony to present certificates to food and agricultural education professionals.



▲ A press conference to announce the launch of a new model for the national agriproducts logistics system.

8. Strengthening International Agriproduct Marketing and Agricultural Cooperation

(1) Development of export-oriented agricultural operational management and products

In 2024 exports of agriproducts surpassed NT\$157.8 billion, an increase of 0.61% compared to 2023. The three biggest export markets by value were the US (NT\$28.47 billion, 18.04% of the total), mainland China (NT\$24 billion, 15.21%), and Japan (NT\$20.75 billion, 13.15%). There was significant growth in exports of some products, including fresh pineapples



(export value of NT\$850 million, an increase of 29.7% compared to 2023) and grouper (NT\$2.9 billion, an increase of 10.5%). Also in 2024, there were successful results from negotiations for overseas market access, including for the export of pineapples to New Zealand, red dragon fruit and cultured dragon-tiger grouper to Japan, and fresh pork to Singapore.

To strengthen the export supply chain, the MOA expanded contacts with large overseas trading companies to get more orders, continued to promote registration and traceability management at export-oriented fruit orchards, guided farmers' organizations to strengthen hardware facilities and field management, and stabilized supply capacity. At the same time, we guided production of fruit that met the standards of target markets and conducted sample tests for pesticide residue at orchards, product concentration/distribution venues, and the border, to ensure the safety and quality of exported fruit. In 2024 there were 1,663 sample tests, including 482 pesticide residue tests conducted independently by export-fruit farmers, with 91.91% of tested fruit up to standards; 899 tests at inspection and quarantine venues, with 98.44% up to standards; and 282 sample tests at the border, with 98.2% up to standards.

With respect to livestock products, Taiwan has enjoyed outstanding success in preventing classical swine fever (CSF). As of July 1, 2024 CSF vaccinations had been halted nationwide for one full year, and on July 23 the MOA applied to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) to be recognized as a member "free of CSF"; this recognition was received in May of 2025, making Taiwan the only country in Asia to be so recognized. In order to develop export markets for pigs, pork, and processed pork products, we also offered export incentives. In 2024 Taiwan exported 251 head of pigs and 1,605 metric tons of pork and processed pork products, as the MOA upgraded international marketing of domestic pigs and related products and continued to build an outstanding brand image for Taiwan pig products.

To enhance the overseas visibility of Taiwan agriculture, the MOA continued to set up "Taiwan pavilions" and guide outstanding domestic agribusinesses to participate in multiple international exhibitions in 2024, including Foodex Japan, J-AGRI in Tokyo, Health Ingredients Japan, the BIO International Convention, the Asia Agri-Tech Expo and Forum, and Taiwan Smart Agriweek.

At the same time, through the "Best of Taiwan Agricultural Products Festival" program, the MOA assisted businesses to hold 76 overseas marketing activities via supermarkets and sales channels in countries including the US, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Malaysia. Furthermore, though assistance and

guidance under the program to promote rural community-based businesses, "Rural Good Products" successfully expanded their presence in the Japanese market through participation in activities like the RKK Festival and Taiwan Festival (both held in Kumamoto).



▲ At the Taiwan Agricultural Pavilion at Foodex Japan 2024, MOA Chief Secretary Fan Mei-ling took this photo with representatives of 13 outstanding Taiwan agricultural and aquatic products companies participating in the pavilion.



▲ At the opening of the Taiwan Pavilion at the Food Taipei expo, MOA Deputy Minister Hu Jong-I took this photo with diplomats from various countries who visited the pavilion.



▲ A truck selling pineapples from Taiwan appeared in Tokyo's famous Ginza shopping area. MOA Minister Chen Junne-jih personally promoted pineapple sales and Japanese businesses promised to continue to expand pineapple purchases.



▲ The well-known Japanese retail chain Matsugen, based in the Kansai region, had a limited time promotion for "Taiwan pork-chop boxed meals." The launch was attended by MOA Minister Chen Junne-jih, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan official Chou Hsueh-you, Matsugen President Taro Kuwahara, and Taiwan Premium Agricultural Products Development Institute Chairman Chris Chang.

(2) Proactive participation in international organizations as well as multilateral and bilateral agricultural consultations

The MOA continued to participate in international organizations including the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum, the Asian Productivity Organization (APO), the African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO), and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH). We also continued to assist international organizations based in Taiwan, including the World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg), the Food and Fertilizer Technology Center for the Asian and Pacific Region (FFTC), and the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training (ICLPST), with their operations and development of international linkages.

In 2024, the MOA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency proactively participated in 62 activities related to international organizations. These included meetings of the WTO's Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, the WOAH, and the International Cargo Cooperative Biosecurity Arrangement (ICCBA), as well as the Quarantine Regulators Meeting, thereby raising Taiwan's international visibility.

In 2024 the MOA's Fisheries Agency participated in 107 meetings related to major regional fisheries management organizations. These included the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT), the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT), the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO), the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), and the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA), as well as relevant meetings of international economic and trade organizations including the WTO and APEC, thereby staying abreast of international developments.

Since 2012 Taiwan has participated in the "Meeting of the Informal Consultation on International Cooperation for Conservation and Management of Japanese Eel Stock and Other Relevant Eel Species" and coordinated with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species as well as countries including Japan, mainland China, and

Korea to promote sustainable use of eel resources. We have also guided the Taiwan Eel Farming Industry Development Foundation to attend meetings of the Alliance for Sustainable Eel Aquaculture to strengthen self-management in this industry and get in line with international eel industry standards.



▲ Taiwan attended the World Trade Organization (WTO) Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures' Thematic Workshop on Transparency held on March 18 to 19, 2024.



▲ Taiwan attended the WTO SPS Committee's Thematic Session on Emerging Risks and New Agricultural Technologies to Address Them held on November 11, 2024; two speakers from Taiwan addressed the event.



▲ The MOA's Fisheries Agency dispatched staff to attend the 21st Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.



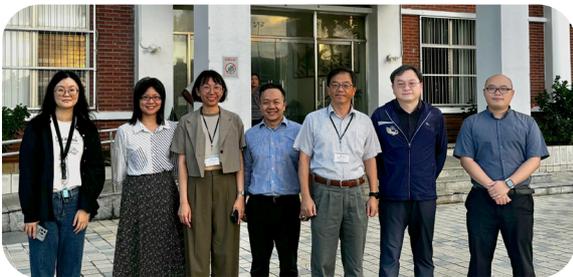
▲ MOA Deputy Minister Tu Wen-jane, Taiwan's delegate to the World Organisation for Animal Health, led a team to attend the WOAH's 91st General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates.



▲ A group photo taken at the 31st Annual Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna held in Taipei.



▲ Taiwan participated in the 2024 meeting of the Regional Commission for Asia and the Pacific of the WOAHP and assisted in organizing an international workshop on insect vector-borne diseases. The MOA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency presented an overall briefing.



▲ At the 20th Regular Session of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC20) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), a delegation from the MOA's Fisheries Agency took this photo outside the WCPFC Secretariat.



▲ Chang Chih-sheng, director-general of the MOA's Fisheries Agency, led a delegation to Belgium to participate in the "5th Meeting of the Taiwan-EU Working Group on Combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing."

(3) Promotion of international agricultural cooperation and linkages

In 2024 the MOA held bilateral agricultural cooperation meetings with four countries—the Netherlands, Lithuania, Australia, and the Philippines—along with three forums for businesses. We also arranged for over 24 high-level agricultural interactions and discussions and promoted 34 bilateral meetings on agriproduct trade issues.

The MOA's Agriculture and Food Agency signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation with Japan on mutual recognition of plant variety testing reports, thereby saving the time and costs formerly required for each side to apply for plant variety rights in the other. We have also signed organic equivalency agreements with eight countries including Japan, Australia, Canada, and the US, saving the costs of redundant testing of Taiwan's organic agriproduct exports to these markets. Meanwhile, the MOA acquired plant variety rights for the Tainung No. 3 and Tainung No. 5 lychees in Australia, protecting overseas plant variety intellectual property rights.

In 2024 the MOA held dual orchid shows (the 20th Taiwan International Orchid Show and the 23rd World Orchid Congress), with 751 buyers from 62 countries attending and three- to five-year export orders totaling NT\$11.58 billion. We also hosted the 21st Organic World Congress, with 600 people from governments, industry, and academia from 61 countries attending. The MOA moreover organized the 2024 Bamboo Expo and World Bamboo Congress, which drew 200 participants from 30 countries and had 15,000 visitors.

In 2024 the MOA and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) launched the fourth phase of a joint research project on sustainable rice production. Also, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on cooperation with WorldVeg on a program to promote innovation in five major vegetables over the next three years. In addition, the MOA's Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation signed an "MOU on Landslide and Debris Flow Disaster Research" with the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology and held a workshop which was attended by more than 70 officials and scholars from Taiwan and the Philippines.

The MOA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency participated in the "10th Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Joint Management Committee Meeting of the Agreement between New Zealand and

the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu on Economic Cooperation" and signed the "Export Plan for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables from Taiwan to New Zealand." We also held the "31st Session of the TECRO-AIT Sanitary, Phytosanitary, and Agricultural Standards Working Group Consultations" between Taiwan and the US, as well as the "1st Meeting of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Committee of the Taiwan-Belize Economic Cooperation Agreement." Such meetings contributed to the export of 1,791 metric tons of Taiwan mangoes, lychees, wendan pomelos, and pineapples and 32.52 million Phalaenopsis orchids in growth medium, while about 55,000 Oncidium orchids and about 43,000 Dendrobium orchids in growth medium were exported to the US.



▲ The signing ceremony for the "Memorandum of Understanding on Landslide and Debris Flow Disaster Research" between Taiwan and the Philippines.



▲ The 20th Taiwan International Orchid Show was held at the Taiwan Orchid Technology Park (under the Agricultural Technology Park Administration Center of the MOA) from February 24 to March 10, 2024.



▲ A group photo of participants at the "31st Session of the TECRO-AIT Sanitary, Phytosanitary, and Agricultural Standards Working Group Consultations."



▲ Taiwan and New Zealand signed the "Export Plan for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables from Taiwan to New Zealand" to permit the export of pineapples from Taiwan into New Zealand.



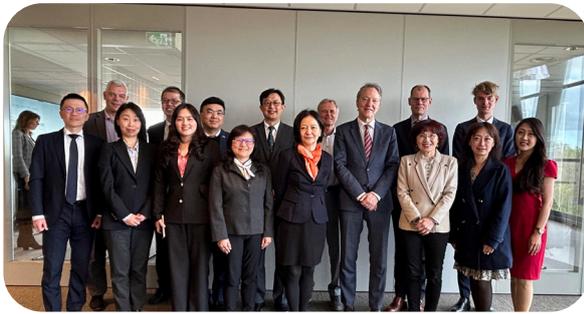
▲ A group photo of participants in the 11th Taiwan-Philippines Agricultural Cooperation Meeting.



▲ A group photo taken at the "1st Meeting of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Committee of the Taiwan-Belize Economic Cooperation Agreement."



▲ A group photo of Taiwan and Lithuania's deputy ministers of agriculture, representatives, and members of agencies for related issues taken at the "2nd Taiwan-Lithuania Agricultural Working Group Meeting."



▲ At the "19th Taiwan-Netherlands Agriculture Working Group Meeting," the two parties worked together to develop future commercial opportunities for food products.



▲ The "2nd Taiwan-Lithuania Agricultural Working Group Meeting" was jointly presided over by MOA Deputy Minister Tu Wen-jane (below right) and the deputy minister of Lithuania's Ministry of Agriculture (left).

9. Integration of Regional Rural Resources

(1) Agricultural leisure and tourism

The MOA has encouraged localities to adopt a regional outlook to develop agrotourism. As of 2024, we designated a total of 105 "recreational agriculture areas," guided 393 leisure farms in integrating their resources, and guided the refinement of brand

management at 104 "Tian Mama's cuisine units." The emphasis has been on making agriculture into a "sixth level" industry (combining primary, secondary, and tertiary industries), developing specialty industries, and building organizational and operational models. In addition, working through recreational agricultural areas and commitment of resources to leisure farms, the MOA has used the center-satellite system to promote collective cross-sector regional prosperity.

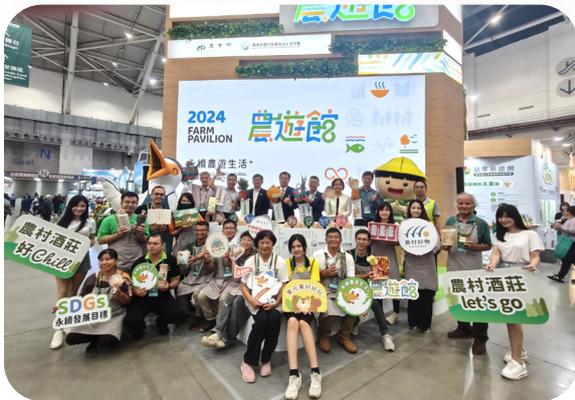
In 2024 the MOA brought together 14 local (municipal, city, and county) governments and organizations within their jurisdictions to promote regional agrotourism specialties and themed "bright spot" marketing. We continued to promote the Special Agri-tourism Spot Certification, with a total of 332 domestic farms and four in Malaysia receiving certification as of 2024. The MOA refined guidance of 299 businesses in packaging 798 agritourism itineraries with special features to sell on the Farmtour Market platform and engaged in 50 types of cooperative marketing on cross-domain sales channels for 24 businesses. These efforts facilitated online agrotourism product purchases and expanded Internet sales.

In response to the April 3 earthquake that caused transportation obstacles that resulted in operational difficulties for agrotourism venues in Hualien, the MOA authorized the Hualien County Government to spend NT\$15.4 million to implement environmental inspections and facilities repair/renovation at 29 venues. We also appropriated NT\$146 million in incentives for agritourism to help the revival of industries in Hualien County, which generated economic impact of over NT\$460 million.

Meanwhile, the MOA participated in 45 domestic and international travel fairs and promotional activities and organized 21 agrotourism groups for international media and businesses to further develop domestic and international markets and strengthen brand image for Taiwan agrotourism. In 2024 there were a total of 29.22 million visits by tourists to rural leisure and agrotourism destinations, with production value of NT\$10.86 billion.



▲ President Lai Ching-te visited the MOA's Taiwan Agriculture Pavilion at the 2024 Taiwan Culinary Exhibition, which featured "Tian Mama's cuisine unit" foods.



▲ The Taiwan Farm Pavilion at the 2024 Taipei International Travel Fair invited agrotourism operators from all over Taiwan to exhibit the special features and values of sustainable agrotourism destinations.

(2) Fisheries-related leisure and tourism

In 2024 the MOA continued to guide local governments, fishing industry (fishermen's) groups, and community development associations to inventory the tourism-friendly resources of fishing communities, fishing ports, aquaculture production areas, and seafood direct sales centers. These were combined with ecological and environmental assets (such as wetlands and intertidal zones) as well as fishing industry culture, arts, and crafts to organize and promote a variety of industrial culture and fisheries eco-tourism experiential activities with special local characteristics.

The MOA's Fisheries Agency had a booth at the 2024 Summer Travel Expo and promoted fisheries-related specialty travel, outstanding seafood niche products, and food and fisheries education. In 2024 there were a total of 9.35 million visits by tourists to fisheries-related venues, with NT\$4.8 billion in production value. The MOA also produced a special



▲ The Fisheries Agency booth at the 2024 Summer Travel Expo.



▲ The "Love Ke-zi-liao" activity.

book on fisheries-related tourism called *Exploring Fishing Community Tourism Routes across 18 Counties and Cities in Taiwan*, featuring 32 fishing communities with special features, 71 fishing harbor scenic spots, and ten unique local fishing community activities, in order to give Taiwanese more options for fishing village or coastal journeys.

(3) Forest eco-tourism

To enable people to enjoy high-quality forest leisure venues, the MOA continued in 2024 to upgrade the quality of tourism in Taiwan's 18 National Forest Recreation Areas (NFRAs), three Forest Parks, four Forestry Culture Parks, and the Alishan Forest Railway. To facilitate visits to NFRAs we implemented an electronic ticketing system with uniformity of the price of full-price e-tickets for NFRAs on working days and holidays/days off as well as discounts on parking. Moreover, during the summer of 2024 we held prize drawings for these e-tickets and coordinated with the TaiwanPay code-scanning mobile payment system to organized a 10% cash rebate activity in October. During 2024 there were more than 4.08 million visits to forest tourism venues.



▲ The Linhousilin Forest Park's "Forest Made" specialty shop opened for business, providing an outstanding space and products for travelers.



▲ The "Forests of Taiwan" pavilion at the Taipei International Travel Fair, organized by the MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency, highlighted "the most beautiful train station above the clouds"—Zhushan Station—as part of efforts to promote sustainable low-carbon eco-tourism.



▲ The Formosensis train formally began operations on the Alishan Forest Railway on September 8, 2024.

In addition, the MOA participated in the 2024 Taipei International Travel Fair with a "Forests of Taiwan" pavilion with a "forest railway" theme. It has been 15 years since renovation and repair work began on the Alishan Forest Railway, and the whole line opened to traffic on July 6, 2024. Meanwhile, the Vivid Express and the Formosensis trains officially went into operation on Alishan in May and September, respectively. There were a total of 1.14 million visits to the Alishan Forest Railway in 2024, enabling visitors to experience the richness and beauty of nature.

including print media, television, radio, the Internet, outdoor media, and on-site activities, in order to raise awareness. Through these methods, the MOA informed people about major agricultural policies to implement the vision of "smart, resilient, sustainable, and healthy" agriculture and to showcase the MOA's successes in policy implementation.

With the rise of new media, the MOA continued to engage in communications about agricultural policies through various social media platforms. In 2024, besides coordinating with the latest trends in new media operations and producing multiple short videos to spread information about agricultural policies, we made a series of videos on major policy issues and produced a series of audio-visual products, using cinematic language to depict human-interest stories and introduce agricultural policies in an accessible way. These videos were published on the MOA's social media platforms and electronic bulletin boards of farmers' and fishermen's associations.

Also, to promote domestic milk and coordinate with the post-April 3 earthquake Hualien agricultural reconstruction policy, the MOA created special promotional videos which were broadcast on popular TV programs and in taxis; recorded awareness-raising

10. Strengthening Communication about Agricultural Policies

(1) Diversified channels of communication for major policies

In order to enhance the public's understanding and acceptance of agricultural policies, the MOA in 2024 not only continued to hold press conferences and issue press releases, we also utilized various channels,



▲ The MOA made a video to improve the brand image of domestic milk to showcase its fresh, safe, delicious, and nutritious character and encourage citizens to buy more of it.

radio spots which were broadcast on radio networks and local stations; and collaborated with highway bus companies to carry special advertisements on their buses. We also worked with multiple travel magazines to print stories to encourage citizens to go to Hualien for agrotourism. The goal of all these abovementioned activities was to use multiple channels to raise awareness about, and participation in, agricultural activities and enhance the effectiveness of the MOA's policy dissemination.

(2) New media communications platforms

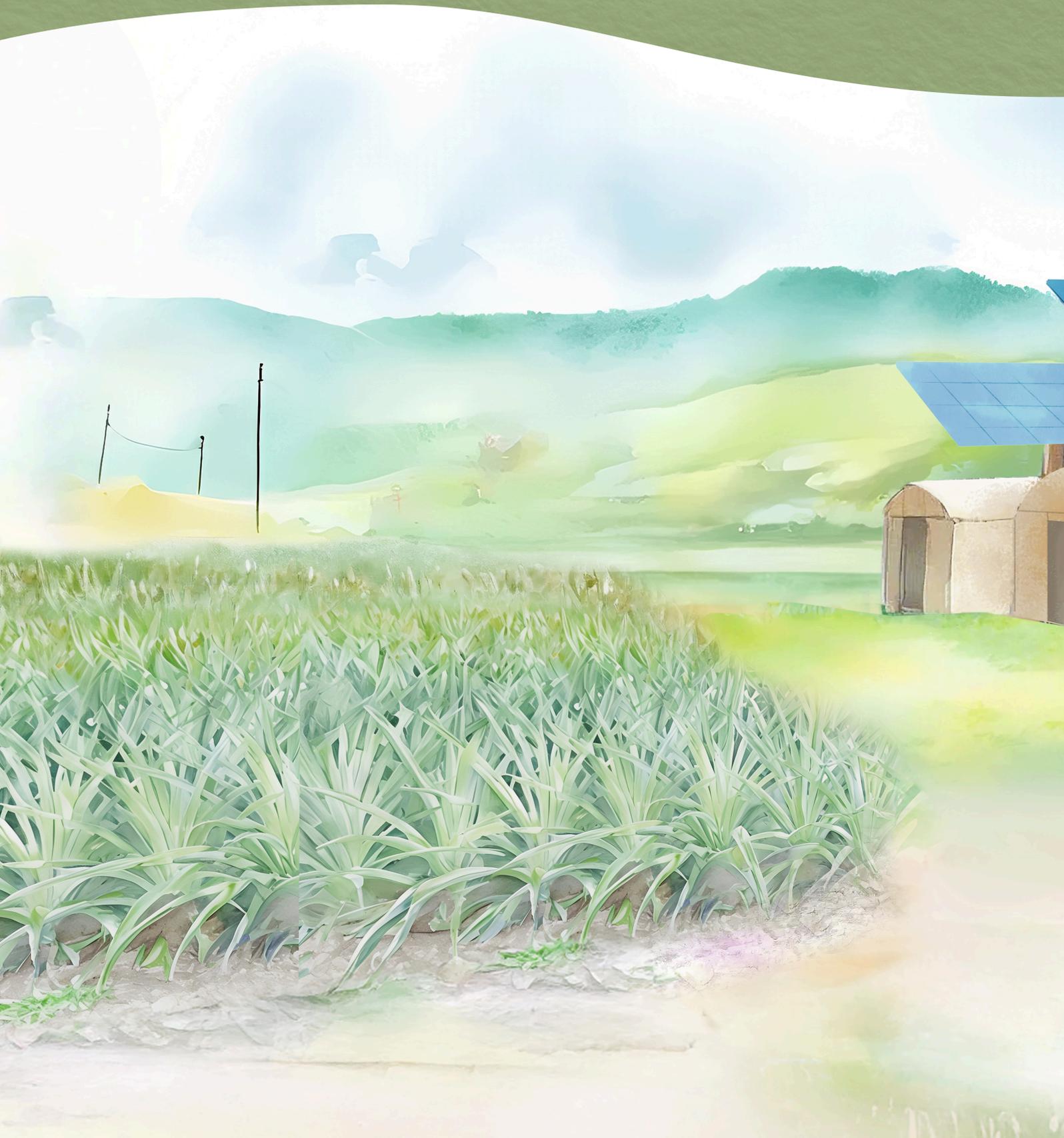
The MOA continued to use new media including our Facebook fans page, Youtube channel, and LINE@ group to provide agricultural information. Based on major agricultural issues, we have spread information through a variety of formats including videos, picture cards, livestreamed press conferences, and online activities. The MOA also promptly responds to all questions, offering immediate assistance. As of 2024 we had more than 376,000 followers for our Facebook fans page, more than 120,000 friends for our LINE@ group, and over 11,000 subscribers to our Youtube channel. We put 713 posts on Facebook, with content including agricultural information picture cards, videos, and livestreams, with reach surpassing 18 million man-times.

Moreover, in 2024 the MOA launched an Instagram account and podcasts, posting 206 items on Instagram (with reach of nearly 450,000 man-times) while producing 16 podcast programs which, through marketing, had reach of over 800,000 man-times. We hope to work through new platforms and new media to reach a younger audience and broaden information dissemination.

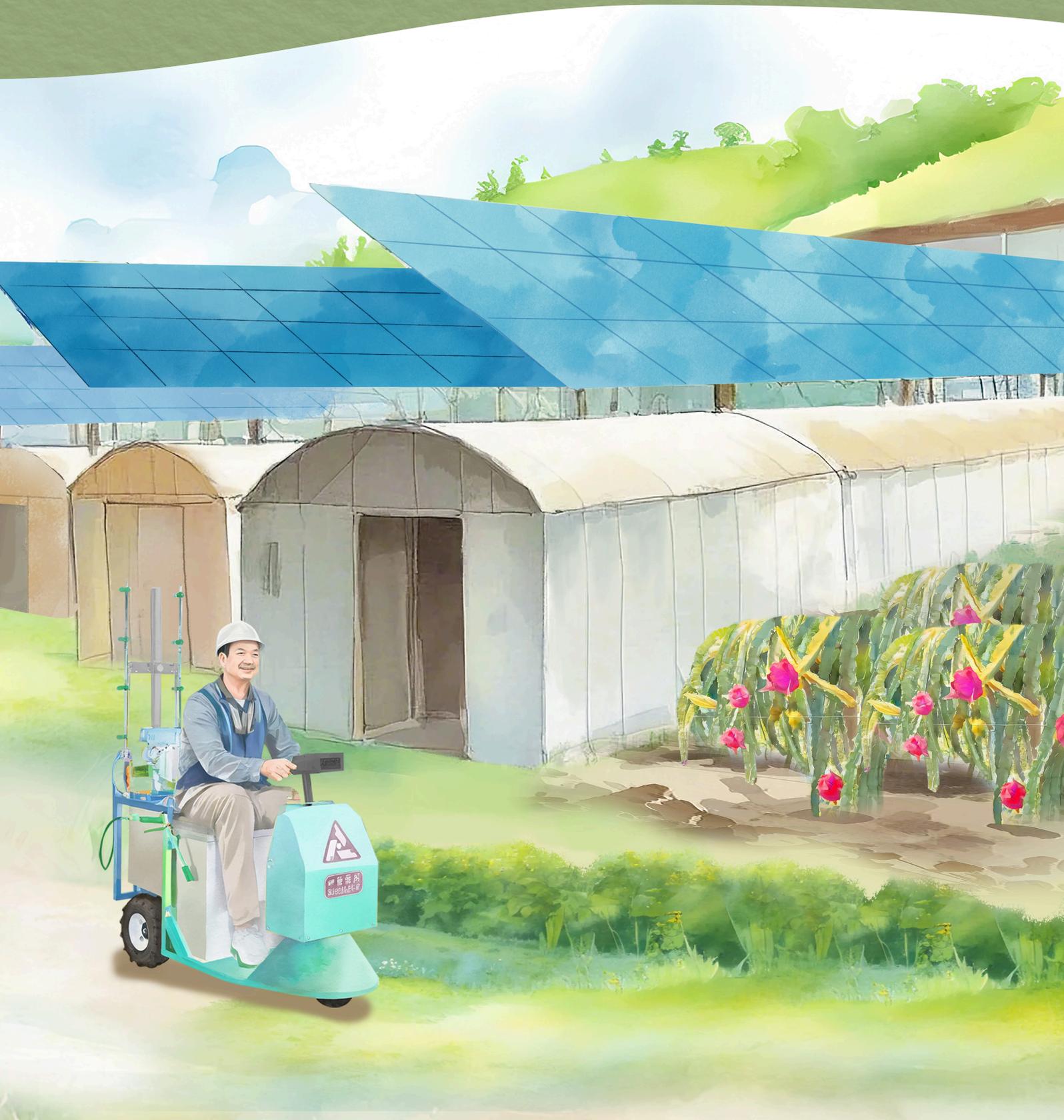


▲ The picture card that had the highest "reach" numbers of any posted on the MOA's Facebook fans page.

05



Major Events in 2024





Major Events in 2024

1. A Look Back at Key Events in 2024

(1) Strengthened animal protection and pet management

Since the restructuring of the former Council of Agriculture (COA) into the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) on August 1, 2023, the MOA has continued to promote an animal welfare consultation mechanism. On December 6, 2023 the "Directions for Establishment and Operation of the Counseling Group of Animal Protection, COA" were amended and renamed the "Directions for Establishment of the Counseling Committee of Animal Protection, MOA." We established the first-term Counseling Committee of Animal Protection in 2024, which convened four times, to provide suggestions for promoting animal welfare.

Given the diversity of pet species, the key factor in the MOA's pet management work has been graded management for different categories. We have adhered to the core values of the "measures for categorization of pets and the establishment of graded management based on each species' biological characteristics, rearing and care needs, and public safety considerations." The MOA has published handbooks for rearing and care of pets to impart correct information about animal care to owners (potential or current). We have coordinated these steps with strategies from the "Animal Welfare White Paper," including "Strategy 1: Establish a comprehensive animal protection and animal welfare education system" and "Strategy 3: Establish pet welfare standards, deepen owner and pet business management."

Since 2022 the MOA has successively completed

and issued rearing and care handbooks for dogs, cats, and rabbits, completing in a staged manner this work for Taiwan's most common pet animals. However, considering the large number of species and the varied biological nature of each, in September of 2024 the MOA published a general handbook for rearing and care of mammals. Its contents cover the principles governing caring for mammalian pets, their health management and healthcare, interactions between humans and mammals, and transport rules, thereby giving owners basic knowledge about mammalian pets.

To strengthen review of permits for animal exhibitions and performances, management of relevant businesses, and assessment processes, on July 29, 2024 the MOA announced amendments to the "Regulations for Animal Exhibition and Performance." The changes require the local competent authorities to incorporate reviews by outside experts into the permit review and assessment processes for animal exhibitions and performances. Moreover, they adjust assessments from once every two years to once every three. They also allow businesses that have joined international or regional zoo or aquarium organizations to be exempt from assessments, in order to encourage businesses to get in line with international standards. Also, to implement special protections for species scheduled as "protected" under the "Act on Wildlife Conservation," the amendments clearly stipulate that protected species can only appear in exhibitions approved by the competent authority, and cannot be used in performances or interact with people.

The amendments also add a stipulation that young animals that have not been weaned and are unable to feed themselves may not be used in performances or interact with people. They also

state that business operators must assign monitoring personnel for entire performances to ensure the safety of the animals and people involved. There is also a new provision that specialized animal managers and animal care-givers must complete a required number of hours of specialized training each year. The aim of the changes is to make businesses develop with animal welfare as a core value and implement the spirit of animal protection.



▲ Through amendments to the “Regulations for Animal Exhibition and Performance,” the MOA encourages businesses to develop with animal welfare as a core value and implement the spirit of animal protection.

(2) The formal recognition of Taiwan as a country free of African swine fever (ASF)

On October 31, 2024, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) formally recognized Taiwan's self-declaration as a country free of ASF, meaning that Taiwan's animal health inspection work has been affirmed by this international organization. This step highlights Taiwan's success in keeping ASF outside its territory, leaving Taiwan and Japan as the only two countries in East Asia free of ASF. Following on recognition of Taiwan as being free of foot and mouth disease and sheep and goat pox, this marks further international affirmation of Taiwan's disease prevention efforts, and has significant meaning for the sustainable development of the livestock industry in Taiwan.

ASF is a highly lethal viral disease that poses a major threat to the global pig industry. Since 2018 ASF outbreaks have rapidly spread across multiple Asian countries including mainland China and surrounding regions. The ASF virus is transmitted via direct contact, contaminated objects, and food, making prevention and control extremely challenging. Consequently, countries have strengthened their border inspection and quarantine measures to effectively prevent the introduction and spread of ASF.

Taiwan has the advantage of being an island surrounded by ocean on all sides. To effectively block ASF, the government has adopted a series of strict prevention and control measures. These have included border control methods including awareness-raising about disease prevention among travelers, strict green lane (“nothing to declare”) enforcement, luggage and postal parcel inspections, and checks of shipped and express delivery items. There has also been enhanced biosecurity management at domestic pig farms, strengthened disease monitoring, and establishment of an ASF early warning mechanism. In addition, through intergovernmental cooperation and citizen participation, a comprehensive disease prevention and testing policy has been implemented, successfully maintaining Taiwan's status as a country free of ASF.

Moreover, the MOA has proactively discussed inspection and quarantine conditions and rules with overseas target markets, as well as strengthened guidance of operators to conduct breeding pig registration, performance tests, screening based on appearance, and monitoring of animal diseases, enabling the continued export of breeding pigs to Southeast Asia (including Hong Kong and Vietnam) over many years and achieving excellent results in local markets. At the same time, we have expanded exports of domestic pork to the international market. Since 2020 the MOA has promoted the HACCP certification system for slaughterhouses and systematically upgraded the hygiene, safety, quality, brand value, and consumer differentiability of domestic pork, thereby simultaneously ensuring the safety and quality of pork for Taiwanese consumers and facilitating exports.

In July of 2024, Taiwan submitted a self-declaration to the WOAH for ASF-free status. The submission detailed Taiwan's legal framework, prevention and control measures, and historical surveillance data in accordance with Chapter 15.1 (covering ASF) of the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code. Taiwan provided comprehensive documentation which underwent a rigorous evaluation process by the WOAH. Ultimately, Taiwan's ASF-free status was published on the WOAH website on October 31, 2024. This publication not only represents a strong endorsement of Taiwan's animal health and biosecurity efforts but also further strengthens the competitiveness of Taiwan's pork products in the international market.

In the future, Taiwan will continue to strengthen border controls and implement domestic biosecurity measures while deepening international cooperation



to maintain its ASF-free status. The achievement of this status fully reflects the importance of cross-departmental coordination and public participation in providing a solid foundation for advancing animal health and livestock industry development in Taiwan. Under the severe challenges of global animal disease outbreaks, Taiwan's efficient and resilient animal health and biosecurity system has once again demonstrated its capability and reliability, serving as a model for other countries to follow.



▲ Strengthened inspections of passenger luggage at airports.



▲ Monitoring of dead pigs drifting at sea by animal disease prevention personnel.

(3) Policy to refine the rice industry

In response to the decision by the Legislative Yuan to raise the purchase price for rice for public stocks, and under the principles of balanced development of the agri-food industry, timely reflection of production costs, and strengthening the resilience of farmers' incomes, on December 23, 2024 the MOA held a press conference to announce the promotion of the "comprehensive program for upgrading the agri-food industry" starting in 2025. This not only takes into account the interests of the 120,000 farmers who sell their rice products to the government for public stocks, it also concerns 360,000 producers who sell to consumers and cultivate dryland miscellaneous staple crops. The main components of the program are as follows:

- Timely reflection of production costs, adjustment of purchases of rice for public stocks, and support of prices:

In order to prevent a direct increase in prices of rice for public stocks from stimulating overproduction, the total volume purchased per hectare for public stocks has not changed. Most of the "additional purchase" volume will be added to "planned purchases" or "supplementary purchases," with strengthened planned purchases to raise farmers' incomes. In addition, to support prices, the price of supplementary purchases will be raised by NT\$1.5 per kilogram. Post-adjustment purchases for public stocks will be equivalent to an added NT\$20,000 per hectare per year.

- Strengthened resilience against natural disaster risks, higher incentives to switch from rice to other crops, maintenance of a balance between rice supply and demand, and promotion of agri-food diversity:

- Given the rise in production costs, losses from natural disasters will have a bigger impact on farmers' incomes. The new program introduces strengthened income insurance for rice for public stocks, thereby increasing guarantees of farmers' incomes.
- In response to the adjustment of the policy of government purchases for public stocks, in order to maintain balance between supply and demand and industrial balance, the program includes an increase in incentives (of NT\$10,000 per hectare) for switching to alternative (contract) crops and for production environment maintenance measures under the Green Environmental Payment Program.

- Strengthened promotion of "1—Group production, 2—Transition, and 3—Add 3" measures:

- 1—Group production:** The refinement of paddy-rice group production zones encourages cultivation of premium varieties and exports. It attracts farmers who formerly had their products purchased for public stocks to join group production zones, as well as provides increased subsidies to contract farmers for production materials and operational equipment. Through integrated quality control of group operations and brand marketing, the MOA improves brand image, overturns the old idea that farmers prioritize quantity over quality, and enhances the competitiveness of domestic rice.
- 2—Transition:** This measure increases incentives for farmers who use land originally intended for rice cultivation in the second crop season to transition to alternative (contract) crops and local



specialty crops under the Green Environmental Payment Program. It enhances Taiwan's self-sufficiency in miscellaneous staple crops (MSCs) and strengthens contract production and sales by guided MSC group production zones. At the same time, it offers guidance for setting up regional standardized MSC processing yards to assist in improving equipment for post-harvest handling, raw material storage, and processing. This strengthens service functions on a satellite operating model, enhances purchases and storage capacity at production areas, ensures quality, supports prices in production areas, and ensures farmers' incomes.

- C. 3—Add 3: To increase guarantees for contract production and rice farming that is organic, eco-friendly, or Traceable Agricultural Products-certified, this measure raises the target price for strengthened income insurance for premium rice by NT\$3. In addition, through more robust market purchases, the MOA will appropriately withhold new rice, leading dealers to increase the purchasing price of rice that they manage and ensuring farmers' incomes. The program also strengthens marketing of rice, rice education, the promotion of processed rice products, and the holding of rice exhibition and sale activities; develops sales channels domestically and internationally; and enhances consumer awareness while guiding citizens to live on mainly rice-based diets, thereby increasing consumption of rice.



▲ An awareness-raising explanatory meeting for the "rice industry upgrading" program (September 11, 2024).



▲ An awareness-raising explanatory meeting for the "comprehensive program for upgrading the agri-food industry" (December 27, 2024).

(4) Passage of the "Plant Doctor Act"

After 16 years of sustained effort, the "Plant Doctor Act" was finally passed by the Legislative Yuan on July 15, 2024 and promulgated by order of the President on August 7, when it came into immediate effect. This milestone makes Taiwan the first country in the world to enact a dedicated law for plant health professionals, marking a historic step forward in the field of plant health.

This landmark legislation was designed to establish an institutionalized system of professional plant health services. Moving forward, through expert plant doctors who provide real time, tailored diagnostic and treatment services, we can fundamentally elevate the quality of crop management and disease/pest diagnosis. Ultimately, this will drive the modernization and sustainable development of Taiwan's agriculture.

The enactment of the "Plant Doctor Act" stemmed from the increasingly acute challenges facing Taiwan's agricultural sector. Against a backdrop of climate change and intensifying global trade, the risks of crop damage caused by pests and diseases have risen sharply—risks that traditional control methods often fail to address adequately. Concurrently, consumer demands for food safety have grown, with greater expectations for reducing both the use and residues of chemical pesticides. These developments not only have threatened the stability of agricultural production but also compounded the complexity of plant pest and disease management.

To effectively address the aforementioned challenges, the government has been actively promoting the plant doctor system since 2017. This initiative aimed to establish a professional framework through dedicated legislation and the implementation of a national examination to certify qualified personnel. The goal has been to fundamentally enhance the resilience of domestic agriculture and improve crop health management capabilities.

The Act serves as the occupational legislation for plant health specialists and technical personnel. Comprising six chapters and 51 articles, it meticulously outlines the certification process, professional conduct, and establishment and management of practice facilities, as well as the regulatory frameworks for plant health organizations and affiliated associations. The Act aims to comprehensively safeguard the employment rights of plant health professionals and the interests of those seeking their services.

The coming into effect of the "Plant Doctor Act" represents a significant innovation in Taiwan's agricultural legislation. It provides a pivotal opportunity



to upgrade plant protection, pest and disease management, and agricultural product safety. Through the implementation of this Act, Taiwan demonstrates its foresight in the field of plant medicine within the global agricultural system, setting a commendable example. As the professional system for plant doctors continues to develop, Taiwan's agriculture is poised for resilient and sustainable growth, contributing robustly to the modernization of global agriculture and the protection of ecological environments.

(5) Multiple approvals to import Taiwanese agriproducts, development of export opportunities for Taiwan agriproducts

● The return of Taiwan pork to the Singapore market

In April of 2024, the Singapore Food Agency conducted a videoconference audit of the chilled and frozen pork from the Cha I Shan Foods Company slaughterhouse, and granted approval for market access in November. This was a collective achievement by industry, government, and academia in Taiwan. At present African swine fever (ASF) is rampant in many Asian countries, while Taiwan's success at preventing ASF has won plaudits. This approval to export chilled and frozen pork to Singapore, following on approval received to export frozen pork to the Philippines, is another milestone breakthrough for Taiwan pork in the international market. The MOA will continue to work to develop export markets for premium agriproducts from Taiwan, and following the recognition of Taiwan by the WOA as a country free of classical swine fever in 2025, we will proactively negotiate the entry of fresh pork into markets including Japan.



▲ The Singapore Food Agency conducted a videoconference audit of sample nematode collection from a pig corpse.

● The export of cultured dragon-tiger grouper to Japan

After eight years of bilateral discussions between Taiwan and Japan, on October 30, 2024 Japan agreed to exports of Taiwan cultured dragon-tiger grouper to its market. Immediately thereafter the MOA announced the “Directions for Registration and Management of Dragon-Tiger Grouper Aquaculture Farm and Factory for Exportation to Japan.” These require aquaculture farms and processing operations that wish to export to Japan to get Traceable Agricultural Products certification and register with the MOA's Fisheries Agency (FA) and, in accord with the “Agricultural Production and Certification Act,” implement batch management. Exporters must receive approval from the FA when exporting to ensure that their cultured dragon-tiger grouper meet Japanese requirements.

● The export of pineapple to New Zealand and dragon fruit to Japan

On April 9, 2024, Taiwan and New Zealand held the “10th Sanitary and Phytosanitary Joint Management Committee Meeting (SPS-JMC) of the Agreement between New Zealand and the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu on Economic Cooperation” where they signed the “Export Plan for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables from Taiwan to New Zealand” and New Zealand agreed to the importation of Taiwan pineapples. The first shipment of 1,250 kilograms of pineapples arrived and cleared customs on May 11, 2024.

In addition, on June 5, 2024, Japan opened its market to red-flesh, purple-flesh, and hybrid species of dragon fruit (*Hylocereus* spp.) exported from Taiwan. These must be vapor-heat treated before export. The first shipment of red-flesh dragon fruit arrived in Japan and cleared customs on July 2, 2024, and as of the end of 2024, 17,431 kilograms were exported to Japan.



▲ A press conference held in July 2024 for the initial shipment of red-flesh dragon fruit to Japan.



▲ Quarantine officers from Japan and Taiwan jointly conduct inspection and quarantine measures for red-flesh dragon fruit exported to Japan.

(6) The reopening of the entire Alishan Forest Railway to traffic

After 15 years of disruptions, on July 6, 2024 the Alishan Forest Railway (AFR) fully reopened to traffic, turning a new page in the history of this century-old world-class railway. This achievement was the result of many years of determined effort by the MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency and its Alishan Forest Railway and Cultural Heritage Office.

Looking back over the difficult reconstruction period, in 2009 Typhoon Morakot caused damage at 41 locations on the AFR and the entire line was closed. In 2015 Typhoon Dujuan caused the collapse in two places (totaling 55 meters) of the No. 42 tunnel. Reconstruction work faced many challenges from the demanding topographic and climatic conditions, which were met with resilience and professionalism. There was comprehensive promotion of railway operations with engineering and rolling stock work done along with strengthening of safety management. Following rigorous trials, personnel training, and various inspections, the AFR finally passed a provisional inspection by the Railway Bureau of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications and the full line reopened to traffic.

A ceremony was held on May 17, 2024 to mark the completion of work on the No. 42 tunnel. Then Premier Chen Chien-jen personally attended to witness this milestone of reconstruction work. The first train to run after the full reopening on July 6, carrying 85 passengers, completed its run without any problems. On July 19 President Lai Ching-te attended an activity to thank the workers who supported and participated in the reconstruction and reopening. He emphasized that Alishan has a pleasant climate, magnificent scenery, and cultural significance, and that the AFR is a railway with an international reputation, has sister relationships with many railways

in other countries, and welcomes domestic and international tourists to enhance the impact of this major reconstruction project.

To mark the historic moment of the reopening of the full line, a series of celebratory activities were held in 2024. Through diverse marketing methods including media reports, international exchanges, cross-sector cooperative photography, and social media push, the domestic and international visibility of the AFR was raised and opportunities for future international cooperation developed.

It is exciting to note that Alishan and the AFR were identified by the *New York Times* as one of its list of 52 recommended travel destinations in 2025, the only place in Taiwan to make the list. Besides continuing to optimize the software and hardware equipment and facilities of the AFR, the MOA will link the line with local cultural and tourism sites of value in hopes of attracting even more international visitors, thereby laying a firm foundation for the railway's sustainable operations.



▲ A group photo of President Lai Ching-te, guests, and colleagues from the Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency and Alishan Forest Railway and Cultural Heritage Office at the "Alishan Forest Railway Fully Reopening and Thanksgiving Event" at Zhushan Station, held on July 19, 2024.



▲ Members of the public joyfully welcome the first train to run on the reopened Alishan Forest Railway main line (July 6, 2024).



▲ Residents from the area of Shizilu Station and travelers welcome the first train to run from Alishan to Chiayi (July 6, 2024).



▲ A group photo of then Premier Chen Chien-jen and guests at the ceremony to mark completion of reconstruction work on the No. 42 tunnel of the Alishan Forest Railway.

(7) The signing of the “Memorandum of Understanding on Landslide and Debris Flow Disaster Research” between Taiwan and the Philippines

The MOA's Agency of Rural Development and Soil and Water Conservation (ARDSWC) signed a long-term exchange and cooperation agreement with the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS). On May 6, 2024 Taiwan's representative in the Philippines Wallace Chow and the Philippines representative in Taiwan Silvestre H. Bello III formally signed the "Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Landslide and Debris Flow Disaster Research" at the MOA. This strengthens shared research and cooperation between the two countries in this field.

Taiwan and the Philippines face similar natural disaster threats. In particular, with the intensification of global climate change, the frequency and severity of natural disasters have been increasing. The ARDSWC and the PHIVOLCS have for many years proactively engaged in exchanges and interactions related to professional technology and personnel, jointly held international conferences, and engaged in in-depth discussions and shared experiences related to natural disaster management issues. Since 2022, the two sides have been proactively studying the possibility of signing a cooperation agreement, which was the MOU formally signed in 2024.

The signing ceremony earned a high level of attention and support from both countries. Renato Umali Solidum Jr., head of the Philippines' Department of Science and Technology, specially



▲ A group photo at the signing ceremony.

made a congratulatory video, while the ceremony was attended by MOA Deputy Minister Tu Wen-jane, ARDSWC Director-General Lee Chen-Yang, and PHIVOLCS head Teresito C. Bacolcol. At the ceremony, Deputy Minister Tu and Director-General Lee both emphasized that international cooperation is especially important given the ever-increasing challenge of extreme weather events. This MOU not only strengthens Taiwan-Philippines bilateral cooperation, it will help reduce the threat of natural disasters to the lives and property of their citizens and enable the two countries to work together to protect the safety and well-being of their peoples.

Based on the MOU, in future the two sides will collaboratively engage in work in critical fields including soil and water conservation technology,

geological hazard research, climate change impact evaluations and adaptation strategies, and applications of hi-tech (such as Big Data and AI) in landslide surveys, monitoring, alert and warning systems, and risk evaluations. They will also collaborate on development of remote sensing technologies (including radar and visible light satellite imaging) and management technology for their data; jointly organize cooperative activities including conferences, seminars, workshops, and lectures; and, building on a foundation of scientific research and technological innovation, continue to deepen science and technology collaboration and jointly enhance their capabilities for monitoring and responding to landslides and debris flow disasters.



2. 2024 Month by Month

January

- The MOA announced the deletion of recognition of the US state of Pennsylvania as a zone, and the Czech Republic as a country, free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas.
- Announced recognition of Malaysia as a country free of highly pathogenic avian influenza and Paraguay and Lithuania as countries free of Newcastle Disease, allowing the import into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas in accordance with related quarantine requirements.
- Announced “Regional Rice Harvest Insurance of Fubon Insurance” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- In coordination with 2024 work on export of fresh jujubes from Taiwan to Japan, the MOA invited Japan to send quarantine officers to Taiwan to undertake inspection and quarantine tasks for fresh jujubes; the process lasted until March 5, and it is estimated that 29,000 kilograms of this fruit were exported to Japan in 2024.
- The MOA announced amendments to partial articles of the “Regulations for the Personnel Management of Irrigation Management Organizations” to meet the needs of irrigation management work and improve the personnel system at such organizations.
- Announced that the welfare allowance for elderly farmers would, after taking into account the rise in the consumer price index, be increased to NT\$8,110 per month, to help protect the quality of life of elderly farmers.
- Brought together premium seasonal fruit, including wax apples and jujubes, as well as processed fruit products, and held a marketing press conference to announce their availability through the FamilyMart mobile purchasing App, thereby strengthening diversified marketing of both fresh fruit and processed fruit products.
- Held the “Taiwan-Czech Republic Workshop on Slope and Active Tectonics,” at which experts from the two parties used geological technology to deeply explore issues including sliding surfaces of slopeland landslides and analysis of factors in sliding. The Czech side stated that Taiwan, being so geologically active, is an excellent location for related research, and expressed hope for even deeper cooperation in the future.
- Held seminars on upgrading and transformation of the cattle-raising industry in Chiayi City and Tainan City, where the MOA explained the mid-term program for the cattle-raising industry (2024-2027) and exchanged views with dairy farmers with the aims of prioritizing management of cattle diseases, improving planned production in the industry, and diversifying uses of excess milk production in winter.
- Held a workshop on baseline carbon sequestration in forest soil, inviting experts from related departments in colleges and universities and forestry-related personnel from the MOA to attend. They discussed forest soil carbon sequestration surveying and GIS mapping technology as well as training of professional natural carbon sequestration personnel.
- Announced updating of data on rivers and waterways across Taiwan that have the potential for debris flow and locations prone to large-scale landslides as well as threshold values for early debris flow warnings and for large-scale landslide rainfall warnings. Data showed 1,732 rivers and waterways with the potential for debris flow as well as 65 locations prone to large-scale landslides.
- Held the “Top Hundred Young Farmers Market,” where young farmers from the first through sixth groups of the Top 100 Young Farmers brought their creativity and knowledge into practical use in a display and sales activity. The event created an atmosphere of friendly competition and strengthened market positioning and uniqueness of self-produced products.
- Held the first meeting of 2024 of the border control and public awareness team of the “Central Emergency Operation Center for African Swine Fever (ASF),” to strengthen measures to prevent the incursion of major trans-boundary animal diseases and pests (such as ASF) through smuggling channels into Taiwan, and also to instruct all border control organizations to reinforce public awareness, border inspections, and confiscations given the approach of the Lunar New Year.

February

- The MOA announced a subsidy program for fisheries-related items including guidance and equipment for youth operations in fishing communities, demonstration energy storage equipment in aquaculture areas, and small fishing machinery/gear, and accepted applications from fishermen. The aims are to assist businesses to optimize production management, lower aquaculture costs, and enhance operational effectiveness.
- Formally implemented the “Standards and Categories on Administrative Fees for Using the Basic Facilities of Fishing Ports of The Ministry of Agriculture,” as the MOA began to collect fees for unlicensed fishing vessels docking in its fishing ports. At the same time, we extended the time limit for replacing dismantled old fishing boats with new fishing boats in order to solve the problem of insufficient berths at nine Category 1 fishing harbors.
- Convened the “first meeting of the first-term Counseling Committee of Animal Protection, MOA,” where reports were presented on five major animal protection policies, the establishment of the “Counseling Committee of Animal Protection, MOA,” results of implementation of the “Animal Welfare White Paper,” and the situation with respect to draft amendments to the “Animal Protection Act.” There was also discussion of changes to the “Pet Products Selection Guide” and the handbook for rearing and care of mammals.
- Launched production management traceability and multi-faceted monitoring at Taiwan Sugar Corporation (TSC) pig farms and of their animal feed and meat products (including same batch, same source), including at meat markets. There were 793 sample tests of pig serum, hair, feed, and meat products in which no β -agonists were found. The MOA determined that the discovery of non-systemic cimbuterol (a β -agonist) in TSC sliced pork shoulder butt by the Taichung City health authorities was an isolated case. In future we will increase the number of annual tests for β -agonists to 7,000, and will convene an interministerial expert meeting with the Ministry of Health and Welfare to clarify the reasons for the Taichung City results.

- Announced the “2024 subsidy regulations for the program to subsidize barcode label printers for Traceable Agricultural Products (TAP) aquaculture products,” aiming to use these subsidies to expand market share of TAP-certified aquatic products.
- Announced “Banana Income Insurance” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024 and added Wufeng, Shigang, Shanhua, and Houbi districts as areas for trial implementation, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with the “Regulations Governing the Trial Operation and Premium Subsidy of Banana Income Insurance.”
- Announced “2024 subsidy standards for indoor aquaculture production facilities (must be combined with rooftop solar power facilities),” and approved applications from three businesses in Pingtung County for guidance in optimization of smart production equipment. The goals were to expand the number of operations in the demonstration zone, build a smart aquaculture production model, and reduce weather-related disaster losses.
- Announced recognition of the US states of Georgia, New Jersey, and Nevada as zones free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, allowing the resumption of importation into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas in accordance with related quarantine requirements.
- Announced the deletion of recognition of the US states of Nebraska, Florida, and North Carolina as zones free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas.
- Announced amendments to Paragraph 3 and Supplementary 2 of Paragraph 3 of “Operation Directions for the Examination and Scoring of Business Plans for Park Enterprises in Agricultural Technology Parks,” in order to undertake review and management of the current implementation of business plans by firms at such parks.
- Announced the amending of “subsidies to local governments to guide farmers in implementing plans to prevent damage to crops by Formosan macaques,” raising subsidies for electric fence energizers and electronic fences from between NT\$45,000 and 126,000 to between NT\$80,000 and 230,000, and added new subsidies for farmers to purchase grilles, sonic repellers, and other anti-macaque equipment.
- Hosted a meeting in Taiwan of the standing board of directors of the International Society for Horticultural Science (ISHS) and participated in the “Forum on Sustainable Horticulture from ESG to SDG.” The MOA has encouraged Taiwanese enterprises to become new international corporate members of the ISHS, proactively participate in important international academic organizations, and promote international industrial links.
- Held the 2024 joint explanatory meetings on guidance resources for industrialization of agricultural technology, covering themes including guidance resources, technology support, and financing. The aims were to provide industries with a better understanding of guidance resources and consultation services for such industrialization and encourage tech-based agribusinesses to apply for government resources to introduce technology to upgrade industrial competitiveness.
- Attended the APEC Policy Partnership on Food Security (PPFS) meeting, part of the “2024 First Senior Officials’ Meeting” (SOM1) series of events, where there was discussion of issues including food security, sustainable agriculture, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Held the 23rd World Orchid Congress and the 20th Taiwan International Orchid Show, and combined these with “Tainan 400” and “2024 Taiwan Lantern Festival” activities, thereby raising the international profile of Taiwan orchids.
- Announced the “Regulations for Human Medications Using in Canine, Feline and Non-economic Animals” to clearly stipulate the application procedures, access channels, packaging label requirements, use limitations, and reporting obligations for the use by veterinarians of (i) medications made for humans, (ii) human drugs approved for animal use, and (iii) specially imported drugs when medications for treating dogs, cats, and non-economic animals are insufficient. The goal is to protect the rights and interests of companion animals and owners, while also taking into account separate track management of pharmaceuticals for human vs. animal use.
- Attended the “13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization,” held in the United Arab Emirates, engaging in meetings including working sessions on fisheries subsidies and agricultural negotiations and discussion of the SPS declaration, thereby upholding Taiwan’s positions and industrial rights and interests.

March

- The MOA announced “Typhoon and Flood Insurance for Agricultural Facilities of Fubon Insurance” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Held the “2024 awareness-raising meetings on the installation of GPS tracking systems on vehicles transporting live pigs and pig corpses” (for central and southern Taiwan) as the MOA continued to promote the installation of GPS systems on such vehicles to strengthen prevention of African swine fever.
- Held the “2024 International Conference on Modeling Pest Distributions and Monitoring Strategies for Global Crop Protection,” bringing together 278 participants. The conference provided a platform for sharing relevant experiences on the latest developments in areas including innovations in plant pest monitoring across time and space, prevention technologies, ecosystem modeling, pest risk analysis, and pest monitoring and identification technology. In addition, participants exchanged information of the application of distribution modeling and emerging monitoring technologies in plant inspection and quarantine management. The event fostered international collaboration and contributed to the advancement of global crop protection efforts.
- Held the 2024 presentation on Taiwan hand-brewed premium teas in Tokyo, Japan, inviting 2021 World Brewers Competition runner-up Daiki Hatakeyama and baristas from Japan’s Kanto Region to participate, show their skills, and exchange ideas, with the aim of winning future display-and-sales matchmaking opportunities and expanding the market for Taiwan premium teas.
- Guided 12 businesses to organize a group to participate in “2024 Foodex Japan” with a Taiwan Agricultural Pavilion. Through an opening culinary demonstration called “Sweet Taiwan Meet Taiwan,” global buyers and consumers were shown the diversified uses of Taiwan pineapples and fruit. Four Taiwan businesses signed purchasing agreements with firms from Japan and the Philippines to buy Taiwan sweet potatoes, pork, and aquatic products, while the large Japanese vegetable and fruit companies Dole and Farmland promised to expand purchases of Taiwan pineapples.



- Announced the “operation directions for subsidies for the installation of camera video recording systems on fishing vessels in 2024 and 2025.” By subsidizing the installation of these systems on distant water fishing vessels, this initiative assists in monitoring fish catch and labor conditions on board, ensures that fishers’ working conditions comply with standards, and strengthens the management responsibilities of operators.
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the “program for conservation of glow-worms endemic to the Matsu Islands,” bringing together government agencies, academia, and industry to collaborate to use eco-friendly smart lighting systems to reduce the impact of light sources on these glow-worms, thereby advancing conservation work.
- Announced “Parametric Watermelon Insurance of Fubon Insurance for Rainfall” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Announced deletion of recognition of the US state of Massachusetts as a zone free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from this area.
- Held the “2024 Presidential Tree-Planting Event,” at which President Tsai Ing-wen along with faculty and students from National Chengchi University planted a variety of native Taiwan species in the mountains surrounding the school as part of efforts to build a sustainable Taiwan.
- Visited Kinmen County to discuss expansion of contract cultivation of “Tainan No. 7” and “Tainan No. 8” sorghum. The MOA encouraged the Kinmen County Government and Kinmen Kaoliang Liquor Incorporated to raise contract prices for sorghum from NT\$21 to NT\$25 per kilogram and extend supply contracts to strengthen promotion of domestic sorghum cultivation, creating a win-win-win situation for the industry, farmers, and water-saving measures.
- Attended the conference and exhibition of results of the first phase of the “Taiwan Africa Vegetable Initiative” program, issued a handbook for innovative cooking of traditional vegetables, witnessed the signing on to the Initiative by Eswatini and international partners, and extolled the importance of ensuring nutrition sustainability and food safety. We also participated in activities celebrating the opening of the seedbank of the Eswatini National Plant Genetic Resources Centre, drawing the attention of international organizations to R&D, promotion, and use of native traditional vegetables; enhancing Taiwan’s visibility in and contributions to Africa; advancing regional food security; and deepening agricultural cooperation and diplomatic relations between Taiwan and Eswatini.
- Held a press conference announcing the launch of a series of activities related to the “2024 Bamboo Expo and World Bamboo Congress.” The Expo was held from March 16 to April 28, spanning jurisdictions including Hsinchu, Nantou, Yunlin, Chiayi, and Hualien counties and focused on six themes: cultivation, technology, architecture, arts, education, and cuisine. It included activities related to bamboo processing, bamboo architecture, bamboo crafts design, hands-on experiences, forest therapy itineraries, and markets.
- Held a joint exhibition of results of the series of programs under the heading “rural communities are really wonderful” as an introduction to the 9th Rural Good Products awards presentation. For this event the MOA selected 50 products and specially integrated the exhibition of program results with it. Main themes included equipment upgrading, food and agricultural education, branding, new product R&D, and packaging design for commercialization. These events testified to the continued creativity and R&D capabilities of the MOA’s rural partners.
- Attended the 88th Meeting of the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization (WTO), informal meetings, the thematic workshop on transparency, and related meetings, as well as continued to follow up on the specific trade concerns regarding “China’s import suspension of fresh fruits.”
- Held the 9th presentation ceremony for awards for young entrepreneurs at tech-based agribusinesses, recognizing four firms in the category “innovative R&D,” four in the category “applications of technology,” and six as enterprises with potential, affirming the work of award-winners in promoting science and technology innovation and achievements in industrial applications.
- Announced recognition of Paraguay as a country free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, allowing the importation into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from this area in accordance with related quarantine requirements.
- To mark the “International Day of Forests,” the MOA recognized one “outstanding forest protection and management individual,” 14 “excellent forest protection and management individuals,” and eight volunteer rangers working in national forests, reminding people to protect and love forests.
- The MOA announced amendments to the “Criteria of Fisheries Compensation for Offshore Wind Power Plants,” adding a provision that developers in the block development stage shall, in accordance with approved installed capacity for their wind farm, pay a co-existence fee of NT\$200,000 per MW. The changes also require that the funds be managed by a fishermen’s association management committee or judicial person and specially used in measures such as increasing fisheries resources and alteration of fishing gear and fishing methods. Another new provision sets the decision-making process for a fisheries compensation fund following three failed attempts at negotiation.

April

- The MOA announced an extension of the deadline for taking out 2024 Banana Income Insurance policies to April 30, 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Banned the export, sale, and use of chlorpyrifos. In addition, taking into account the shelf life of agriproducts, the MOA worked with the Ministry of Health and Welfare to permit specified products (including edible flowers, dried beans, tea, miscellaneous staple crops, and some fruits and vegetables) whose permissible pesticide residue levels had been rescinded to remain in circulation during a specified grace period. The grace period was set at three months to three years depending upon the product.
- There was an earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale in Hualien County. The MOA coordinated with the Central Emergency Operation Center to establish an “April 3 Hualien earthquake emergency response team” at 8:00 the same day, while subordinate agencies of the MOA organized response teams to handle relevant operations.

- The MOA announced the deletion of recognition of the US states of Texas and New Mexico as zones free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas.
- Announced the amending of Paragraph 3 of the “Directions of Preferential Loans for Young People to Purchase Houses by Agricultural Financial Institutions,” providing that the government shall subsidize 0.125% of the interest through September of 2026 for both existing and new loan recipients. The aims were to help people reduce the impact of the increase in interest rates by the Central Bank, lower the burdens of home buying, and implement the policy of looking after the well-being of young people.
- Asked the Agricultural Bank of Taiwan and credit departments at farmers’ and fishermen’s associations to provide financial assistance to households affected by the April 3 Hualien earthquake. Such households were permitted, on the basis of the “Regulations Governing Subsidy of Interest on Debt Extension of Disaster-Affected Residents,” to apply to their original lending institutions for debt extension, with an exemption from paying interest during the extension period (the interest for this period being covered by government subsidies).
- Announced the “measures for agricultural financial institutions to implement assistance for policy-oriented special agricultural loans already taken out by households in Hualien County affected by the April 3 earthquake.” Based on these measures, farmers and fishermen were permitted to apply to the original financial institution for an extension of one year on repayment of the principal on policy-oriented special agricultural loans, with an exemption from paying interest during the extension period (the interest for this period being covered by MOA subsidies).
- Taiwan and New Zealand signed the “Export Plan for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables from Taiwan to New Zealand” at the “10th Sanitary and Phytosanitary Joint Management Committee (SPS JMC) Meeting of the Agreement between New Zealand and the Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, and Matsu on Economic Cooperation,” with exports of Taiwan pineapple to New Zealand permitted from the day of signing.
- The MOA participated in the “8th Meeting of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission” and related committee meetings. There were discussions on issues related to fisheries for Pacific saury and Japanese mackerel, deep-sea fisheries, species including salmon and trout, transshipment conservation management, and labor standards.
- Held a press conference on the subject of pet IDs going online in a special owner’s area of the Pet Registration Information System (PRIS). The MOA added a new owner’s special area to the PRIS where people can find “pet ID” information, owner contact information can be updated in real time, and there is a simplified relocation registration process. Pet IDs bring together information to make things more convenient for pet owners and include pet traceability information in order to help prevent illegal breeding and smuggling and ensure animal welfare.
- Held a press conference on Formosan black bears, revealing for the first time the results of public-private collaboration in monitoring bear populations. The MOA shared the fact that after trust-building with local indigenous communities from 2021 to 2023, use was made of indigenous encounters with Formosan black bears as they assisted in setting up infrared automatic cameras for monitoring purposes. Currently we can identify at least 20 individuals, including several groups of mothers and cubs, indicating that the regional bear population is stable and numerous.
- Held the 19th Taiwan-Netherlands Agricultural Working Group Meeting in the Netherlands, with the theme “future food and smart supply (cold) chains” The two sides for the first time aggregated the capabilities of governments and industry to explore transnational commercial models for the implementation of low-carbon production and environmentally friendly agriculture, in order to assist agribusinesses and farmers to seize “future food” commercial opportunities.
- Opened the “Carbon Sink and Biodiversity ESG Project Matching Platform” to the public, listing 41 available projects for business ESG collaboration. We also held a seminar for businesses to explain the operations of the matching platform, hoping to encourage businesses to participate in fields including forest management, natural habitat maintenance, and biodiversity conservation. The goals are to achieve net-zero sustainability and put into practice the spirit of corporate ESG programs.
- Announced “Parametric Citrus Insurance of MSIG Mingtai Insurance for the Wind Speed” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Announced amendments to the “Operation Directions for Grants to Farmers or Fishermen Whose Children Study in Universities or Senior High Schools,” and the renaming of the Directions as “Implementation Directions for Ministry of Agriculture Awarding Farmers or Fishermen Whose Children Study in Universities or Senior High Schools.” The changes permit those already receiving Ministry of Education fixed amount exemptions from tuition and expenses for students at private universities under the “program to close the gap between tuition and expenses at public vs. private schools and accompanying measures” to at the same time apply for awarding of an MOA grant.
- Announced “parametric aquaculture insurance of Taiwan Fire & Marine Insurance for rainfall” and “parametric aquaculture insurance of Taiwan Fire & Marine Insurance for rainfall in the interior area of Pingtung County” as agricultural insurance products for 2024, with aquaculture operators allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Held the “International Forum on Fisheries and Human Rights,” inviting experts and scholars from home and abroad to discuss Taiwan’s implementation of its “Action Plan for Fisheries and Human Rights” and international promotion of the International Labour Organization’s “Work in Fishing Convention.” Attendees learned from the experiences of other countries, and the event will facilitate the incorporation of the Convention into domestic law.
- Announced the start of activities for Taiwan agriculture to support Taiwanese athletes participating in the 2024 Paris Olympics. Through the “Taiwan Agricultural Products Celebration” and “Afasale” e-commerce platforms, the MOA organized farmers groups and agribusiness to provide domestic soybean products and sweet potatoes (as well as the manufactured products of both), plus dried fruit and vegetable/fruit juice to athletes; allocated 5-10% of sales to the National Sports Training Center for athlete nutrition; and provided ingredients for use by the Team Taiwan support network.
- Announced “Banana Plant Insurance of Fubon Insurance” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.



- Announced amendments to Articles 1, 2 and 24 and the Appendix of Article 3 of the “Regulations for Processing Disputes Concerning Farmers’ Health Insurance and Occupational Injury Insurance,” to comply with the change in name for insurance payments under farmers’ occupational accident insurance. Items for dispute resolution were changed from “occupational injuries” to “occupational injuries and diseases.”
- Commenced a period of public comments for draft amendments to partial articles of the “Standards of Preferential Price to Purchase Fuel for Powered Equipment Used in Fisheries,” providing that starting from January 1, 2026 operational fishing boats, sampans, and rafts of less than 20 total metric tons that have not yet installed voyage data recorders (VDRs) will have port entry and exit data from automatic identification system (AIS) records when at sea used as the basis for computing their preferentially priced fuel amounts.

May

- The MOA announced amendments to partial articles, as well as Supplementaries 6 to 9 to Article 8, of the “Regulations for Tuna Longline or Purse Seine Fishing Vessels Proceeding to the Pacific Ocean for Fishing Operations.” The amendments added rules governing fishing gear used for tuna longline vessels and fish aggregation devices used by tuna purse seine vessels, extended the deadline for tuna purse seine vessels to report estimates of transshipment volume while in port, added Pacific Ocean ports where offloading and in-port transshipment of catch are permitted, adjusted the time for delivery of transshipment confirmation documents by tuna longline vessels, and stipulated that operators have responsibility for properly handling vessels that have been stranded or damaged.
- Announced “Parametric Calla Palustris [Taro] Insurance of TAIAN Insurance for the Wind Speed” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Announced recognition of the US states of Alabama, Iowa, Utah, Maryland, Montana, and Pennsylvania as zones free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, allowing the resumption of importation into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas in accordance with related quarantine requirements.
- The DL-34 engine of the Alishan Forest Railway, on loan to the Welshpool and Llanfair Light Railway in the UK, made its first journey in Wales. After overcoming problems with the carriage couplers and braking system, the classic red engine, flying the ROC flag, was transformed into an ambassador for eco- and cultural tourism to Taiwan.
- The MOA sent a delegation to Lithuania for the 2nd Taiwan-Lithuania Agricultural Working Group (AWG) Meeting, where, besides discussion of market access, trade, and marketing, there were three main themes: germplasm cooperation, low-carbon cultivation technology, and applications of agriproduct processing. Taiwan also shared information on topics including its policy to reduce pesticide use and R&D into heat-resistant varieties and cultivation technology in response to extreme weather, exploring best practices for sustainable agriculture.
- Taiwan and the Philippines held the signing ceremony for the “Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Landslide and Debris Flow Disaster Research” along with a related workshop, sharing early warning technology for deep landslides and debris flow and exploring the geological analysis of slopeland hazards, gaining a profound understanding of each other’s early warning mechanisms and research methods, and laying a foundation for future cooperation.
- The MOA announced “Sorghum Income Insurance for the First Season of 2024” and “Parametric Guava Crop Insurance of Cathay Century Insurance (for Wind Speed of Typhoon and Rainfall)” as agricultural insurance products for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Announced the amending of Article 24 of the “Enforcement Rules of the Farmers’ Association Act” to stipulate that the punishment of expulsion under Article 17 of the “Farmers’ Association Act” is the prerogative of General Assemblies of Members (Representatives).
- Announced the “measures for agricultural financial institutions to implement assistance for policy-oriented special agricultural loans already taken out by households in Hualien County and parts of New Taipei City affected by the April 3 earthquake.” Based on these measures, farmers and fishermen were permitted to apply to the original financial institution for an extension of one year on repayment of the principal on policy-oriented special agricultural loans, with an exemption from paying interest during the extension period (the interest for this period being covered by MOA subsidies).
- Held a press conference on the export of Taiwan pineapples to Japan for nutritious school meals, inviting the Representative Taiwan Office of Kasama City, Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan and members of the Taiwan Pineapple Industry Alliance to attend. At the time, Taiwan pineapples were already being supplied to 89 schools in Ibaraki Prefecture as fruit for nutritious school lunches enjoyed by over 12,000 Japanese schoolchildren.
- Quarantine officers from Japan and Korea came to Taiwan to re-certify quarantine treatment facilities and conduct export quarantine tasks. The quarantine inspection was conducted to approve the export of fresh fruit, including mangoes and lychees, by four vapor heat treatment facilities as well as certify a newly added facility at the Taiwan Provincial Fruit Marketing Cooperative, which began commercial operations on May 17.
- The MOA announced the amending of Article 6 of the “Agricultural Natural Disasters Relief Regulations,” with the main points being the addition of a provision that relief can be provided for damage to bee colonies caused by a poor flowering rate of nectar plants leading to a lack of feed for bees, retroactive to January 1, 2024; resetting of relief amounts for large set-net fishing nets, retroactive to April 3, 2024; and addition of newly approved items of the under-forest economy eligible for relief and amounts thereof.
- Held a press conference on the MOA’s vision for agricultural administration, with MOA Minister Chen Junne-jih stating that the vision is “transforming agriculture in Taiwan into a sustainable and resilient sector and making farming in Taiwan highly professional,” with promotion of policies, actions, and strategies for “smart, resilient, sustainable, and healthy” agriculture. He called for linking agriculture with technologies like smart production and digital services to comprehensively enhance resilience, lower operating risks, ensure orderly production and sales, and upgrade competitiveness.

- Held a business matchmaking meeting for smart agricultural science and technology (S&T) services, to mediate exchanges between agricultural producers and S&T service providers approved through the MOA registration mechanism, so that they can jointly use smart S&T to resolve problems in agricultural management and facilitate industrial upgrading and transformation.
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK's Department of Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs on mutual recognition of organic certifications, thereby achieving organic equivalency between Taiwan and the UK and paving the way for bilateral trade in organic agriproducts.
- Announced the results of a 2023 telephone survey on the number of pet dogs and cats in all of Taiwan, indicating about 1.48 million pet dogs (an increase of 19% compared to the previous survey in 2021) and 1.31 million pet cats (a major increase of 50% compared to the previous survey).

June

- The MOA held a ceremony and hiking activity to mark the 100th anniversary of the beginning of water supply via the Zhuoshui River main irrigation channel in Yunlin. The event celebrated the start of use of the Zhuoshui main channel for irrigation in 1924, providing a steady water supply to farmers previously dependent on the vagaries of weather and turning Yunlin into a major agricultural county in Taiwan.
- Attended the "3rd Scientific Meeting on Japanese Eel and Other Relevant Eels," with the focus of discussion being the current situation regarding conservation, management, and research for Japanese eels in East Asia. Based on scientific data, attendees provided suggestions on relevant resource conservation and management to the "Meeting of the Informal Consultation on International Cooperation for Conservation and Management of Japanese Eel Stock and Other Relevant Eel Species," providing directions for future cooperation by countries in East Asia.
- Held the "Training Course on Innovative Technologies in Vegetable Farming," at which 25 representatives of 14 member countries of the Asian Productivity Organization learned about smart agriculture technologies and future developments related to vegetable cultivation. Attendees also visited the MOA's Taoyuan District Agricultural Research and Extension Station, the Tao-city Vegetable Agricultural Production Cooperative, and Liching Organic Farm for on-site observation of applications of agritechology in Taiwan.
- Japan announced that *Hylocereus* spp. fruit produced in Taiwan, including red-flesh, purple-flesh, and hybrid varieties, can be imported. The fruit is required to be treated in a vapor heat chamber that remains at 48°C or above for at least 136 minutes, with the temperature at the center of the fruit reaching 46.5°C or above for 30 minutes, then cooled by ventilation. Also, quarantine officials from both Japan and Taiwan must agree that the fruit is up to standards. The first shipment of red-flesh red dragon fruit reached Japan on June 24, 2024 and smoothly cleared customs.
- The MOA participated in the "17th Meeting of the Informal Consultation on International Cooperation for Conservation and Management of Japanese Eel Stock and Other Relevant Eel Species." Attendees discussed the final report from the "3rd Scientific Meeting on Japanese Eel and Other Relevant Eels," and reviewed updates of statistics for 2023-2024 eel catch, aquaculture, and trade (including eel fry). Other subjects included eel resource conservation measures, an overview of discussions of Japanese eels and related eels at relevant international organizations, and the possibility of creating an international or regional management organization with binding rule-making powers.
- Asked credit cooperatives at farmers' and fishermen's associations nationwide to ensure that they do notation and reporting tasks on the basis of Joint Credit Information Center rules when they arrange "green credit" or "sustainability-linked loans," and also required them to review existing loans to supplement notation data, in order to accurately disclose financing statistics and make exchanges of financial information possible.
- Held a press conference for the release of *Sacrifice and Stealth: Documenting a Nesting Chinese Moccasin Snake in the Wild*, a documentary made by a team from the MOA's Forestry and Nature Conservation Agency, Taichung Branch. Recording the first ever information on the reproductive ecology of Chinese moccasin snakes, the video was made in Basianshan National Forest Recreation Area in 2023.
- Participated in the "12th Taiwan-Japan Fisheries Research Cooperation Meeting and Symposium," where there were discussions of resource evaluations, conservation, and management of economic species including tuna, Pacific saury, and eel, as well as sharing of results of studies of marine carbon sequestration.
- In response to the April 3 Hualien earthquake, the MOA updated 2024 data on rivers and waterways in Taiwan prone to debris flow as well as debris flow early warning thresholds. We added four new debris flow-prone waterways (in Xiulin Township of Hualien County) to raise the total number of such waterways in Taiwan to 1,736, spread across 17 counties (cities), 159 townships (sub-county cities, municipal districts), and 690 villages (neighborhoods).
- The MOA launched the first Ministry-guided regional agricultural plastics resource circular use venue and held an on-site hands-on demonstration, enabling attendees to get a practical understanding of how the washing, breaking, and drying of agricultural plastics recovered from fields can produce clean products, while polluted water can also be cleaned and reused.
- In response to a report from the West African country of Gabon to the World Organisation for Animal Health of that country's first case of African swine fever (ASF), the MOA put Gabon on the list of high-risk countries with ASF within the past three years.
- The MOA set up a Taiwan Pavilion at the "2024 Asia Agri-Tech Expo & Forum," displaying achievements in industrialization of agritechology and employing comprehensive image-building in an effort to penetrate international agritechology markets. There were 420 business matchmaking meetings between exhibitors at the Taiwan Pavilion and overseas buyers, with 100 expressions of interest in follow-up cooperation or purchases; it was estimated that deals could reach NT\$30 million in value.
- Held a series of warm-up activities for the full opening of the Alishan Forest Railway, including a book launch for *Echoes Along the 2421m Ascent: Travelogue of the Alishan Forest Railway* in Taipei, "Blessing Train," an exhibition entitled *Memories of Mountain Journeys—Glory of Fenqihu Loco Shed* held at the Fenqihu Locomotive Depot, and the "Alishan Forest Railway market" for selling Alishan-related products.
- Announced the deletion of recognition of the Australian state of New South Wales as a zone free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from this area.



- Announced the “Operation Directions for Rewarding Agrotourism of 2024.” The MOA integrated Ministry e-commerce platforms for promotional activities on behalf of Hualien County and coordinated with stimulus measures of the Tourism Administration of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications, launching a special stimulus program for Hualien on July 1 including promotion of “farmer friend currency” electronic vouchers.
- Sent staff to the US to attend the “2024 Taiwan-US Fisheries Consultations” to engage in annual discussions on fisheries issues with the US side and exchange views on renewing the “Taiwan-US Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in fisheries and aquaculture.”
- Announced amendments to the “Directions for Issuing Production Certificate of Exporting Farmed Eel,” clearly requiring that samplers, dealers, exporters, packagers, and processors register with the MOA’s Fisheries Agency; extending the validity period of registration to five years; and stipulating that export certificates can only be issued to operators whose eel export volume does not exceed 1,500 times the weight of their aquaculture-raised eels. The aim was to strengthen the quality of exported eels and simplify regulations for citizen convenience based on actual industrial practices.
- Set up the “Taiwan Pavilion” at the “2024 Food Taipei” international food show, including an image-building area displaying achievements of Taiwan agriproducts in international sanitary and phytosanitary as well as market access negotiations in recent years. In addition, Japan’s MMY Company (the supplier for Don Quijote Japan) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation with the Taiwan Premium Agricultural Products Development Institute to expand sales channels.

July

- The MOA announced the amending of Paragraph 2 of the “Directions of Preferential Loans for Young People to Purchase Houses by Agricultural Financial Institutions,” adding a stipulation that loan applicants can only apply one time. We also amended the Q&A for these loans and asked agricultural financial institutions to strengthen pre-loan review and post-loan management and auditing operations as well as to solicit “self-residence” pledges from new loan recipients. In case of violations of this pledge, interest subsidies are to be halted immediately, already allocated interest subsidies are to be returned, and loan conditions are to be reevaluated.
- Held a press conference on export of red-flesh red dragon fruit to Japan under the rubric “Home Run Go” at the Fengyuan Packing Field of the Taichung Branch of the Taiwan Provincial Fruit Marketing Cooperative, announcing that the first container of nearly 4.8 metric tons of this fruit would complete phytosanitary inspection and be exported within one month of receiving Japanese approval for their import.
- Announced amendments to partial articles of the “Regulations for Guidance and Management of Recreational Agriculture,” with main points being: deletion of camping facilities and addition of auxiliary campsites at agricultural experiential facilities; clear stipulation that campsites cannot apply to set up leisure farms; permission for application for the use of 0.5 hectares of land certified as organic to set up a leisure farm; permission for leisure farm facilities to install rooftop green energy facilities; and provision for the central government to conduct evaluations of local operations.
- The Alishan Forest Railway (AFR) was completely opened to traffic after 15 years of disruptions, including severe damage to No. 42 tunnel by multiple typhoons. The MOA overcame transportation, topographic, and climatic challenges, enabling passengers to take the AFR from Chiayi Station directly to Alishan Station. At the same time, we proactively renovated and optimized sites and stations along the line as well as environmental spaces to enable even more people to see Alishan’s mountain forest beauty and cultural value.
- The MOA held the 2024 exhibition of achievements in rural development and soil and water conservation as well as held cross-disciplinary forums on “circular sustainability/green rural communities” and “resilient island/smart disaster prevention.” We shared information on 36 policy-oriented programs including ones related to slopland conservation, resilient disaster prevention, smart management, sustainable rural communities, eco-friendly rural communities, and travel-friendly rural communities. Using posters the MOA highlighted the achievements of 60 programs, and we also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Science and Technology Museum to expand cooperation in issue areas including agri-food education and rural development.
- The Legislative Yuan passed the “Plant Doctor Act,” creating a legal basis for promotion of a system of plant doctors in Taiwan. The Act sets forth provisions concerning the qualifications, practice, and responsibilities of plant doctors, as well as the management of plant clinics and professional associations. This system will offer farmers, agricultural organizations, and agribusinesses a new professional option for plant pest and disease diagnosis and management services. It is expected to enhance Taiwan’s phytosanitary and plant protection capabilities and contribute to the collective effort to ensure agricultural product safety.
- The MOA announced amendments to Appendices 4 and 5 of Article 3 of the “Regulations of Agro-pesticides Specification.” In consideration of the heat-sensitive properties of 9% myclobutanil + quinoxifen suspension concentrate, 27.3% trifloxystrobin + tebuconazole suspension concentrate, 14.17% epoxiconazole + pyraclostrobin suspo-emulsion, and 49% cyanamide solution, we established individual physiochemical test methods and stability test standards for these products.
- Announced modifications to countries (zones) free of infectious animal diseases and the risk status of countries (zones) for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), removing some nations from the list of countries (zones) free of infectious animal diseases including classical swine fever, peste des petits ruminants, and African horse sickness, and adding countries (zones) with undetermined risk status of BSE while adjusting the risk status of some countries.
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in promotion of net-zero low-carbon scientific research with the Academia Sinica, working together in a spirit of equality and mutual benefit to accelerate applications of net-zero and low-carbon science and technology in agriculture in Taiwan and jointly build a foundation for national sustainable, environmentally friendly development.
- Announced the amending of Article 11 of the “Regulations Governing Election and Recall of the Farmers Association,” stipulating that candidates for election to farming task forces at base-level farmers’ associations can, within three days from the day after recordation of ballot names by the central competent authorities following confirmation of candidate qualifications, bring their ID cards and apply to their farmers’ association to see the voter lists for their districts, with a limit of one reading session lasting no more than 30 minutes.

- Announced exemption from interest payments on agricultural natural disaster low-interest loans from August 1, 2024 through January 31, 2025.
- Announced Taichung City, Changhua County, Nantou County, Chiayi County, Yunlin County, Tainan City, Kaohsiung City, and Pingtung County as areas eligible for agricultural natural disaster cash relief and low-interest loans for all livestock products in the wake of Typhoon Gaemi.
- Announced that all of Taiwan from Changhua County south and five townships in Hualien County were areas eligible for agricultural natural disaster cash relief and low-interest loans for agriproducts in the wake of Typhoon Gaemi. With respect to items which met the climate parameters announced by the MOA, in cases in which verification of objective conditions showed that there were identifiable actual cultivators, they could be exempted from on-site inspections in accordance with regulations.
- Announced Changhua County, Yunlin County, Chiayi County, Tainan City, Kaohsiung City, and Pingtung County as areas eligible for agricultural natural disaster cash relief and low-interest loans for all fisheries products in the wake of Typhoon Gaemi.
- Announced amendments to the “Regulations for Animal Exhibition and Performance” to strengthen review of permits for animal exhibitions and performances, verify that facilities (equipment) at animal exhibition and performance venues meet the needs of animal care and feeding, and strengthen management and assessment. An education and training system was introduced to guide businesses to develop in the direction of adopting animal welfare as a core value and implementing the spirit of animal protection.

August

- The MOA announced the amending of the “Ban on the Delivery of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals to Forest Recreation Areas and Forest Parks,” announcing that from August 1, 2024 to July 31, 2026 there would be a complete ban on bringing mammals into 19 venues including Manyueyuan National Forest Recreation Area, and conditional permission to bring mammals into some parts of six other venues including Neidong National Forest Recreation Area.
- Announced amendments to “Chicken, Duck and Goose for Human Consumption Shall Be Slaughtered at Slaughterhouse, and the Conditions the Fore Mentioned Poultry May Be Slaughtered at Non-slaughterhouse Venues,” to ensure that the wording related to indigenous peoples’ areas conforms to “The Indigenous Peoples Basic Law,” while adding a provision that chicken, duck, and goose slaughtered to meet the criteria for kosher poultry and are so certified need not be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse.
- Set up the “Green Care Pavilion” at the “Healthy Ageing Tech Expo,” with four main display areas: “green care exhibits,” “forest therapy experience,” “horticultural therapy garden,” and “elderly-friendly foods.” The exhibits featured accomplishments in the promotion of green care and healthy therapeutic venues for the elderly, while also promoting Eatender elderly-friendly foods to the public and showing how the MOA is using experiential activities to realize the vision of elderly-friendly rural communities.
- Held an activity to extol the 2024 efforts of staff and volunteers at 81 rural communities and the green care stations of 33 farmers’ associations and eight fishermen’s associations for delivering elderly-friendly food packages to remotely located seniors at holidays that symbolize unity and respect for the elderly including Dragon Boat Festival, Mid-Autumn Festival, Double Ninth Festival, and Winter Solstice. This concern for the dietary health of rural seniors benefited individuals more than 11,360 times.
- Held the “2024 Gourmet Rice Awards” presentation ceremony. The event attracted submissions from 41 makers of packaged high-quality, clearly labeled, and delicious tasting rice available in commercial channels from across Taiwan, who put forward 69 packaged rice products to compete. Five were selected for gold awards and six for silvers. Through public recognition of premium rice, the MOA hopes to encourage businesses to strengthen quality control and development of sales channels and provide consumers with packaged rice guaranteed to be hygienic, safe, high-quality, and delicious.
- MOA Deputy Minister Hu Jong-I met with staff from Japan’s Farmland Corporation to discuss collaboration in the export of Taiwan pineapples to Japan, exchanging views on issues including expanding consumption in the Japanese market, investment in Taiwan by foreign firms to strengthen contract production, promotion of special production zones for export pineapples, and guidance of farmers’ organizations to transform into agribusinesses. The aim was to reach consensus on future cooperative contract production in hopes of stabilizing pineapple production, ensuring quality, and enhancing the export competitiveness of Taiwan pineapples.
- The MOA announced recognition of Lithuania as a country, and the US states of Arkansas, Indiana, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Oregon as zones free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, allowing the resumption of importation into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas in accordance with related quarantine requirements.
- Announced amendments to the “Directions of Preferential Loans for Young People to Purchase Houses by Agricultural Financial Institutions.” One change allowed for a single instance of loan (debt) consolidation with the Ministry of Finance program of “Preferential Housing Loans for the Youth,” with information sent to the Joint Credit Information Center to create a file. Another stipulated that in the event of a violation of loan conditions by borrowers, agricultural financial institutions shall make an internal notation of this fact for reference in reviewing other, future loan cases.
- MOA Deputy Minister Hu Jong-I led a delegation to attend the APEC Food Security Ministerial Meeting held in Peru, engaging in exchanges with representatives of other member economic entities on promoting resilience, productivity, innovation, and sustainability in the regional food system. After the meeting a Joint Statement was issued in which the ministers cited the “Principles for Preventing and Reducing Food Loss and Waste (FLW) in the APEC Region” as a goal and promised collective efforts to reduce FLW and maintain Asia-Pacific regional food security.
- The MOA announced the deletion of recognition of Portugal as a country free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from this country.
- Announced the “Application Procedures of Chickens, Ducks and Geese for Kosher Poultry May Be Slaughtered at Non-slaughterhouse Venues,” which, taking into account freedom of religion guaranteed in the Constitution and also prevention of poultry diseases, established a regulatory system governing the supply system for kosher poultry needed for religious reasons.



- Held a new book release event for a volume that was a product of cooperation between the MOA and Huang Tong-hong, a scholar of historical aerial photography. The book uses 80-year-old aerial photographs taken by the US Army Air Force in World War II to explore historical traces of the Alishan Forest Railway (AFR), making it the first book specially devoted to aerial images of the AFR.
- Announced amendments to partial articles of the “Regulations Governing Policy-Oriented Special Agricultural Loan,” to reduce the interest rate for the “Loan for Young and Middle-Aged Adults Working in Agriculture” for farmers between ages 45 and 55, add new relief loans for farmers, and extend the interest-exempt period for agricultural insurance loans. The aim was to encourage middle-aged farmers to stay in agriculture as a profession, promote the agricultural insurance policy, fit with the practical needs of industries, and provide emergency financial relief to farmers and fishermen.
- MOA Deputy Minister Tu Wen-jane led a delegation to the US Department of Agriculture for the “2024 Taiwan-US Bilateral Cooperation Meeting on Agricultural Science and Technology,” confirming five existing separate issue areas for cooperation and new projects, while verifying the direction for future cooperative research between Taiwan and the US. The two parties agreed to continue to deepen Taiwan-US cooperation in agricultural science and technology and jointly work towards the goals of ensuring food security, enhancing the nutritional value of agriproducts, and improving the health and well-being of citizens.
- The MOA held a press conference to mark the launch of new nationwide model and network for agriproduct logistics called “AGRI EASY EXPRESS.” We mediated cooperation between farmers’ and fishermen’s associations (F/FAs) and the OKmart convenience store chain logistics system to facilitate the purchase of premium agriproducts by consumers, lower transport costs, and advance the upgrading and transformation of F/FAs. As of the day of the event, more than 200 F/FAs had signed contracts, with more than 1,200 service points in the system.
- Announced amendments to Articles 2, 2-1 and 3 of “Regulations of Qualification for Engaging in Agriculture of the Directors and Supervisors of Farmers’ Associations,” stipulating that the calculation of the land area for agricultural use held by candidates for director or supervisor of a farmers’ association should be done in accordance with the “Regulations for Identifying and Certificating the Agricultural Land as Being for Agricultural Use,” and clearly providing that if there are any violations of rules governing such land, the entire area of relevant land should in principle be deducted.
- Announced amendments to Articles 1 and 9 of “Examination Regulations for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Under Farmers’ Occupational Accident Insurance” to incorporate “skin cancer caused by exposure to ultraviolet light” into diseases covered by this insurance, while also issuing a reference handbook for relevant diagnoses, with the goal of extending the scope of protections under this insurance.
- The fifth group of Young Agricultural Ambassadors departed for Thailand and Malaysia, where they engaged in exchanges on issues including adaptation measures for climate change and food security, upgrading of the horticulture and floriculture industries, animal husbandry management and biosecurity, and development of agricultural machinery. They deepened dialogue involving the public and private sectors and promoted industrial synergy related to net-zero carbon emissions and food production in New Southbound Policy partner countries.
- The MOA convened the 31st meeting of the Central Emergency Operation Center for African Swine Fever, at which its director, MOA Minister Chen Junne-jih, asked all relevant ministries to continue to strengthen border control measures in the run-up to Mid-Autumn Festival, and appealed to the general public to remind friends and family not to mail pork products to Taiwan, in order to protect the domestic pig-raising industry.
- Announced amendments to partial articles of the “Regulations for Trial Operation of Farmers’ Occupational Accident Insurance,” raising the payment standards for injuries and diseases under this insurance.
- Held a ceremony to extol the work of the “7th Top 100 Young Farmers,” with 107 young farmers identified as models for other young farmers. The aim was to guide even more young farmers to interact with and mutually assist each other or form industrial linkages, in order to spark the transformation of, and generational succession in, Taiwan’s agriculture sector.

September

- The MOA participated in the “102nd Meeting of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission” and related committees, engaging in discussions with countries from around the world on issues including minimum standards for electronic monitoring systems in the eastern Pacific Ocean and proposals related to monitoring and control measures for the Pacific bluefin tuna fishery, amended Pacific bluefin measures, amended measures on sharks, Pacific albacore, measures for tropical tuna, marine pollution, and labor standards.
- Held a press conference on the achievements of the matchmaking platform for carbon sequestration and biodiversity projects, with 11 successful matches in the first group. The platform shows projects that aim to attract support from corporate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) programs. Categories of cooperative projects include corporate environmental, social, and forestry culture, with the hope being that cross-sectoral cooperation can provide new solutions and advance the goals of carbon sequestration and enhanced biodiversity.
- MOA Minister Chen Junne-jih visited Japan and Korea to see Taiwan agribusinesses sign Memorandums of Understanding with sales channels in these two countries to purchase Taiwan agriproducts. He also attended a game of the Nippon Professional Baseball league and visited Japanese and Korean agribusinesses. The aim of the visit was to build sales opportunities for Taiwan premium farm, fisheries, and animal husbandry products in these two overseas high-end markets. In addition, Minister Chen visited an international pet food manufacturer in Korea in an effort to promote upgrading and alignment with international standards in Taiwan’s pet food industry.
- The MOA announced “Parametric Red Bean Insurance of Fubon Insurance for Rainfall” as an agricultural insurance product for 2024, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Held the “2024 Taiwan-Japan Joint Sabo Research Meeting” (*sabo* means “erosion prevention” in Japanese). Personnel from Japan’s Water and Disaster Management Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and from a Japan-based international association for erosion control were invited to come to Taiwan to attend. The event included a bilateral government officials’ meeting and on-site visits as the two sides exchanged information on issues like technologies for management of large-scale landslides, sediment in watershed areas, and debris dams. Attendees also proposed suggestions for future concrete bilateral cooperation.

- Held the “3rd Golden Village Awards,” with awards presented personally by Vice President Hsiao Bi-khim, to extol the efforts of award-winning organizations in rural communities over the years and affirm the value of the Golden Village competition. The MOA also invited Jörg Polster, director general of the German Institute Taipei; Stephan Bröhl and Elena Pieper, representatives of the German Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity; Marion Frohnapfel and Volkhard Warmdt, heads of the jury for Germany’s “Our Village Has a Future” competition; and others to attend, to jointly assess the beauty of award-winning rural communities and testify to Taiwan’s joyful and prosperous villages.
- MOA Deputy Minister Hu Jong-I led a delegation from the MOA’s Agriculture and Food Agency to attend a press conference marking the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on exchanges and cooperation between the mushroom industries of Taiwan and Japan. The Deputy Minister was present at the signing of a three-way MOU involving the Xinshe District Farmers’ Association in Taichung City, Japan’s “MORI & COMPANY, LTD,” and Taiwan’s “First Class Global Corp,” who committed to doing R&D for heat-resistant shiitake mushroom strains in hopes of upgrading domestic mushroom cultivation technology and promoting transformation of the industry.
- The MOA participated in “Taiwan Smart Agriweek,” setting up pavilions for smart agriculture and cold-chain technology and guiding the Industrial Technology Research Institute to set up pavilions on motorized agricultural machinery and smart agricultural machinery.
- Approved the establishment of branch offices by the credit departments of three farmers’ associations (those of Banqiao and Tucheng districts in New Taipei City and Guanyin District in Taoyuan City), in consideration of trends in finance development, demand for local financial services, and handling of applications to credit departments related to financial and business situations. The hope is that this step will maintain the stable development of agricultural finance and accessibility of financial services while encouraging credit departments of farmers’ and fishermen’s associations with sound operations and a willingness to provide financial services to appropriately expand operating locations.
- MOA Deputy Minister Tu Wen-jane and an assistant secretary of the Philippines Department of Agriculture convened the “11th Taiwan-Philippines Agricultural Cooperation Meeting” in Manila, where there were in-depth discussions of agricultural technology cooperation, livestock trade and exchanges, carbon footprint inventories, market access, and the program for young farmers from the Philippines to come to Taiwan for internships. The two sides agreed to continue to strengthen bilateral agritechology and industrial linkages, signed and expressed continued support for Stage 2 of the button mushroom industry cooperation project, and promised to increase bilateral agricultural exchanges and promote substantive bilateral agricultural cooperation and co-creation of agriproduct trade opportunities.
- The MOA held a forum on food and agricultural education (FAE), inviting industry, government, and academic representatives from various fields including agriculture, sales channels, science and technology, nutrition, and food. Minister Chen Junne-jih personally attended and delivered remarks and encouragement while expressing the hope that through interactions at the forum all stakeholders would come together to promote FAE, increase the awareness and importance of agriculture to the general public, implement FAE in daily life, and co-create sustainable development for agriculture in Taiwan.
- Held the exhibition of achievements and awards presentation for the “14th Rural Up!” competition for rural projects by college and university students returning to the countryside. Vice President Hsiao Bi-khim personally attended and took a tour of the booths of the competitors. At this event a total of 23 teams (including 17 foreign students from 10 countries) participated and winners of gold, silver, and bronze awards were selected. The event also enjoyed broad participation by enterprises, with about 800 people attending.
- Convened a conference of experts to make a list of domesticated animals that are at high risk of animal welfare problems. Given that in recent years Taiwanese have starting adopting a wider variety of pets and considering international management models, the attendees made evaluations of risks to public safety and animal welfare, listed animals not suited to be domestic pets, and studied control measures, in order to ensure animal welfare and reduce the negative impact on society of pet abandonment.
- Jointly held the “Climate Change and Sustainable Development in Agriculture” working forum with the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). About 100 Taiwanese and Australian experts participated in person or online, and they discussed issues including policy frameworks of the two agriculture authorities with regard to reducing greenhouse gas emissions as well as sustainability and innovation at agricultural venues. The two sides committed to following up on issues with potential for cooperation and convening a business forum at the 19th Taiwan-Australia Agricultural Working Group Meeting.
- Convened the “31st Session of the TECRO-AIT Taiwan-US Sanitary, Phytosanitary, and Agricultural Standards Working Group Consultations,” where the two sides discussed issues of mutual concern including market access. The meeting was a great success and will be helpful in strengthening bilateral exchanges on agriproducts sanitary and phytosanitary measures and promoting trade.
- Held a series of “100 forest therapy activities” planned by certified forest therapists in cooperation with people from various fields aiming to develop forest therapy travel for the general public, corporate activities, and businesses related to long-term care. The therapists guided people to use all five senses and connect with nature, feel the beauty of forest therapy, contribute to the green economy in mountain communities, and lay a foundation for development of the industry.
- Held the “Taiwan-Nuffield International Agricultural Dialogue and Networking” event to encourage young Taiwanese and Australian farmers to develop international contacts and link Taiwan with an international network for training young farmers. The event also included on-site visits to farm and fisheries operations in Taiwan by a team of international agricultural experts to evaluate their development from the perspectives of “sustainable agriculture and environmental protection,” “agricultural technological innovation and applications,” and “agricultural diversification and resilience.”

October

- The MOA held a special exhibition on agricultural technology as popular science at the National Taiwan Science Education Center, selecting R&D results from subsidiary District Agricultural Research and Extension Stations and related School Legal Persons and using dynamic and interesting popular science education methods to display applications of agritechology in daily life. The ten-day event attracted 10,021 visitors and sparked interest from the public in agritechology.



- Sent staff to Japan to participate in 2024 Taiwan-Japan Satoyama Initiative exchange activities, including visits to Satoyama and Satoumi case studies such as the seaweed beds of Hannan City, Ryukoku Forest, and the Satoyama community at Mukugawa. The two sides shared experiences in promoting the Satoyama and Satoumi initiatives and held in-depth discussions of issues including community forestry, biodiversity conservation, Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs), and sustainable mountain villages.
- Cooperated with the Nantou County Government to set up a “Rural Good Products Pavilion” at the 2024 Nantou Global Tea Expo, inviting 31 makers of Rural Good Products to participate. Over the course of nine days total sales reached NT\$9,613,952, and the event attracted about 98,100 visits.
- Held the “2024 Design With Nature Now” Taiwan event, displaying achievements in sustainable forest operations, the Taiwan Ecological Network, and forestry culture. The collective display of international cases of environmental design and exchanges of achievements at the international conference generated cross-sector mutually beneficial cooperation effects and enhanced the public’s awareness of the importance of forest and biodiversity conservation.
- Announced the amending of the “Types and Scope of Specific Plant Diseases and Pests” to incorporate tomato crops in Nantou County into the scope of monitoring for the silverleaf whitefly, strengthening monitoring of the population density of that insect pest to facilitate timely warnings and upgrading protection against tomato disease viruses for which it is a vector.
- Convened a negotiation with the US on plant variety testing reports (DUS reports), at which the two sides reached a preliminary consensus to study and draft an agreement to mutually recognize each other’s DUS reports while also harmonizing technical matters including DUS reporting and testing methods. The two parties also invited each other to make on-site exchange visits. The goal was to deepen cooperation in protection of plant variety rights.
- Held the “18th Agricultural Finance Awards,” presenting ten types of awards to extol the work of 71 award-winning farmers’ and fishermen’s associations (F/FAs), recognize improved operational effectiveness at F/FA credit departments, and affirm efforts to coordinate with the promotion of policies like agricultural insurance and fraud prevention.
- Held the 2024 meeting on checks of GPS devices in transport vehicles for live pigs and pig corpses, to which the MOA invited the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the National Animal Industry Foundation, and relevant local government agencies to discuss the installation, checking, and functional applications of GPS on such vehicles. We also asked all relevant competent authorities to educate and notify businesses to comply with the provisions of the “Animal Transportation and Management Regulations” and the “Regulations for Slaughter Operation” and ensure normal GPS operations.
- Announced amendments to partial articles of the “Agricultural Natural Disasters Relief Regulations,” adding provisions that required that delayed losses be reported within six months after a disaster; required that items and amounts for cash relief be reviewed once per year; changed the calculation of the time period for handling requests for relief to working days; and exempted items for which simplified measures can be taken in the event of severe disaster losses from on-site inspections to reconfirm whether the loss rate reached 20%; the amendments went into effect retroactively to October 1, 2024.
- Held an event focused on Tian Mama’s cuisine units at National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism, selecting 12 Tian Mama’s cuisine unit dishes from among 20 candidates for follow-up cross-sectoral guidance and marketing involving hotels, gold award chefs, guidance specialists, and culinary writers. The event strengthened use of local ingredients and demonstrated the significance of food and agricultural education while combining with the concept of “sustainable terroir” to pass along and highlight rural community culinary culture, create a map of rural community cuisine, and attract tourists to these communities.
- Announced the “Directions on Issuing Solatium for the Deceased or Missing Crew During Offshore Operations” and amended the “Directions on Issuing Solatium for the Deceased or Missing Foreign Crew During Offshore Operations” to strengthen protections for fishers at work. The new rules raised the consolation payment to the families of affected fishermen from a maximum of NT\$100,000 to NT\$200,000. In addition, they increased the condolence payment from NT\$100,000 to NT\$200,000 for the families of affected migrant fishers hired overseas, bringing it into alignment with the amount provided for nationals. Furthermore, an additional provision was introduced for migrant fishers employed under the Employment Service Act: Aside from the condolence payment issued by the Ministry of Labor in accordance with its jurisdiction, fishers’ families may also apply for an additional condolence payment of up to NT\$100,000 from MOA.
- Announced the deletion of recognition of the US state of Utah as a zone free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from this area.
- In cooperation with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the National Science and Technology Council, the MOA held the “2024 Taiwan Innotech Expo,” where we displayed 45 items of agricultural technology, arranged for 71 business discussions, and attracted over 50,000 visits, demonstrating the strong capabilities of Taiwan’s tech R&D teams.
- The MOA announced amendments to the “Operation Directions for Rewarding Agrotourism of 2024,” which extended the deadline for the stimulus program of issuing “farmer’s currency” vouchers for agrotourism visitors to Hualien County from October 31 to November 30 and the deadline for their use to December 15. The MOA also expanded and incorporated the program of the Hualien County Government to convert purchases of at least NT\$500 at designated brick-and-mortar agriproduct market activities into additional farmer’s vouchers.
- Held the awards presentation ceremony for the “3rd Golden Agricultural Extension Awards,” highlighting the achievement and contributions of various farmers’ associations in providing guidance and extension services to farmers. A total of 287 farmers’ associations made 699 submissions for the competition, with 109 winning awards. At the same time the MOA recognized five people as “30th outstanding agricultural extension and education personnel.”
- Held the annual meeting and exhibition of achievements of the Taiwan Pineapple Industry Alliance, inviting experts from multiple fields to discuss issues including pineapple export markets, export inspection and quarantine, fruit quality, fresh pineapple processing technology, innovative brand management, and pineapple leaf fiber extraction technology. Through exchanges and commercial cooperation involving industry, government, and academia, the event strengthened domestic pineapple production and enhanced fruit quality and supply chain stability. As of October 20, in 2024 Taiwan exported 21,436 metric tons of pineapples, a large increase of 30% compared to the same period in 2023.
- Held a press conference featuring Certified Agricultural Standards (CAS) agriproducts, focusing on family activities, the setting up of special CAS areas in cooperation with Carrefour supermarkets, helping consumers better understand the CAS label, and recommending CAS products as safe options for home cooking, in hopes of encouraging citizens to buy more premium domestic agriproducts and their processed products and leading domestic businesses to expand use of local agri-food ingredients.

- Raymond Greener, director of the American Institute in Taiwan, visited the Taoyuan Branch of the MOA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Agency (APHIA) to see the situation with respect to the joint Taiwan-US training program for quarantine detector dogs (2023-2024). He was accompanied by a delegation of relevant personnel led by APHIA Director General Du Li-Hwa, detector dog trainers, and dog teams. Two teams which completed basic training in the US in 2023 and completed pair-training in Taiwan did a demonstration. The US side expressed respect for Taiwan's dog training, duty management, and border controls and expressed hope that both sides can continue to cooperate on quarantine detector dog training in the future.
- The MOA held a press conference to mark the opening of the "ESG STORE." This "store" is a link on the agricultural net-zero information webpage and serves as a platform exclusively for sustainable projects in agriculture to seek support from corporate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) programs. Enterprises can access information about projects at agricultural venues seeking ESG support and find suitable matches, using actions to promote sustainable development in Taiwan.

November

- The MOA attended the "Kumamoto RKK Festival" and the "Kumamoto Taiwan Festival" in Japan, displaying 16 Taiwan agriproducts and attracting 70,000 visits while generating NT\$450,000 yen in sales (about NT\$94,000), thereby developing the Japanese market and promoting Taiwan "Rural Good Products" to the international community.
- Set up the "Agrotourism Pavilion" at the 2024 Taipei International Travel Fair, where the MOA demonstrated the innovative values of sustainable agrotourism and coordinated with pavilions for national forests and rural wineries to offer more than 100 sustainable tours of farm, forestry, fisheries, and/or animal husbandry destinations, forest therapy venues, and rural wineries. We highlighted the beauty of Taiwan's rural areas and mountain forests, used agricultural residual resources and sustainable products as curatorial focal points, and won an "excellence in sustainability award."
- Held a competition for rural paintings as well as an exhibition of achievements of rural community "green care" work. Besides presenting awards to 29 works of art, the MOA also mediated with six rural community enterprises to honor the makers of the top three works in the individual and group categories with a total of NT\$105,000 in charitable donations, all donated to the Huashan Social Welfare Foundation, which shows love and concern to the elderly and disadvantaged.
- Arranged for visits to rural communities in Germany and the Netherlands by communities that won Golden Village Awards, so that through exchanges and learning among industry, government, academia, and civil society the friendly relations between Taiwan and these two countries could be extended in hopes of further potential collaborations in the future.
- Announced amendments to the "Directions for Subsidy and Guidance Measures for the Reconstruction of Greenhouse Facilities Damaged by Natural Disasters in 2024" to assist farmers who suffered damage to their net greenhouse facilities as a result of Typhoon Kong-rey, accelerate reconstruction and repair work, and restore agriproduct production operations, thereby strengthening the disaster resilience of agriculture; the MOA also extended the deadline for applications for reconstruction aid related to that typhoon to February 28, 2025.
- Held a press conference and signing ceremony for a three-way Memorandum of Understanding including the MOA, the Pakasan community of Saisayat indigenous people in Nanzhuang Township in Miaoli County, and National Chengchi University. to launch a plan for construction of Taiwan's first "wall-free" forest classroom. The three parties committed to working together to promote co-management of natural resources inclusive of indigenous peoples, sharing of ecosystem services values, and strengthening the passing along and training of people in traditional indigenous ecological knowledge.
- MOA Deputy Minister Hu Jong-I led a team to Japan to visit the governor of Ibaraki Prefecture and heads of various urban wards to promote Taiwan fruit and visit modernized cold-chain facilities. Moreover, in Naka City in Ibaraki, they participated in an activity featuring the provision of Taiwan bananas for nutritious school lunches for Japanese schoolchildren and promotion of green banana fries, to cultivate younger-generation Japanese consumers and build brand identity for Taiwan fruit in Japan in order to expand export markets.
- The MOA convened the "1st Meeting of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Committee of the Taiwan-Belize Economic Cooperation Agreement," where both sides discussed their respective SPS management structures and responsibilities as well as issues including prevention of foot and mouth disease, inspection procedures for imported foods, and risk assessment.
- Announced "Litchi Insurance (Parametric Insurance for Temperatures and Rainfall)," "papaya parametric insurance for wind speed and rainfall," "Pineapple Insurance (Regional Harvesting Insurance)," and four types of parametric aquaculture insurance with temperature parameters (covering aquatic products, milkfish, sea bass, and tilapia) as agricultural insurance products, with farmers and fishermen allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Participated in meetings related to the "90th Session of the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures of the World Trade Organization" and the "Thematic Session on Emerging Risks and New Agricultural Technologies to Address Them," and continued to express concern about China's unilateral suspension of fruit imports from Taiwan and fight to defend our rights and interests.
- Announced amendments to Articles 8-1 and 9 of "Regulations for Permission and Administration of Farmers' Associations and Fishermen's Associations Acting as Agricultural Insurers" to add a provision that the central competent authority can commission an outside organization (institution), judicial person, or group to audit or inspect farmers' or fishermen's associations in conducting matters related to agricultural insurance and guide such associations in conforming to relevant rules, thereby ensuring the rights and interests of insured farmers and fishermen.
- Held an event for the release of an album and book entitled *Let's Sing Together*, featuring "songs of forest work." Through singing, text, and images these record cultural heritage from the history of forestry in Taiwan. The songs are rich with forestry culture and indigenous people's forestry historical perspective and are moving pieces of music inextricable from the development of forestry in Taiwan.



- Announced the deletion of recognition of the French département of Allier as a zone free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from this area.
- Announced the deletion of recognition of the US states of Montana, Arizona, and Illinois as zones free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from these areas.
- Held a press conference and awards ceremony for the “2024 Sustainable Specialty Coffee Farm Awards,” which not only resonated with the UN Sustainable Development Goals but also included international accreditation by the Coffee Quality Institute. Awards were presented to coffee farms in six major regions of Taiwan, with categories including “organic coffee farm,” “sun-dried coffee farm,” and “sustainable demonstration farm.” The event aimed to promote the Taiwan coffee industry to domestic and international audiences and identify new milestones in rural community sustainability.
- Held the “2024 Circular Agriculture Trends Forum” on the theme “Agricultural Fashion Revolution and Sustainable Transitions of Plant Fibers.” The MOA invited representatives from Switzerland, Thailand, and important industrial, government, and academic institutions in Taiwan to explore trends in applications of plant fiber in the textile industry home and abroad, including uses of key technologies, achievements at related venues, and uses in enterprise value chains. The aim was to help Taiwan keep up with innovative trends in green materials.
- Held a meeting of scholars and experts to discuss overlapping (cumulative) agricultural payments and draft a plan for dealing with such payments. Farmers’ organizations and representatives of young farmers from around Taiwan were consulted to ensure communication and consensus. The meeting aimed to facilitate future follow-up public announcement of implementation details for such payments.
- To promote expansion of the printing of traceability information on washed and graded eggs, the MOA held a series of explanatory seminars on this policy with egg farmers, egg dealers, and washing and grading businesses. In addition, in cooperation with the Food and Drug Administration of the Ministry of Health and Welfare, we held a seminar on expanding the use of domestic washed and graded eggs with printed traceability information by chain restaurants and matchmaking with washing and grading businesses, raising awareness among food and beverage businesses of the benefits of using such eggs and employing demand-side pull to expand production capacity for washed and graded eggs and upgrade the competitiveness of the layer hen industry.
- The MOA announced amendments to partial articles and Supplementary 3 of Article 6 of the “Regulations on Standards for Determination and Qualification Review of Farmers Engaged in Agricultural Work Applying for Joining the Farmer Health Insurance Program.” The changes apply to actual cultivators of the land whose operations reach a certain scale and whose agricultural land and domicile registration address are in the jurisdictions of farmers’ associations in different cities and counties and non-adjointing townships (sub-county cities, urban districts). Following certification by the District Agricultural Research and Extension Station where the land lies that the individual is in fact actually engaged in cultivation of the land, such farmers can apply to the base-level farmers’ association with jurisdiction over their domicile registration address to participate in farmers’ health insurance.
- Held the “2024 Recognition Ceremony of Forestry and Nature Conservation Achievements,” recognizing 15 individuals with Forestry and Nature Conservation Achievement Awards and three groups with Wildlife Education Exemplar Awards.
- Together with the Coast Guard Administration of the Ocean Affairs Council, the MOA conducted joint guidance visits in the Penghu area to prevent external infectious animal diseases like African swine fever and harmful organisms from entering Taiwan, engaging in exchanges on responsibilities and sharing of experiences to jointly maintain the safety of the domestic animal husbandry industry.

December

- The MOA announced the deletion of recognition of New Zealand as a country free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from that country.
- Announced the deletion of recognition of the US states of Tennessee, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Missouri, Wisconsin, Alabama, Mississippi, and Ohio as zones free of highly pathogenic avian influenza, and announced an immediate ban on imports into Taiwan of live poultry and related products from those areas.
- The International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements held the 2024 Organic World Congress at Nanhua University. Associated events included five plenary sessions, 46 parallel sessions, and 18 workshops, as well as organic market activities and displays of organic agriculture posters. More than 600 individuals from organic agriculture-related industries and academia from 61 countries attended, and there were over 2,300 visits to the organic market.
- The MOA announced three types of “Mango Insurance of Cathay Century Insurance,” including “Government Disaster Relief-Linked Insurance,” “Regional Harvest Insurance,” and “Pingtung Regional Harvest Insurance” as agricultural insurance products, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with regulations.
- Established a consultative committee for a logistics network for farmers’ and fishermen’s associations (F/FAs) composed of the general managers of 17 F/FAs already in the logistics network and representatives of the OKmart convenience store chain and the Taiwan Value-Added Agriculture Company. Currently, 217 F/FAs have signed contacts to join the network, and when OKmart outlets are counted, it has a total of over 1,200 service points. There have been over 16,000 total orders for agricultural and fisheries products between F/FAs (totaling about 220 metric tons), while more than 390,000 items have been sent (picked up) by consumers through F/FA service points. In future, the consultative committee will in principle meet once every two months to discuss the practical operations of the logistics network and relevant marketing and promotion plans.

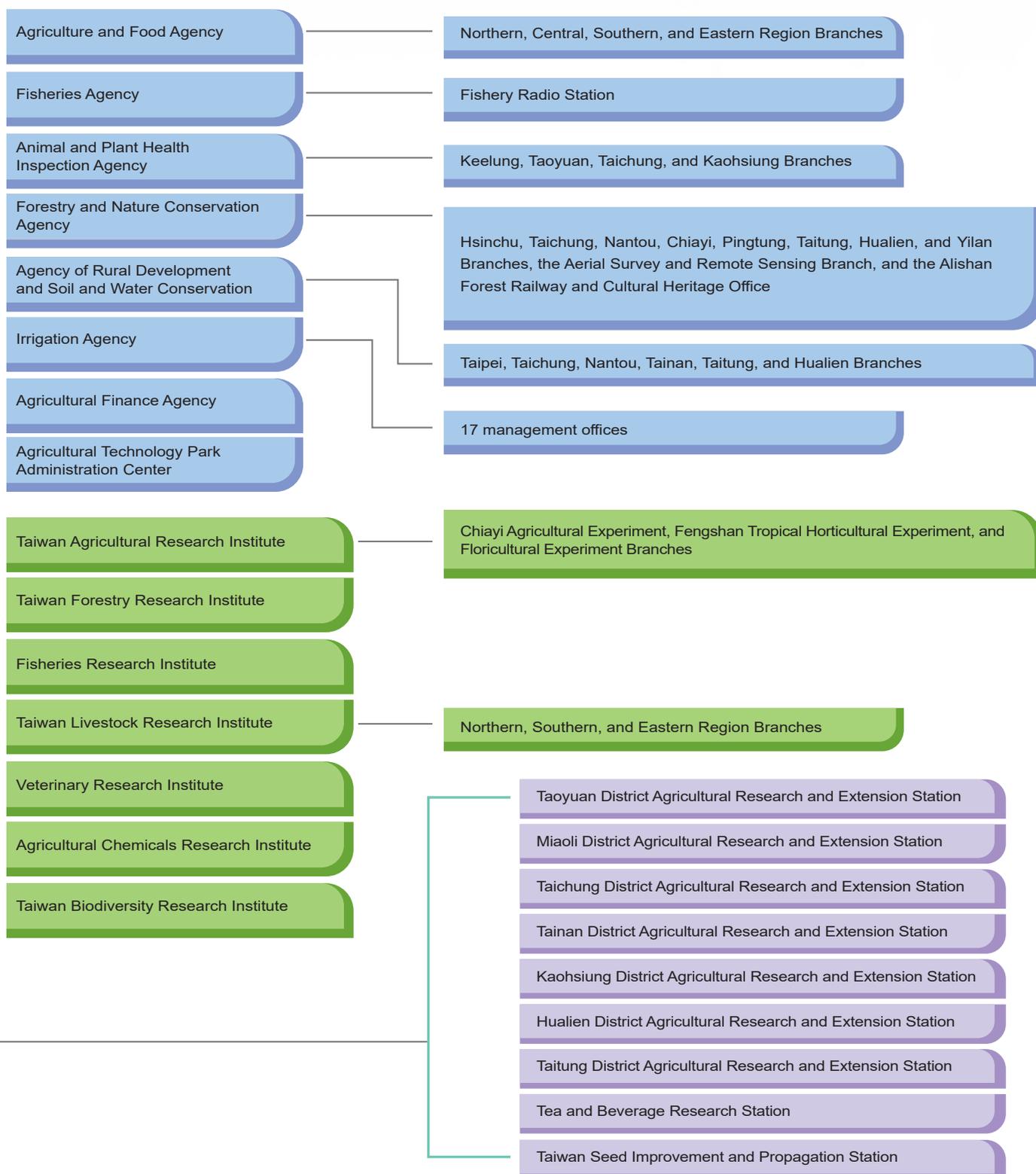
- Held the 13th meeting for prevention of damage from fall armyworms and announced the disbandment of the “fall armyworm emergency response task force.” Thereafter, local governments were to supervise farmers in their jurisdictions in implementing self-management and continue with active monitoring, while the MOA’s District Agricultural Research and Extension Stations would continue to organize awareness-raising activities related to the fall armyworm.
- Announced amendments to the “Categories and Items of Certain Agricultural Products for the Implementation of Traceable Agricultural Products (TAP) Certification System” to add “vanilla” and “purple perilla” to the list. This was the sixth time this list was amended.
- Held a press conference on comprehensive certification of national forest by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), stating that all national forest under the MOA’s jurisdiction (nearly 1.6 million hectares, accounting for 71.5% of all forest land in Taiwan) would receive FSC certification within five years. This will give Taiwan the highest proportion of FSC-certified forest land in Asia and write a new page in sustainable forest management here.
- Announced the implementation of “2025 relief loans for farmers,” with loans totaling NT\$500 million and the period for accepting applications running from December 16 to 31, 2024, to facilitate the receiving of such loans by farmers before the Lunar New Year on January 24, 2025.
- Personnel from the Philippines Department of Agriculture visited Taiwan, including stops at the MOA to discuss bilateral agricultural cooperation, at an airport to learn about Taiwan’s airport inspection and quarantine operations, at a pork processing industry venue, at the Agricultural Technology Park in Pingtung to learn about cold-chain logistics development, and at the customs inspection and quarantine station at the Kaohsiung Post Office.
- Working with 20 businesses making products from domestic wood and bamboo as well as the Taiwan Association of Humanitarian Architecture, the MOA participated in the “36th Taipei Building Show.” The highlights of the Taiwan displays included office automation, school furniture, and large wooden structures, echoing the sustainability theme of the Taiwan Pavilion and demonstrating the diverse applications of domestic wood and bamboo in daily life.
- MOA Deputy Minister Tu Wen-jane met a delegation from South Africa’s “Democratic Alliance” party, exchanging ideas on bilateral promotion of smart agriculture technology development and policies and practices in animal disease prevention. The delegation also visited the MOA’s Taiwan Agricultural Research Institute to enhance technical cooperation.
- Taiwan and Japan—represented by Su Jia-chyuan, chairman of the Taiwan-Japan Relations Association, and Mitsuo Ohashi, chairman of the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association, respectively—signed a Memorandum of Understanding on mutual recognition of plant variety testing (DUS) reports. The signing was attended by representatives of the competent authorities in the two parties. Since then, the two countries have recognized each other’s DUS reports, saving the costs and time of applying for plant variety rights, supporting the rights and interests of breeders, and strengthening the development of agricultural intellectual property rights in both countries.
- The MOA held a conference on measurement technologies for marine carbon sequestration, bringing together relevant ministries and agencies, academic institutions, and industrial groups to review the achievements and progress in promoting Taiwan’s technical program for marine carbon sequestration. Through joint efforts by the public and private sectors, progress is being made in advancing marine carbon sequestration and fisheries resources, with the aim of achieving net-zero carbon emissions.
- Held a ceremony for presentation of certificates for disaster prevention communities and awards for outstanding disaster prevention specialists, giving out five awards for outstanding contributions by individual specialists and presenting 32 bronze, 29 silver, and six gold community certificates/awards, recognizing their proactive participation in disaster prevention work while also drawing attention to achievements in the promotion of autonomous disaster prevention communities; a total of 202 people participated.
- Held a press conference about the “comprehensive program for upgrading the agri-food industry,” explaining adjustments to public stocks of rice and related measures. This program takes into account agri-food balance, reflects production costs, strengthens risk resilience, and ensures farmers’ incomes. Besides taking care of the interests of 120,000 farmers who sell their rice to the government for public stocks, the program also considers the incomes of all 360,000 agri-food producers and can genuinely ensure the well-being of farmers and sustainable development of related industries.
- Announced the “Operation Directions of Interest Subsidy for Crop Type Transformation from Rice to Miscellaneous Grains” in coordination with the “1—Collective production, 2—Transition, and 3—Add 3” rice production refinement policy, offering subsidies for one year of interest payments on old loans or new loans under NT\$5 million. The aims were to help businesses reduce the burden of loans and encourage farmers and businesses in integrated production areas operated by group production zones guided by the MOA’s Agriculture and Food Agency to build production-and-marketing linkages and stimulate production by farmers.
- Announced “Banana Income Insurance” as an agricultural insurance product for 2025, with farmers allowed to apply to the MOA for subsidies for premiums in accordance with the “Regulations Governing the Trial Operation and Premium Subsidy of Banana Income Insurance.”
- Announced that the deadline for arranging for loans under the “NT\$10 billion loan program for agricultural green energy” would be extended to December 31, 2025, providing farm and fisheries operators with funding needed to purchase green energy facilities to be combined with their operational facilities, accelerating promotion of the government’s agricultural green energy policy, stabilizing agricultural operations, enhancing value-added in the agricultural sector, and increasing extra income for farm and fisheries operators.



Appendix 1: Organizational Chart of the Ministry of Agriculture



Note : The budget for 2024 for the MOA and its subordinate organizations approved by the Executive Yuan provided funding for a total of 7,860 persons including 4,980 full-time staff, 165 hirees, 1,283 contract employees, 1,222 technical staff, 79 drivers, and 131 custodial workers. The offices of the MOA per se (i.e. excluding subordinate organizations) accounted for 436 of these persons, including 384 full-time staff, 27 hirees, 12 contract employees, 6 technical staff, 4 drivers, and 3 custodial workers.





Appendix 2: Budgets and Final Accounting for 2024

1. Budgets for 2024

(1) Budget for the MOA and its subordinate organizations: The total budget for the MOA and its subordinate organizations for 2024 was NT\$160.93 billion, an increase of NT\$10.205 billion (6.77%) as compared to the 2023 figure of NT\$150.725 billion. Figures 1 and 2 show the allocations by function and agency, respectively.

Figure 1 Budget allocations by function, 2024

Unit: NT\$1 million

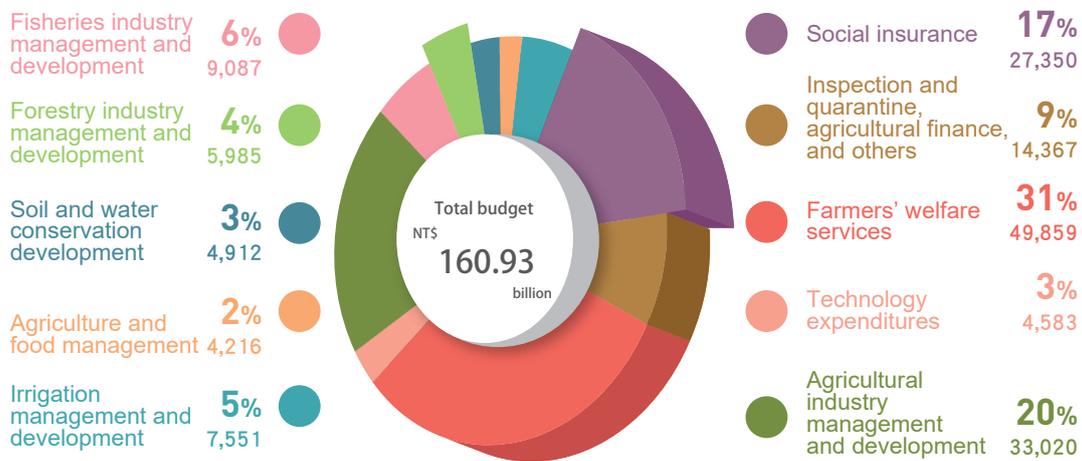
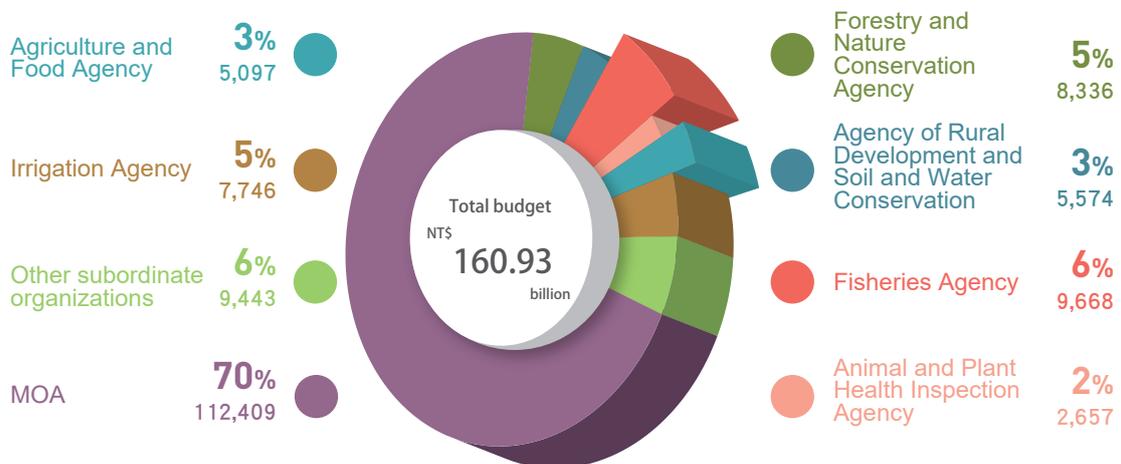


Figure 2 Budget allocations by agency, 2024

Unit: NT\$1 million



(2) Special budget for the fourth phase of the Forward-looking Infrastructure Development Program (2023-2024): The part of this special budget managed by the MOA totaled NT\$6.599 billion, of which the budget for 2023 was NT\$2.932 billion and that for 2024 was NT\$3.667 billion. Figures 3 and 4 show the allocations by function and agency, respectively.

Figure 3 Special budget for the fourth phase of the Forward-looking Infrastructure Development Program, by function

Unit: NT\$1 million

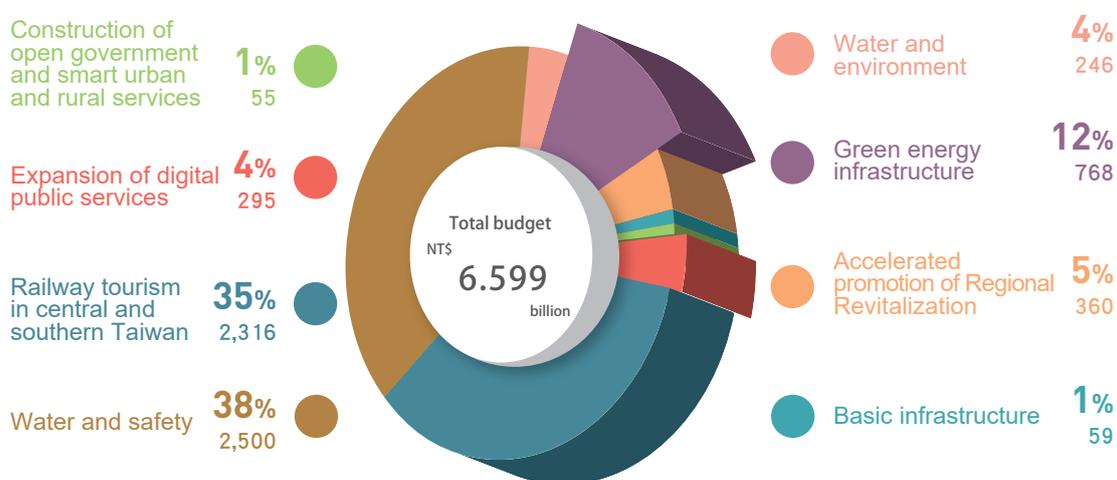
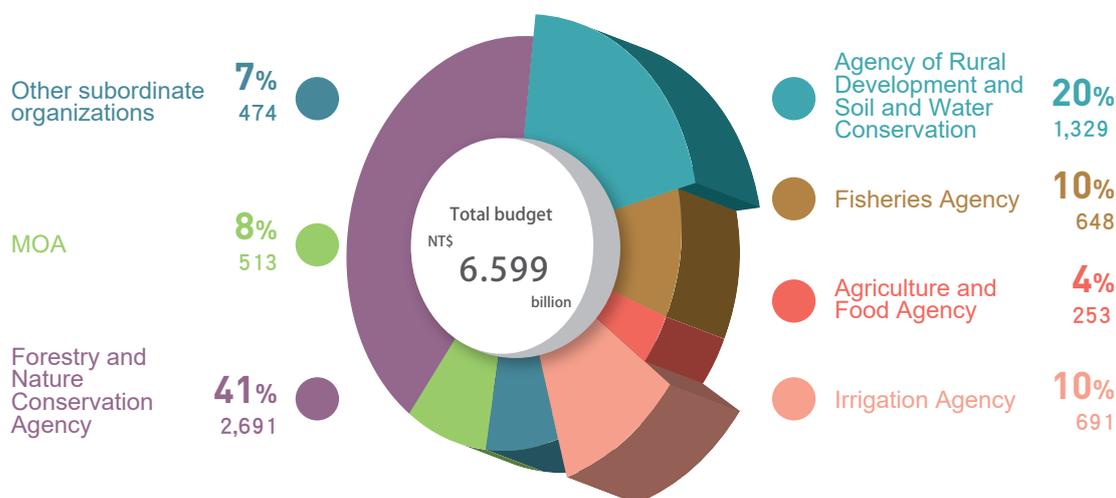


Figure 4 Special budget for the fourth phase of the Forward-looking Infrastructure Development Program, by agency

Unit: NT\$1 million





(3) Special budget for Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience and Public Sharing of Economic Achievement in the Post-pandemic Era (2023-2025): The part of this special budget managed by the MOA totals NT\$26.809 billion, of which the budget for 2023 was NT\$10.625 billion while that for 2024 was NT\$10.286 billion and that for 2025 will be NT\$5.898 billion. Figures 5 and 6 show the allocations of this budget.

Figure 5

Special budget for Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience and Public Sharing of Economic Achievement in the Post-pandemic Era, by function

Unit: NT\$1 million

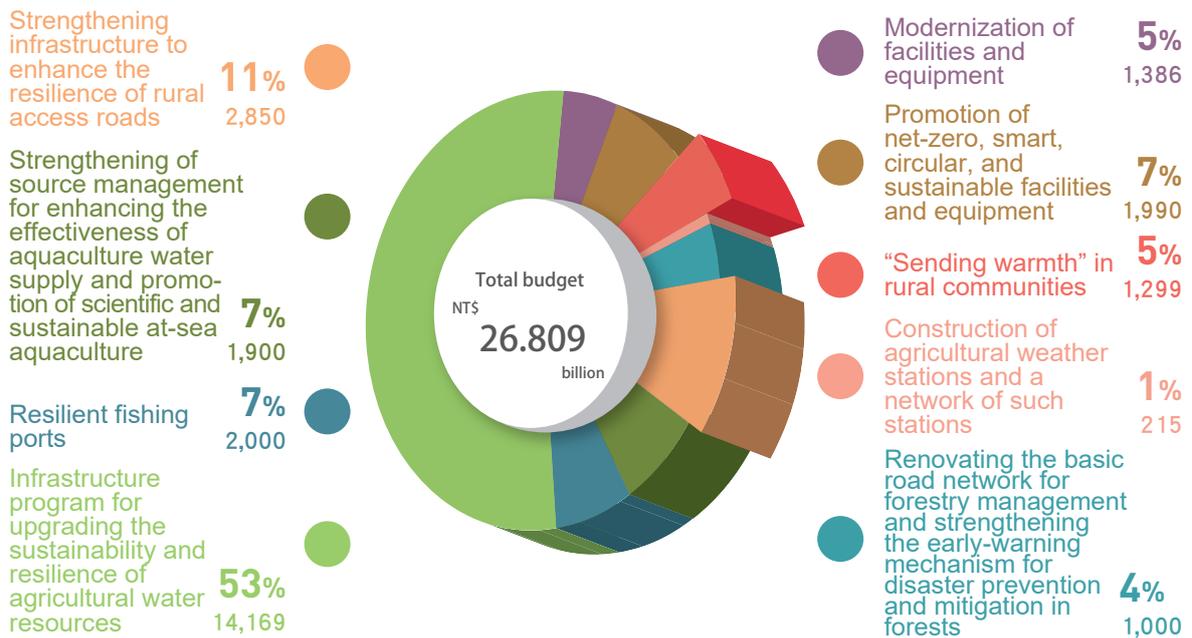
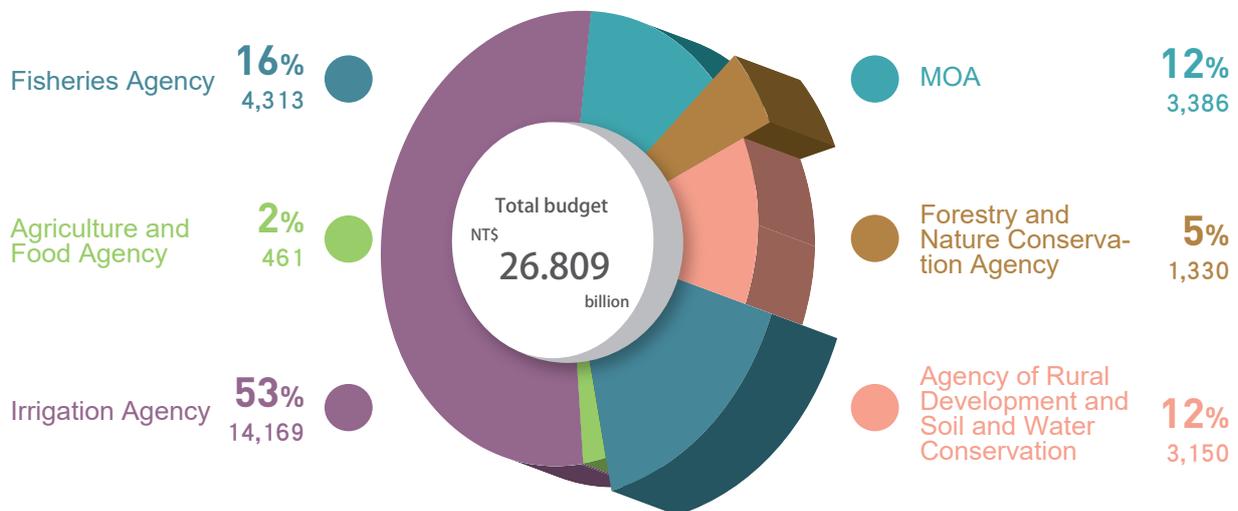


Figure 6

Special budget for Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience and Public Sharing of Economic Achievement in the Post-pandemic Era, by agency

Unit: NT\$1 million



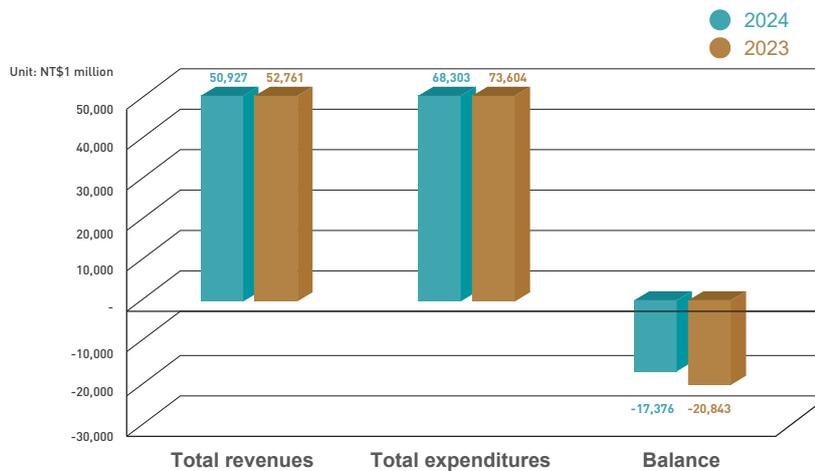
(4) Budget for subsidiary agencies (including the Agricultural Special Revenue Fund, the Agricultural Operations Fund, and the Irrigation Operations Fund), 2024.

(a) Total revenues were budgeted to be NT\$50.927 billion, a decrease of NT\$1.834 billion (3.48%) as compared to the 2023 figure of NT\$52.761 billion.

(b) Total expenditures were budgeted to be NT\$68.303 billion, a decrease of NT\$5.301 billion (7.2%) as compared to the 2023 figure of NT\$73.604 billion.

(c) The total balance was budgeted to be in deficit by NT\$17.376 billion. (See Figure 7.)

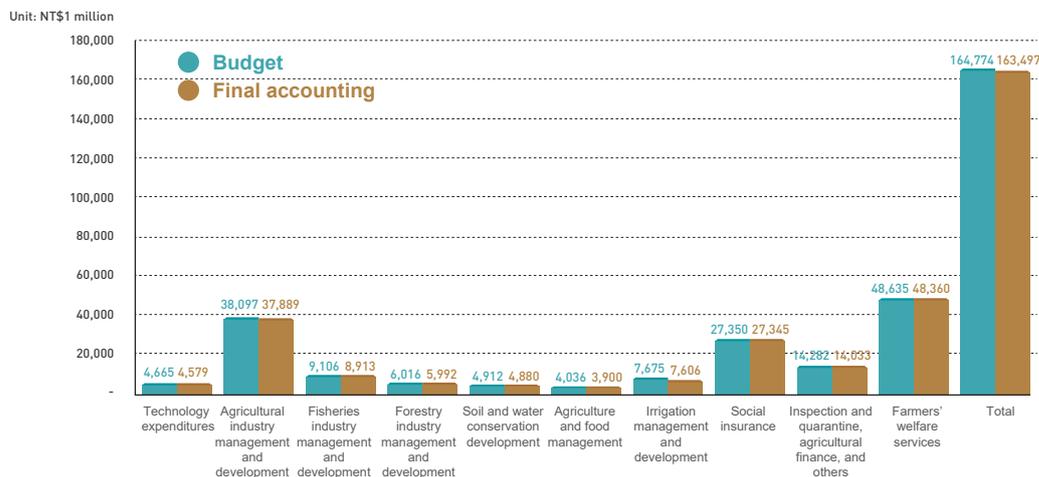
Figure 7 Comparison of the 2024 and 2023 budgets for subsidiary agencies



2. Final Accounting for 2024

(1) Final accounting for the MOA and its subordinate organizations: In 2024 the budget for the MOA and its subordinate organizations was NT\$160.93 billion. In addition, NT\$2.2 billion was mobilized from the Secondary Reserve Fund as were “urgent priority funds” of NT\$1.644 billion, bringing the total available to NT\$164.774 billion. The final accounting showed NT\$163.497 billion spent (including NT\$156.354 billion in actual expenditures, NT\$1.253 billion payable, and NT\$5.89 billion reserved). There was a surplus of NT\$1.277 billion. Actual expenditures accounted for 99.22% of budgeted funds. The functional implementation is presented in Figure 8.

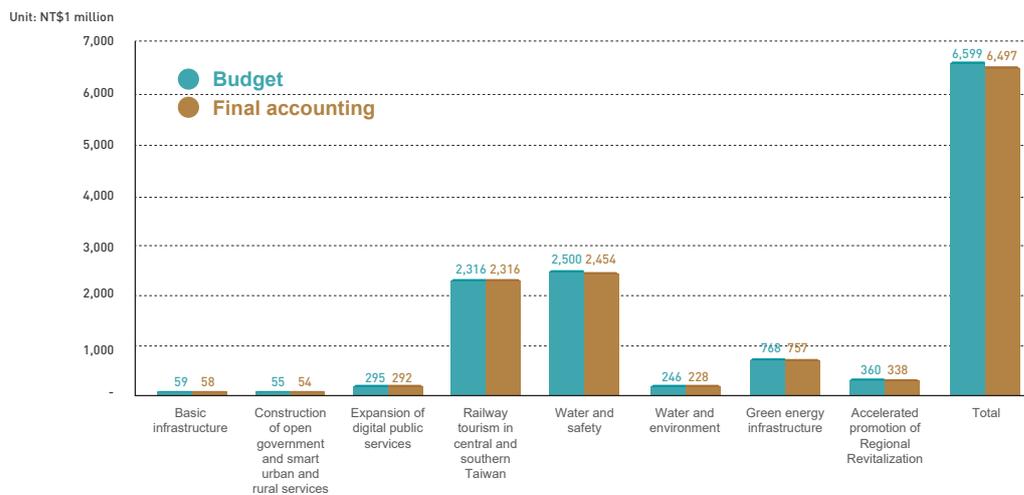
Figure 8 Implementation of the MOA budget, 2024, by function





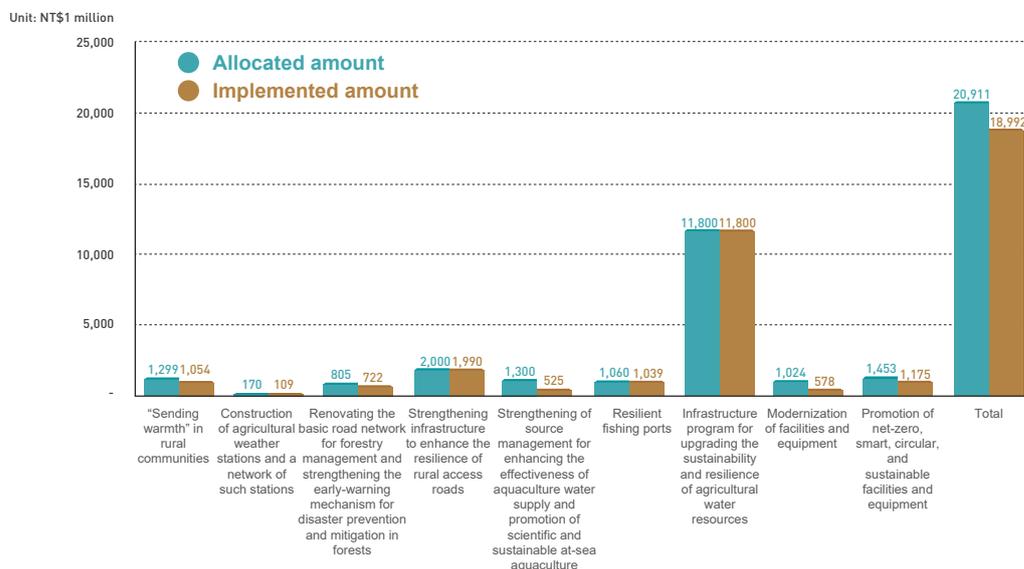
(2) Implementation of the special budget for the fourth phase of the Forward-looking Infrastructure Development Program (2023-2024): The part of this special budget managed by the MOA totaled NT\$6.599 billion. The final accounting showed NT\$6.497 billion actually spent (including NT\$4.545 billion in actual expenditures, NT\$170.04 million payable, and NT\$1.781 billion reserved), accounting for 98.46% of budgeted funds. The functional implementation is presented in Figure 9.

Figure 9 Implementation of the fourth phase of the Forward-looking Infrastructure Development Program, by function



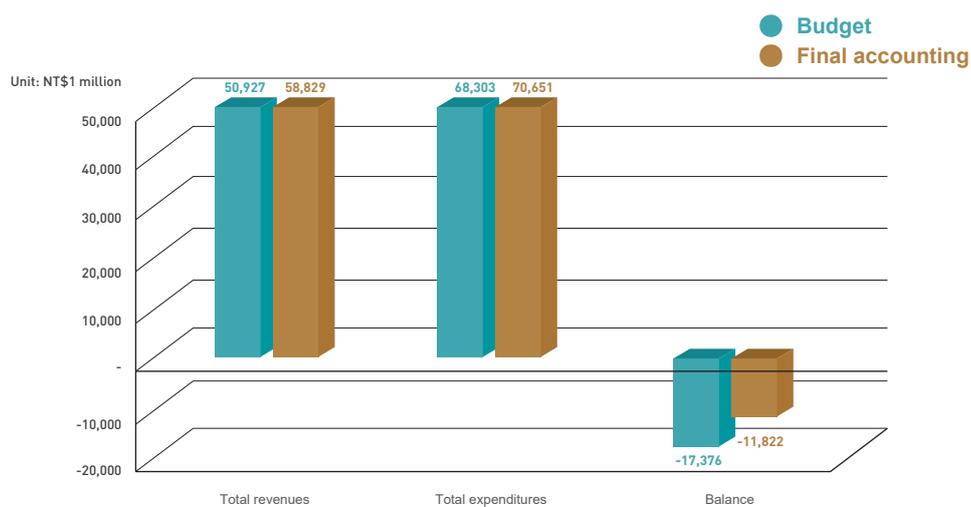
(3) Implementation of the special budget for Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience and Public Sharing of Economic Achievement in the Post-pandemic Era (2023-2025): The part of this special budget managed by the MOA totals NT\$26.809 billion. As of the end of 2024 the allocated amount was NT\$20.911 billion. The final accounting showed NT\$18.992 billion actually spent, accounting for 90.83% of budgeted funds. The functional implementation is shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10 Implementation of the special budget for Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience and Public Sharing of Economic Achievement in the Post-pandemic Era as of the end of 2024



(4) Final accounting for subsidiary agencies: Total budgeted revenues were NT\$50.927 billion, and the final accounting showed revenues of NT\$58.829 billion, accounting for 115.51% of budgeted revenues. Total budgeted expenditures were NT\$68.303 billion, and the final accounting showed expenditures of NT\$70.651 billion, accounting for 103.44% of budgeted expenditures. After comparing revenues and expenditures, the final accounting showed a deficit of NT\$11.822 billion. (See Figure 11.)

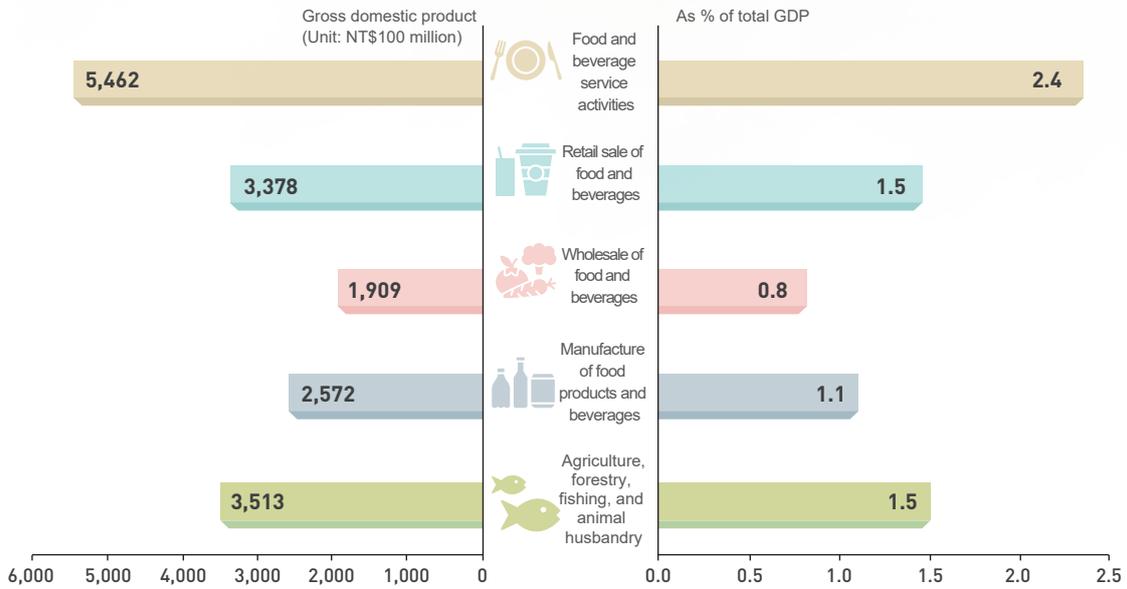
Figure 11 Comparison of the budget and final accounting for MOA subsidiary agencies, 2024





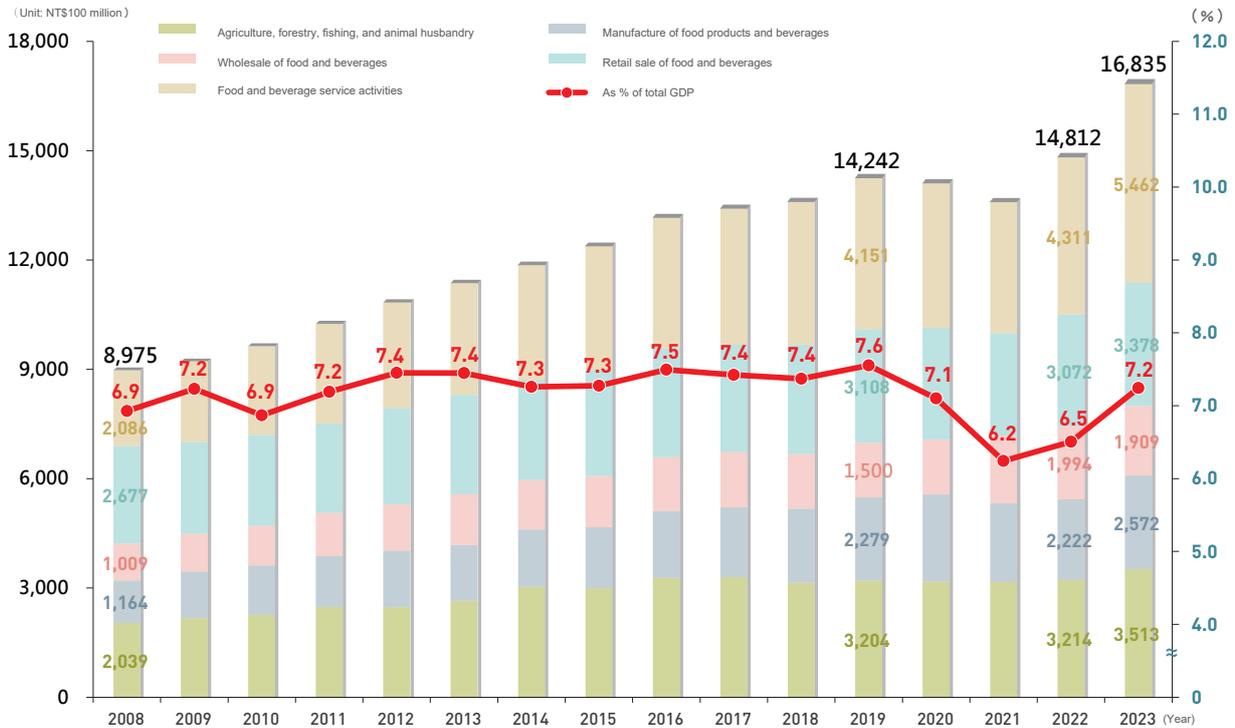
Appendix 3: Selected Agricultural Statistics

Figure 1 Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the agriculture and agri-food chain and its percentage of total GDP, 2023



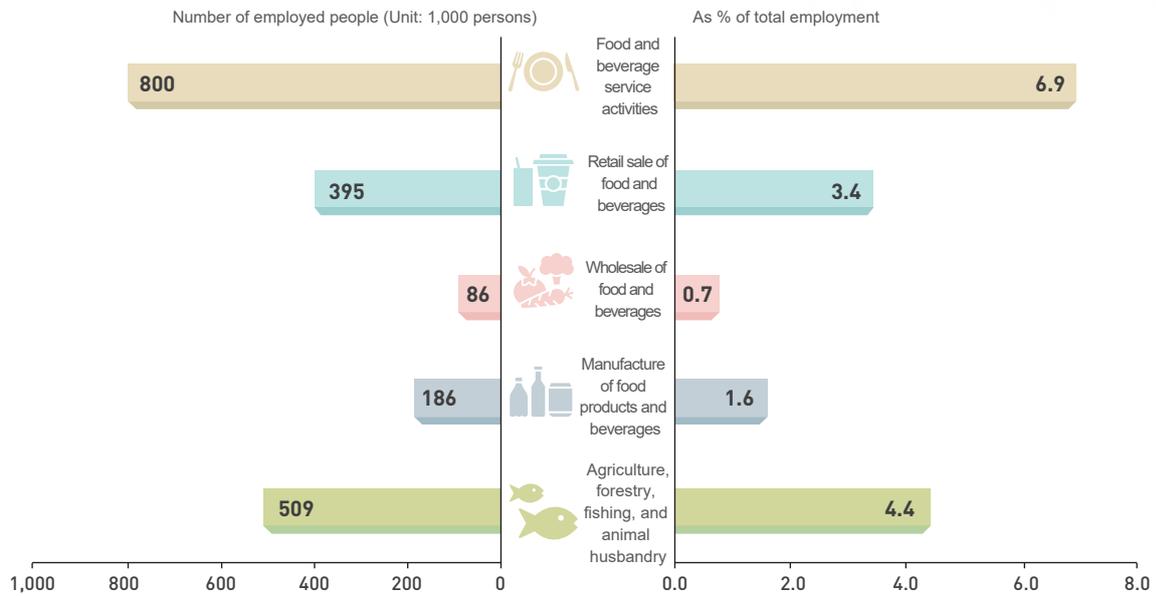
Source: Department of Statistics, MOA

Figure 2 GDP of the agriculture and agri-food chain and its percentage of total GDP, 2008-2023



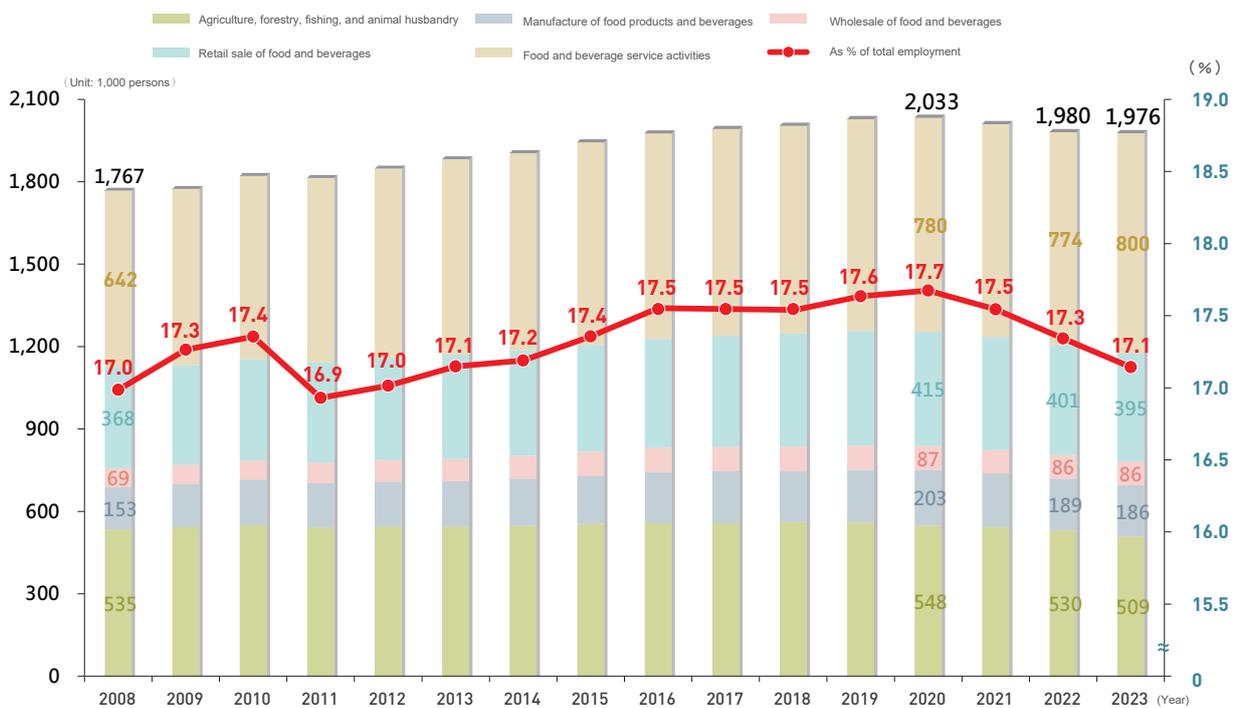
Source: Department of Statistics, MOA

Figure 3 Employment in the agriculture and agri-food chain and its percentage of total employment, 2023



Source: Department of Statistics, MOA

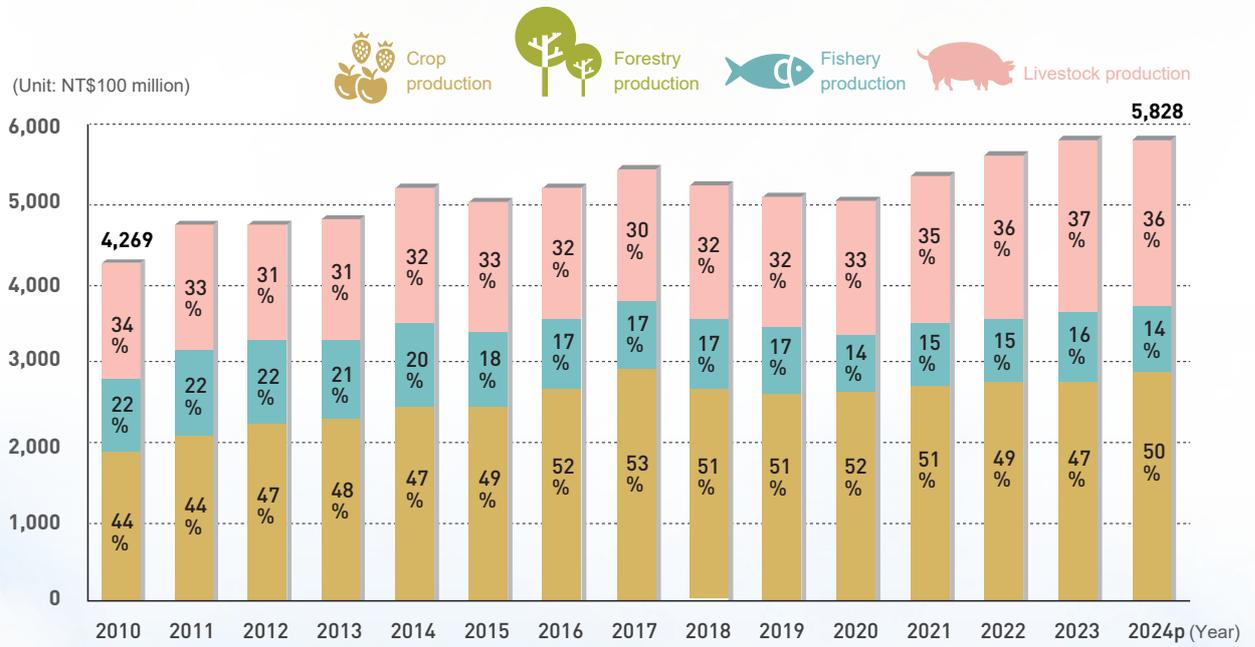
Figure 4 Employment in the agriculture and agri-food chain and its percentage of total employment, 2008-2023



Source: Department of Statistics, MOA

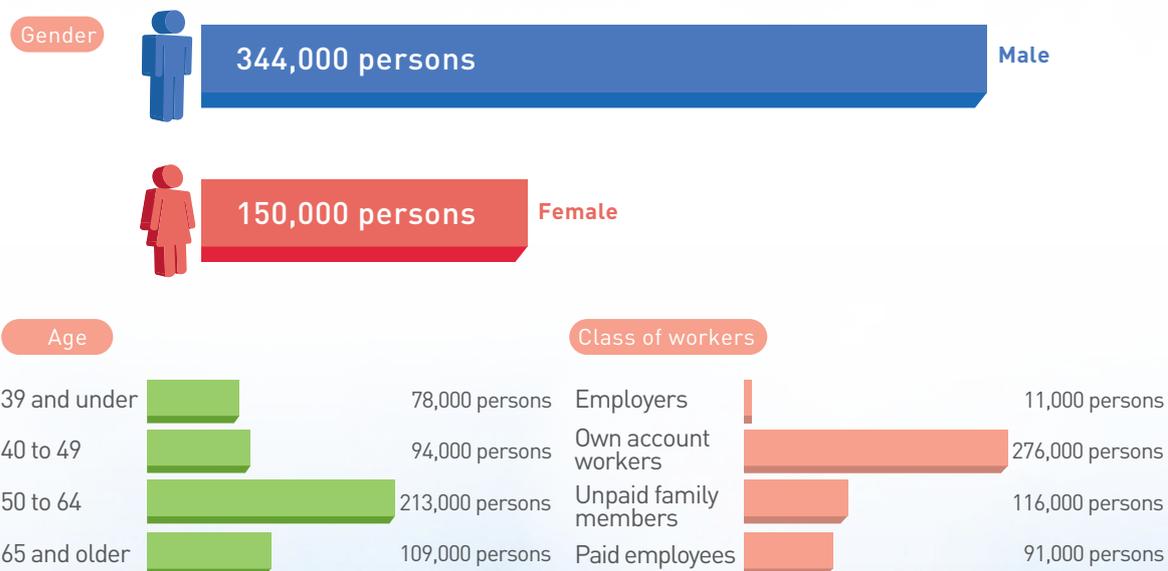


Figure 5 Value and composition of agricultural production, 2010-2024



Source: Agricultural Statistics Yearbook

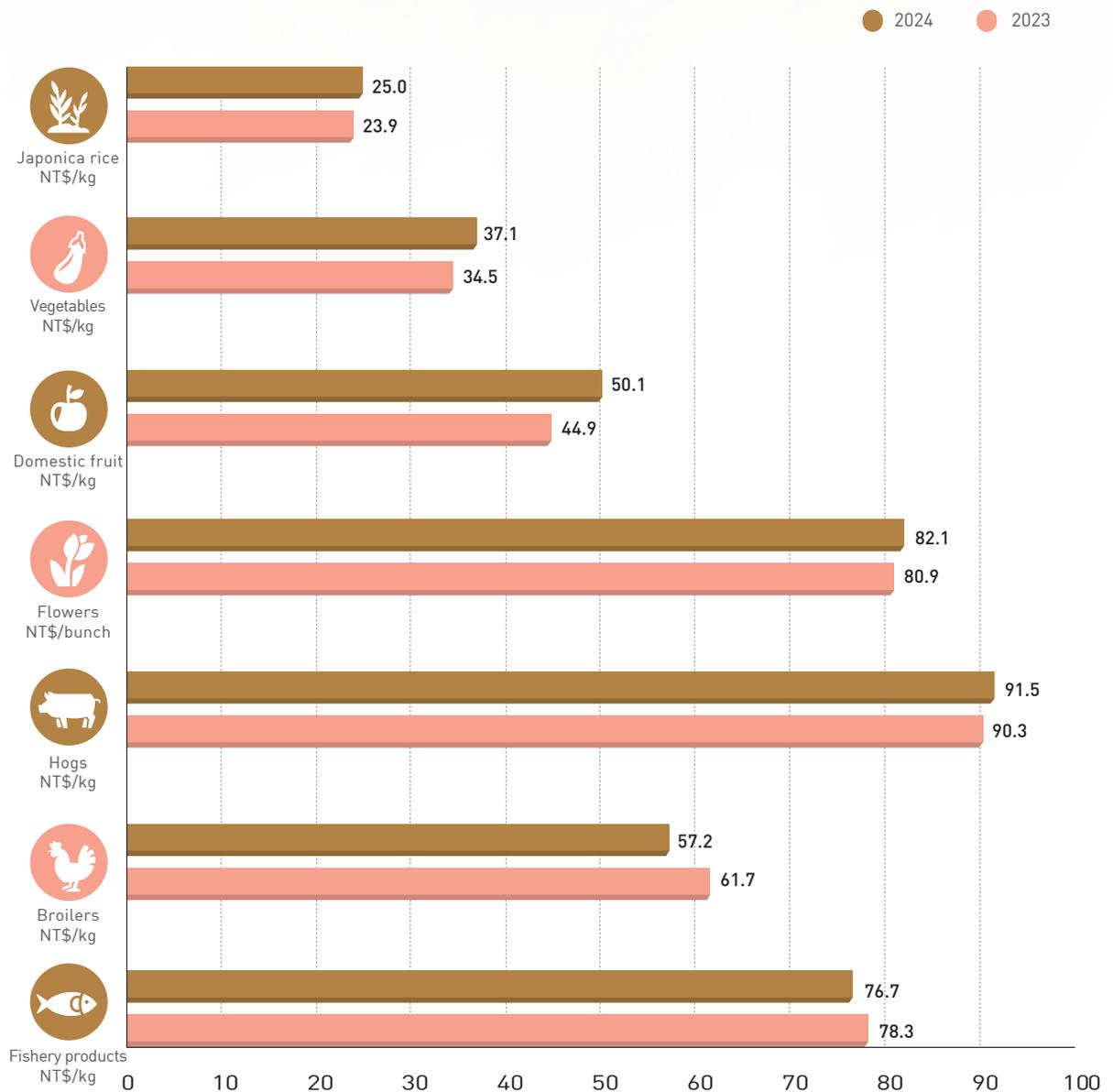
Figure 6 Demographic characteristics of persons employed in agriculture, 2024



Source: Yearbook of Manpower Survey Statistics



Figure 7 Wholesale or farm prices of agricultural products, 2024 as compared to 2023



Source: Agricultural Statistics Yearbook

Note: Prices of japonica rice and broilers are farm prices; those for vegetables, domestic fruit, flowers, hogs, and fishery products are wholesale prices.

Figure 8 Production value and planted area of selected agricultural products, 2023 as compared to 2013

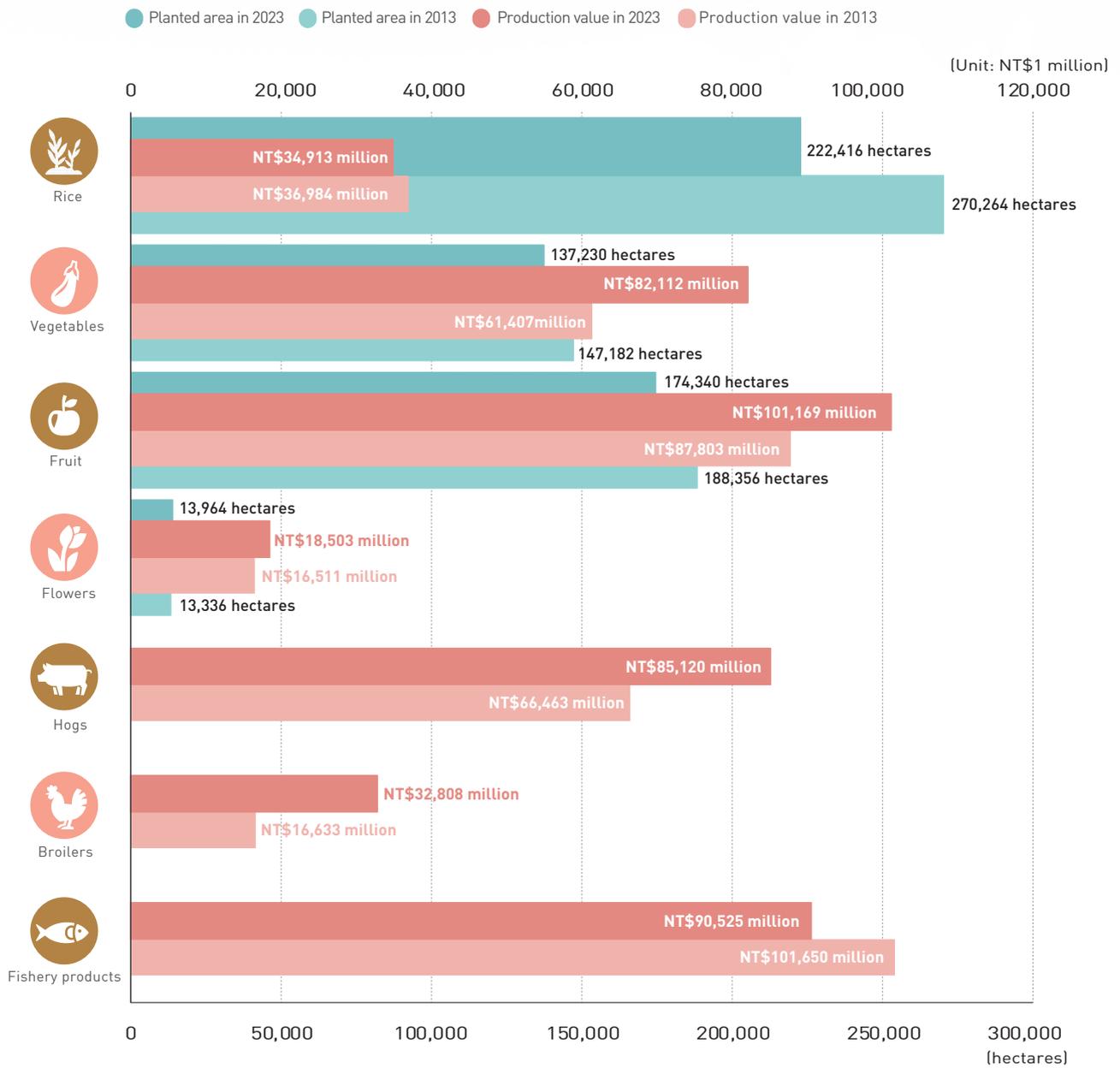
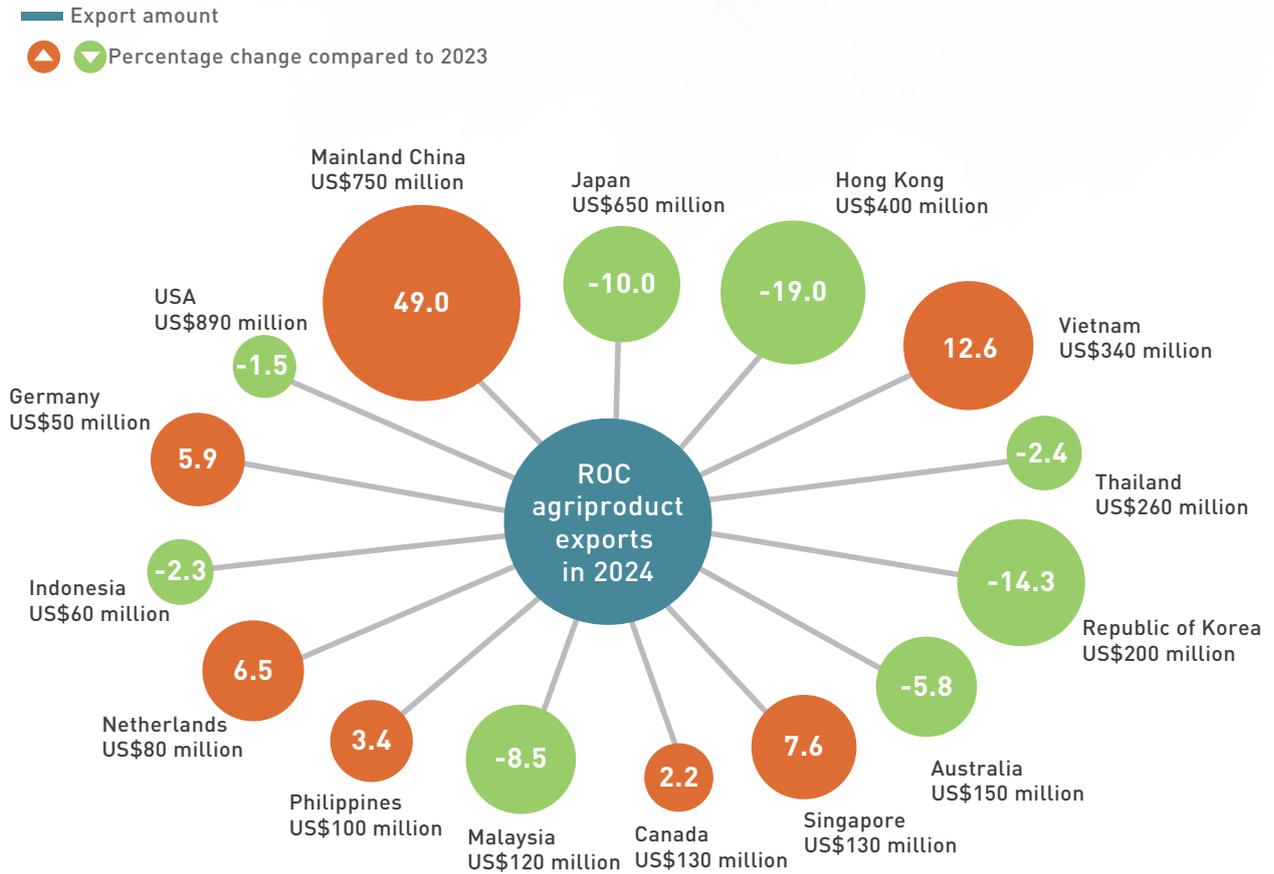


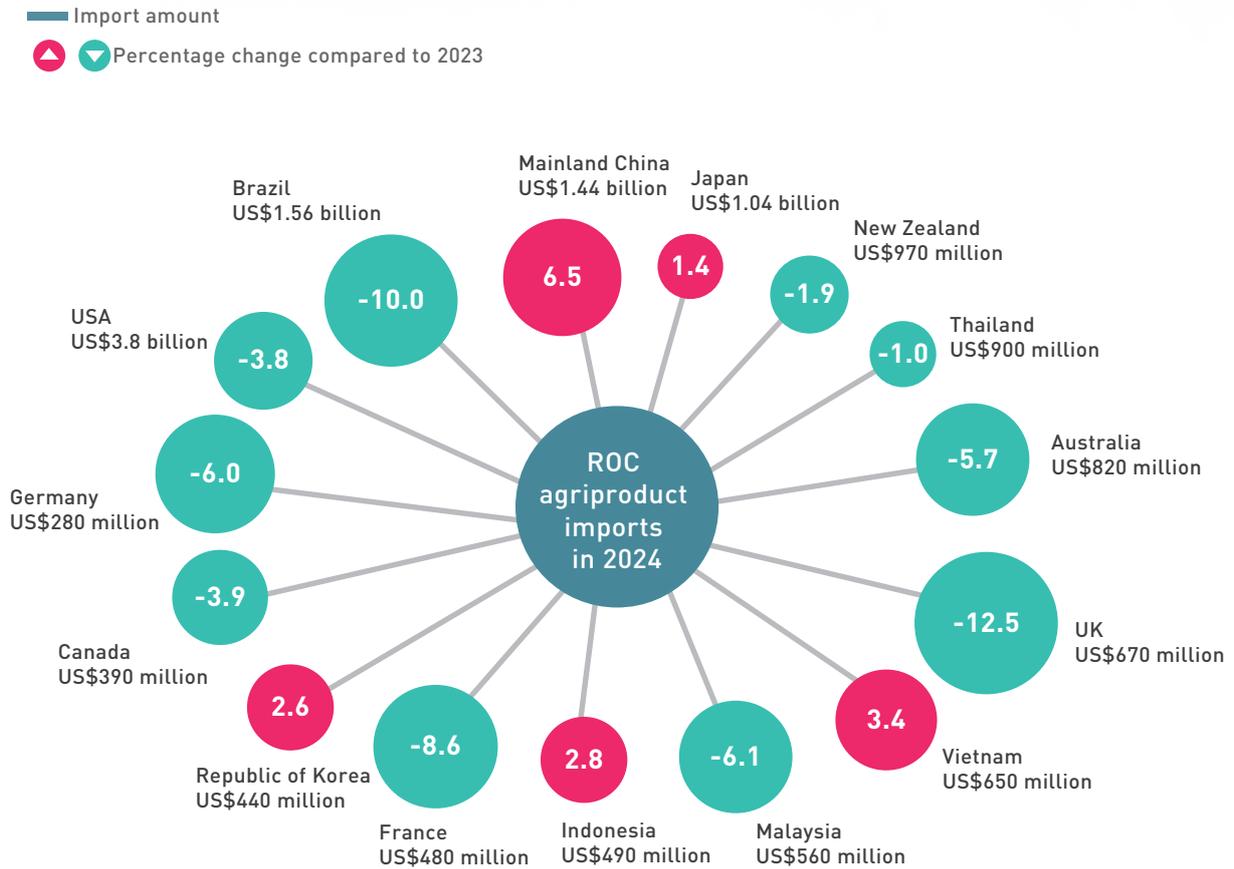


Figure 9 Exports of agricultural products



Source: Agricultural Trade Statistics of the ROC

Figure 10 Imports of agricultural products



Source: Agricultural Trade Statistics of the ROC



MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE

2024 Annual Report

Publisher Junne-Jih Chen
Publishing agency Ministry of Agriculture

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Address No. 37, Nanhai Road, Zhongzheng District, Taipei City 100212, Taiwan

Website <https://www.moa.gov.tw>

Telephone (02) 2381-2991

Layout and design WISH CREATIVE DESIGN CO., LTD.

Price NT\$150

Published in English in December, 2025

GPN : 2011300013

ISSN : 3078-6487

Available at the following bookstores

Wunan Wenhua Guangchang (Wunan Culture Plaza):

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GPN : 2011300013
ISSN 3078-6487



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PRICE NT\$150