

## Philippines and Cambodia deepen livestock partnership as Govts and businesses seek sustainable growth opportunities

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**Bilateral cooperation focuses on livestock investment, food security, production efficiency and private-sector collaboration across the ASEAN region**



The Philippines and Cambodia are moving to strengthen cooperation in the livestock sector as both countries seek greater collaboration between governments, businesses and industry stakeholders to build more resilient, sustainable and competitive animal production systems. The two nations reaffirmed their commitment to expanding agricultural partnerships during a livestock business matching activity held at the Food Development Center in Taguig City on July 22, 2026, bringing together government officials, industry leaders and private-sector representatives from both countries.

The meeting provided a platform to discuss livestock development strategies, identify investment opportunities and explore avenues for technical cooperation aimed at improving productivity and strengthening regional food security. The initiative reflects growing ASEAN efforts to enhance agricultural collaboration amid rising production costs, supply chain challenges and increasing demand for sustainable livestock production.

### Public-Private Collaboration Key to Livestock Growth

Cambodian Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries H.E. Dith Tina highlighted the importance of stronger partnerships between government institutions and private enterprises to address challenges affecting the livestock industry, particularly the rising cost of pork production. He emphasised that closer cooperation between policymakers and industry players would be essential to improving production efficiency, ensuring supply stability and developing a more sustainable livestock sector.

The discussions focused on the role of private-sector investment, technical knowledge exchange and cross-border partnerships in addressing production constraints and enhancing competitiveness.

### **Philippines Highlights Regional Cooperation for Food Security**

Representing the Philippine Department of Agriculture (DA), Assistant Secretary for Swine and Poultry Michael J. Garcia underscored the importance of regional collaboration in achieving shared agricultural priorities. He noted that stronger partnerships within ASEAN could support food security objectives, accelerate sustainable livestock development and create new opportunities for agricultural trade and investment.

The meeting highlighted the growing importance of cooperation between neighbouring countries as livestock producers navigate challenges including disease management, production costs, market access and supply chain resilience.

### **Government Agencies Present Philippine Livestock Sector Updates**

During the business matching programme, key Philippine agricultural agencies provided updates on the country's livestock sector and ongoing government initiatives. The National Livestock Program (NLP), Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) shared information on livestock development programmes, industry priorities and Cambodia's ongoing market access requests.

The discussions also explored opportunities for technical collaboration, knowledge sharing and stronger linkages between livestock businesses from both countries.

### **Strengthening ASEAN Livestock Trade and Investment Links**

The business matching activity formed part of the official visit of the Cambodian delegation to the Philippines and reinforced both countries' commitment to expanding agricultural cooperation. By bringing together government agencies and private-sector stakeholders, the initiative aims to create new pathways for investment, improve technical exchange and support the development of more efficient livestock value chains.

As Southeast Asian countries continue to focus on strengthening food systems, partnerships such as the Philippines-Cambodia livestock cooperation framework could play an important role in improving regional resilience and supporting sustainable agricultural growth. The collaboration signals a broader shift towards greater integration within ASEAN agriculture, where shared expertise, private investment and policy coordination are becoming increasingly important for building future-ready livestock industries.