



**FOOD FUND FOR ENHANCING SINGAPORE'S FOOD SUPPLY
RESILIENCE OPEN FOR APPLICATION**

1. The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) announced today that the newly established Food Fund for enhancing Singapore's food supply resilience is open for application.
2. AVA has set up this fund to enhance Singapore's food supply resilience especially rice, chicken, pork, fish, eggs and leafy vegetables. It aims at strengthening our strategies of food diversification and local farming to ensure a resilient supply of food for Singapore.
3. The Food Fund will be used to support food diversification and food capability development.

Food Diversification

4. In the area of food diversification, the Food Fund will focus on the six key food items mentioned above. It will cover costs such as manpower, professional services, and travel. The studies should establish that proposed investments can lead to new and stable sources of food supply for Singapore.

Food Capability Development

5. In the area of food capability development, the aim of the Fund is to maximize local farm productivity. AVA will also co-fund research and development (R&D) in local food farming technology, and the upgrading of the production capability of local farms. Its focus will be on the production of eggs, fish and leafy vegetables, with the aim of increasing local farming levels to 30% of eggs, 15% of fish and 10% of leafy vegetables consumed in Singapore. Currently, local farming accounts for 23% of eggs, 4% of fish and 7% of leafy vegetables consumed in Singapore.
6. For R&D projects, key focus areas include breeding programmes for foodfish, development of high yielding vegetable varieties; fish and vegetable farming systems; poultry waste treatment systems; post-harvest technology; and Intellectual Property acquisition and registration.

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7. For the upgrading of local farms, the Fund will focus on automation, mechanization and the use of modern technology; marketing and branding.
8. Barramundi Asia Farm and Nursery is an example of a local farm that is working towards achieving vertical integration of their whole production chain. The Nursery can produce some 3,000 tonnes of seabass annually by 2012, which will be a significant contribution to the overall fish supply in Singapore¹. With another four farms the size of Barramundi Asia, Singapore would be able to meet our local farming target of 15% of total fish consumption. This can only be done through the effective use of modern technology for intensive farming.

Fund Applications and Enquiries

9. Interested companies can email ava_funds_enquiries@ava.gov.sg for more information.

**Issued by Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority
On 10 December 2009**

¹ 3,000 tonnes represents about 86% of our current local aquaculture production (3,500 tonnes), and about 3% of our total fish consumption.

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