

**Keynote Presentation:**  
**Challenges on Food Security –  
Strategic Plan and Policy in Thailand**

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## **Challenges on Food Security – Strategic Plan and Policy in Thailand**

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Thailand is well known for the richness of its food culture, agricultural products and as one of the major food-exporting countries. The country had a food export value of around 23,770 Million US Dollars in 2010, which comprised 13.3% of the country's exports, accounting for 13 % of GDP. However, Thailand is now threatened by the emerging situation of climate change and degradation of agricultural resources, which have strong impacts on food security in Thailand by lessening the capacity of food production in terms of quantity, quality, and safety. This situation directly affects the country's national security and economy.

In 2008, The National Food Committee Act was issued to be a major tool to increase the ability of the national administration to implement food management systems. Its main function is to allow policy to be made for all dimensions of food which include food security, food safety, food quality, and another important key – food education. The role of food education is to strengthen knowledge management through research, information development and knowledge dissemination to all stakeholders in the food supply chain such as the producer, manufacturer and distributor to perform good practice and also focus on consumers for awareness and proper eating habits.


Under the concept of well being of the Thai people and the country's economy, the implementation of all policies and strategies proposed by the Committee will guide all national agencies throughout the food supply chain to move in the same direction, to have more coordination and integration in order to achieve the highest possible level of national food management, both in normal circumstances and during emergency crisis situations. The authority of the National Food Committee include setting policy and strategies for national food management systems, as well as supporting the implementation of food management strategies in order to build collaboration from all relevant agencies for continuous improvement and monitoring and evaluating the performance of implementation to ensure the most effectiveness and efficiency in all aspects of food management system.

The cabinet meeting on November 25, 2010 had approved the **Thailand Food Strategy (TFS)** proposed by The National Food Committee. The TFS' goal is ensuring quality and a safe food supply for food security and human well-being. It comprises 4 themes, which are food security, food quality and safety, and management. The cabinet resolution assigned the National Economic and Social Development Board to adopt the TFS into the 11th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2012-2016) and related government agencies to adopt the TFS as directive guidance for their operations and report their activities to the National Food Committee.



**Challenges on Food Security**  
***Strategic Plans and Policy in Thailand***

The National Food Committee, march 2011



**Thailand National Food Committee Act of 2008**

Food Security    Food Safety    Food Quality    Food Education

**11 related ministries, 30 national agencies, 30 relevant Acts**

Ministry of Defense	Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Ministry of Social Development and Human Security	Ministry of Industry	Ministry of Public Health
Ministry of Commerce	Ministry of Interior	Ministry of Science	Ministry of Education	Ministry of Agriculture	
The National Security Council	The National Economic and Social Development board	The Consumer Protection Board	The national Health committee		

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## Definition

(Principle of The National Food Committee Act A.D. 2008)

### Food security

**Food security** defined as access to sufficient and safe food with appropriate nutritional quality for good health of the population and including ecological food production system and the existence of natural food resources in normal situation, in disaster and in facing food bioterrorism

The National Food Committee, march 2011

## Definition

(Principle of The National Food Committee Act A.D. 2008)

### Food Safety

**Food safety** defined as Management for ensuring food and agricultural products for human consumption are safe from hazards

### Food Quality

**Food quality** defined as food with expected physical and compositional characteristics including appropriate nutritional values

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## Definition

(Principle of The National Food Committee Act A.D. 2008)

## Food Education

**Food education** defined as processes for promoting, developing, researching, and transferring appropriate knowledge, awareness and behaviors into the food supply chain and consumption

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## The National Food Committee Component

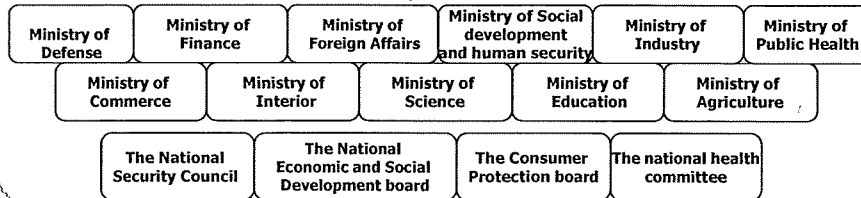
**Chairman : Prime Minister**  
(or designated Deputy-Prime Minister)

**Secretary**  
: FDA, Ministry of Public Health  
**Co-secretary**  
: ACFS, Ministry of Agriculture

**7 Resource persons in :**  
-Food Security (2) -Food Safety (1)  
-Food Quality (1) -Law (1)  
-Economic and Trade (1)  
-Food Innovation (1)

Committee members

**11 related ministries, 4 executive administrators**



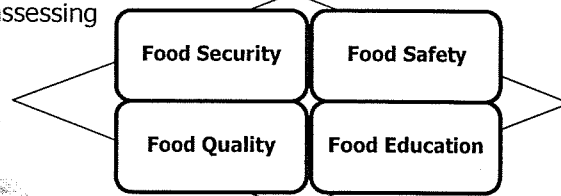
**Committee / Sub-Committee**

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## The Authority of the National Food Committee



Setting policy, planning strategies, monitoring and assessing



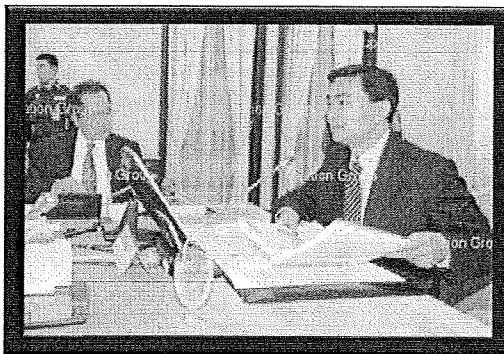
Advices and provisions of guidance to the related ministries / authorities

Advices the cabinet in case of food disaster or bioterrorism for action and land uses

**Meeting at least 2 times a year**

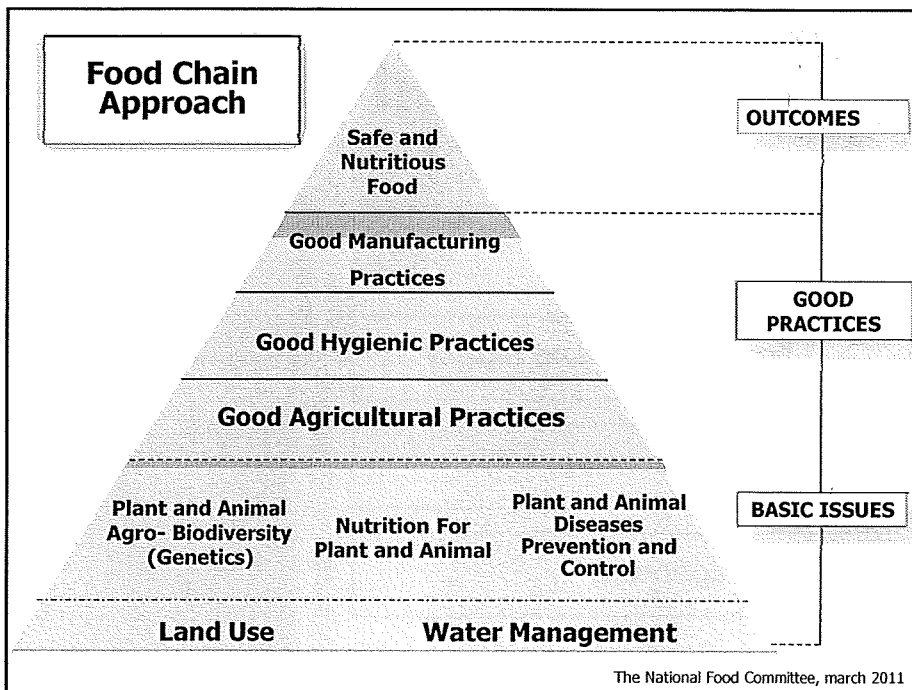
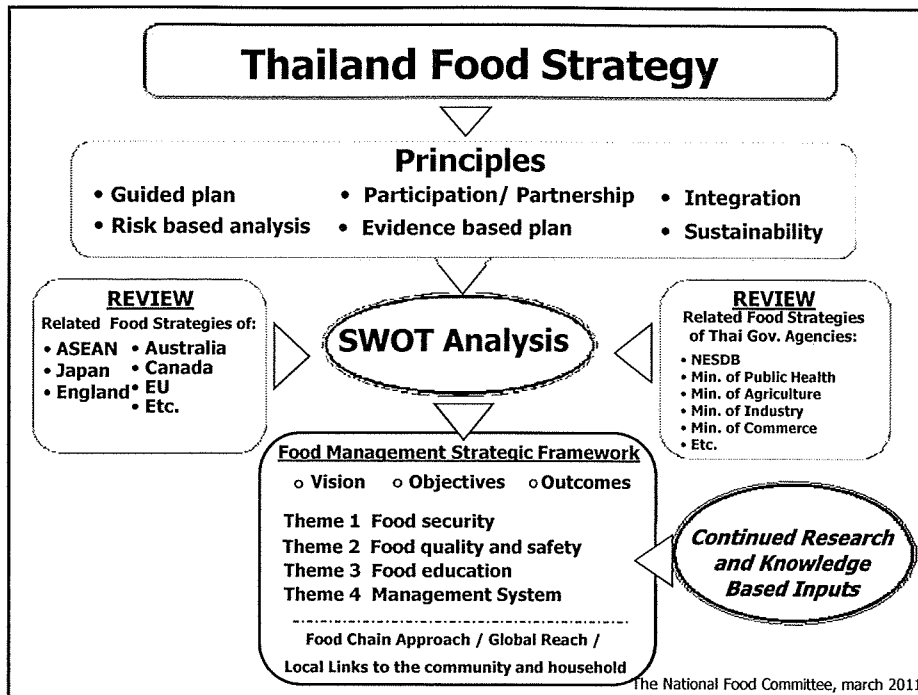
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## A Cabinet Resolution on "Thailand Food Strategy"



**Approved**  
The National  
Food Strategy on  
25 November 2010

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## Continuum from Agriculture to Health

- Agriculture
- Food supply
- Food Service

**Food**



**Nutrition**



**Health**

- Promotion
- Protection
- Treatment

- Food production
- Nutrition orientation for healthy diet
- Food, feed and fuel and bio-products
- Climate changes

○ Food quality

○ Nutrient needs

○ Safe from Hazards

○ Food safety

○ Dietary intakes

○ Good health

(Consumer and Trade)

○ Nutritional wellbeing

○ Nutrition literacy

**Food Security**

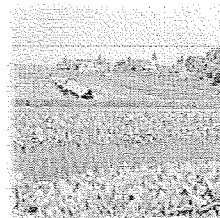
**Food and Nutrition Education**

**Food Culture**

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## Review of Food Situation

1. Food Security
2. Food Quality and Safety
3. Food Education
4. Management



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## Swot analysis

<p><b><u>Strength</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fertile food production resources</li> <li>2. Food contribute significantly to socio-economic and cultural development</li> <li>3. Thai foods are unique and well accepted internationally</li> <li>4. Continued improvement in food production and agro-industry</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>Weakness</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complexity in food management</li> <li>2. Inadequate inputs for small food producer</li> <li>3. Degradation and over-exploitation of land and water resources</li> <li>4. Low investment in R&amp;D</li> <li>5. High logistic cost related to food</li> <li>6. Weak consumer awareness</li> </ol>
<p><b><u>Opportunity</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increasing demand of high quality, safe and nutritious food</li> <li>2. Global recognition of Thai food and food culture</li> <li>3. Food is always in demand and more in crisis situations</li> <li>4. Geographical location of the country is conducive to trade</li> </ol>	<p><b><u>Threat</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agriculture and food production sectors are not popular among young generation</li> <li>2. Competition for agriculture production resources for food, feed, fuel, bioproduct and non-food crop</li> <li>3. New threats from global warming, plant/ animals diseases</li> <li>4. Trade competition and barriers</li> </ol>

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## Strength

1. Fertile food production resources
2. Food contribute significantly to socio- economic and cultural development
3. Thai foods are unique and well accepted internationally
4. Continued improvement in food production and agro-industry

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## **Weakness**

1. Complexity in food management
2. Inadequate inputs for small food producers
3. Degradation and deterioration of land and water in certain areas
4. Low investment in R&D
5. High logistic cost related to food
6. Weak consumer awareness

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## **Opportunity**

1. Increasing demand of high quality, safe and nutritious food
2. Global recognition of Thai food and food culture
3. Food is always in demand and more in crisis situations
4. Geographical Location of the country is conducive to trade
5. New innovation and technology in food

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## **Threat**

1. Agriculture and food production sectors are not popular among young generation
2. Competition for agriculture production resources for food, feed, fuel, bioproduct and non- food crop
3. New threats from global warming , plant/ animals diseases
4. Trade competition and barriers

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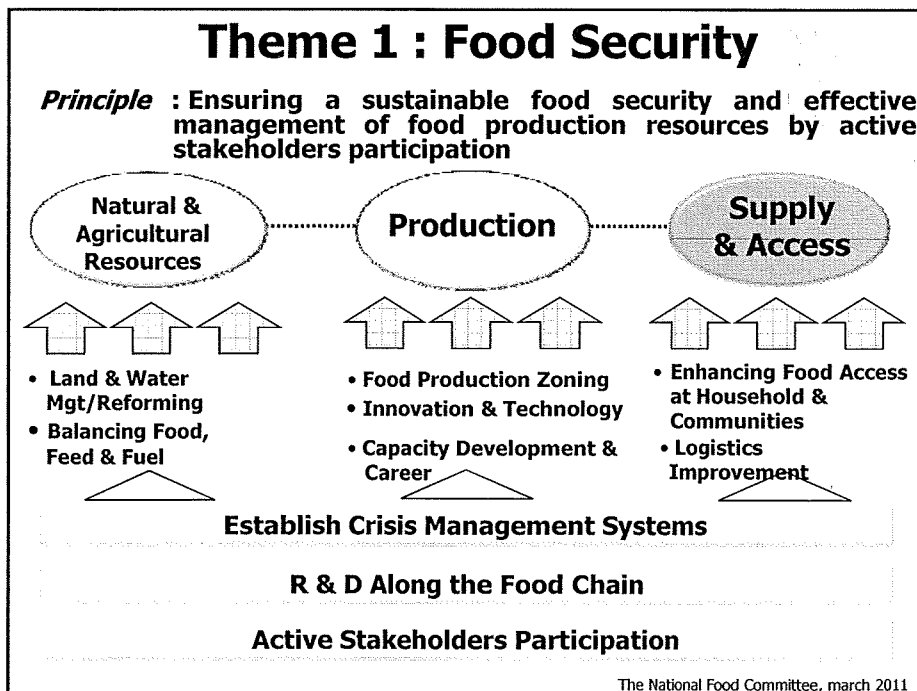
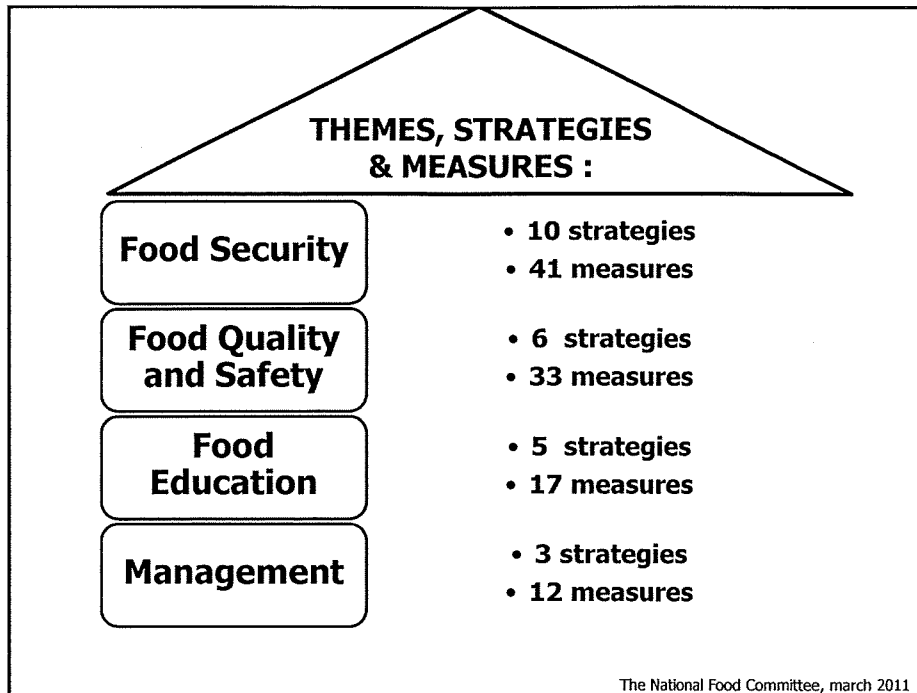
## **VISION**

**Ensuring Quality and Safe Food Supply  
for Food Security and Human Well-Being**

## **OBJECTIVES**

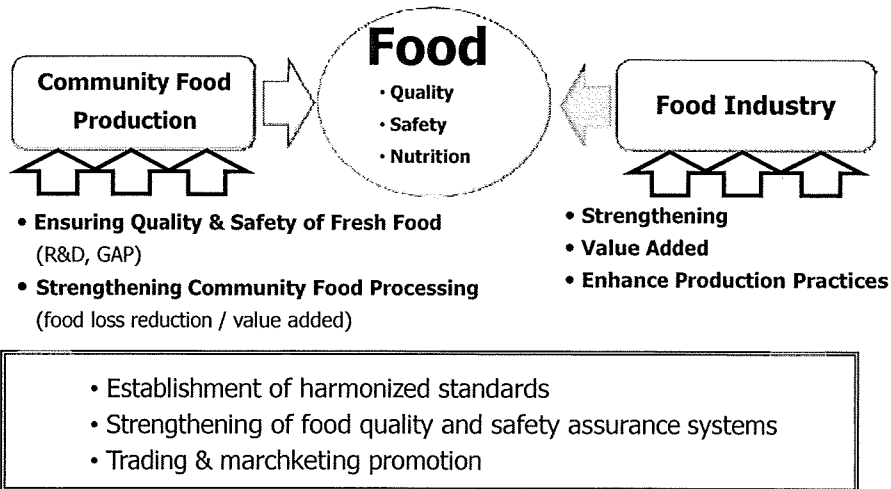
1. Efficient and effective management of food production resources
2. Ensuring high quality, safe and nutritious food produced at household, community, and industrial levels
3. Promotion of R&D and utilization of knowledge along the food chain
4. Strengthening food management systems (food law, food database, etc.)
5. Ensuring food security in both normal and crisis situation at the household, community and national levels

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## Theme 2 : Food Quality and Safety

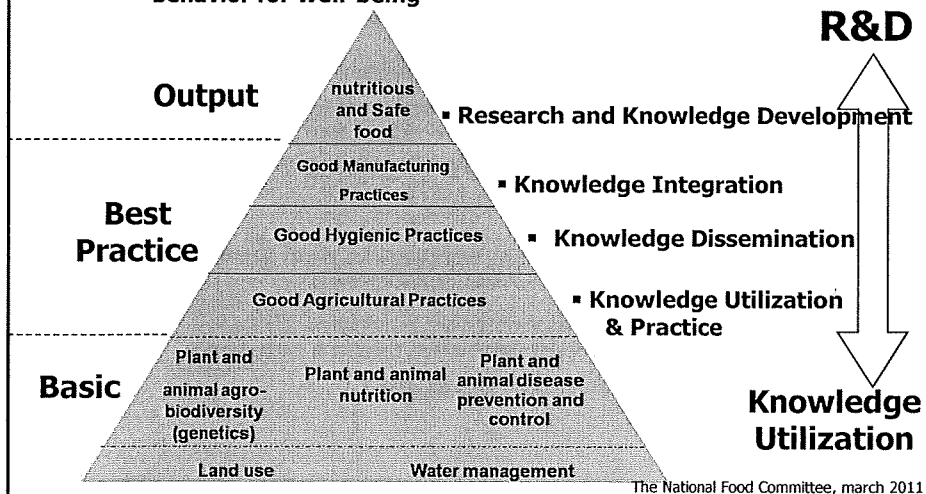
**Principle :** Ensuring high quality and safe food to protect consumer health and to facilitate domestic/international trade



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## Theme 3 : Food Education

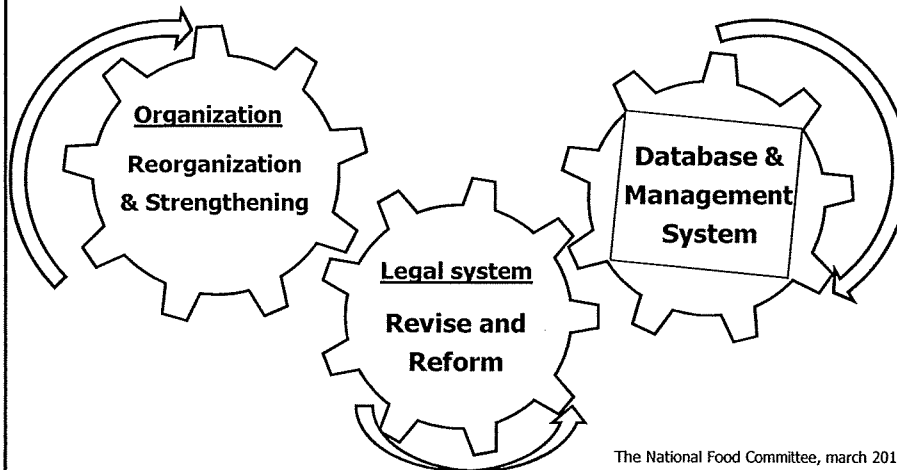
**Principle :** R&D and knowledge utilization through engaging stakeholders in sustainable and effective use of food production resources along the food chain and also strengthening desirable consumption behavior for well-being



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## Theme 4 : Management

**Principle :** Effective food management systems along the food chain to deal with current and emerging issues in food



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## Expected Outcomes



- 1) **Maintaining a sustainable food production resources**
- 2) **Efficiency in food production at community level with effective management systems enhancing economic growth.**
- 3) **Both domestic and imported foods are high in quality, safe and nutritious, and accessible by consumers**
- 4) **Effective food management systems to deal with normal and crisis situations**
- 5) **Uniqueness of Thai food and food culture continue increasingly more popular worldwide**

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