

AI PRODUCTIVITY ROADMAP

**NAVIGATING PRODUCTIVITY OF THE INDUSTRY
IN THE DIGITAL AND AI ERA**

Agro-Food Industry

AI Productivity Roadmap Agro-Food Productivity Nexus

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Aras 9, Menara MATRADE,
Jalan Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah,
50480 Kuala Lumpur,
MALAYSIA
Tel: 603 – 7955 7266

 www.mpc.gov.my

 infokorporat@mpc.gov.my (general enquiries)

    MPCProductivity

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Foreword Director General

To boost national productivity, we must harness the power of AI and digital technologies — every sector and every individual has a role to play by equipping themselves with the right knowledge, skills, and competencies to stay ahead.”

Datuk Zahid Ismail
Director General
Malaysia Productivity Corporation





Foreword Champion



The agro-food sector must embrace digital innovation to overcome growing global challenges and ensure sustainable productivity. This roadmap outlines a collaborative path toward smarter agriculture through technologies like AI, IoT, and blockchain, bridging traditional practices with modern solutions. It serves as a guide to empower all stakeholders in building a resilient, efficient, and future-ready agro-food ecosystem.

Datuk Jeffrey Ng Choon Ngee
Champion
Agro-Food Productivity Nexus (AFPN)



Industry Overview and Digitalisation Challenges

The agro-food sector encompassing sub-sectors such as aquaculture, crop cultivation, poultry, and ruminant farming is a vital contributor to national GDP, supported by a wide range of agricultural establishments and a strong, diverse workforce. The sector's value chain includes input suppliers, feed and machinery providers, processors, logistics players, and distribution networks. While the adoption of digital technologies has significantly improved productivity and operational efficiency, challenges remain. These include:



Interoperability gaps across sub-sector systems



Hesitancy among farmers and workers due to limited digital skills and concerns over job displacement



Frequent disruptions from new technologies that can impact supply chain reliability, product quality, and food safety

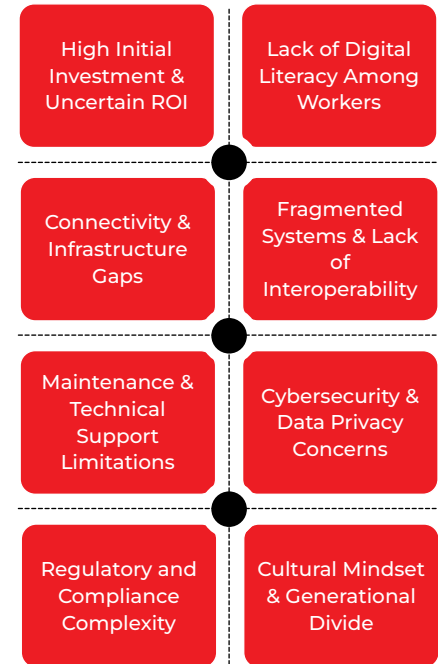




Industry Overview

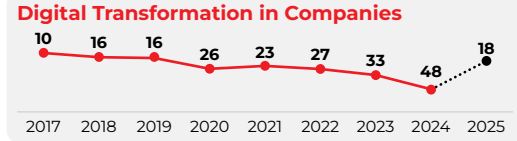
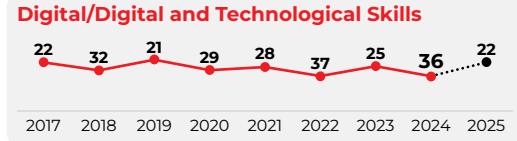
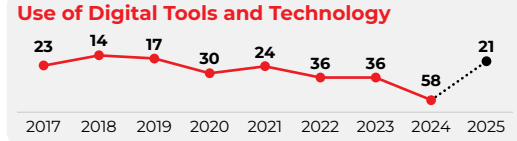
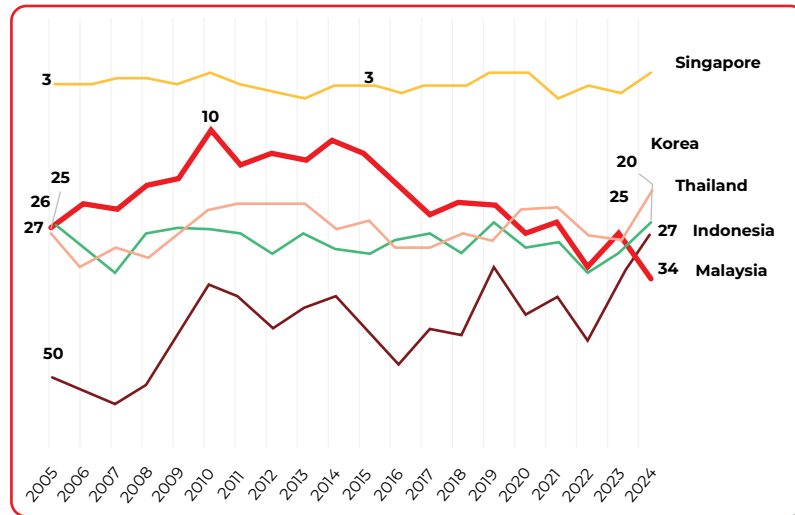
Number of Establishment	12,998 (2022)
Number of Employees	567,476 (2022)
Key Sub sectors	Poultry, Aquaculture, Crops, Ruminant
GDP Contribution	10.9% / RM50.66 billion (Q1, 2024)
Value chain/ Supply Chain	Production
	Harvest & Transport
	Process & Storage
	Distribution & Packaging
	Wholesale & Retail
Productivity Level/Growth	1.5% (RM95,542) - 2023p

Challenges In Digitalisation



Accelerating Technology Adoption to Enhance National Competitiveness

Malaysia must urgently accelerate technology adoption to achieve its aspiration of becoming one of the top 12 most competitive nations by 2030.

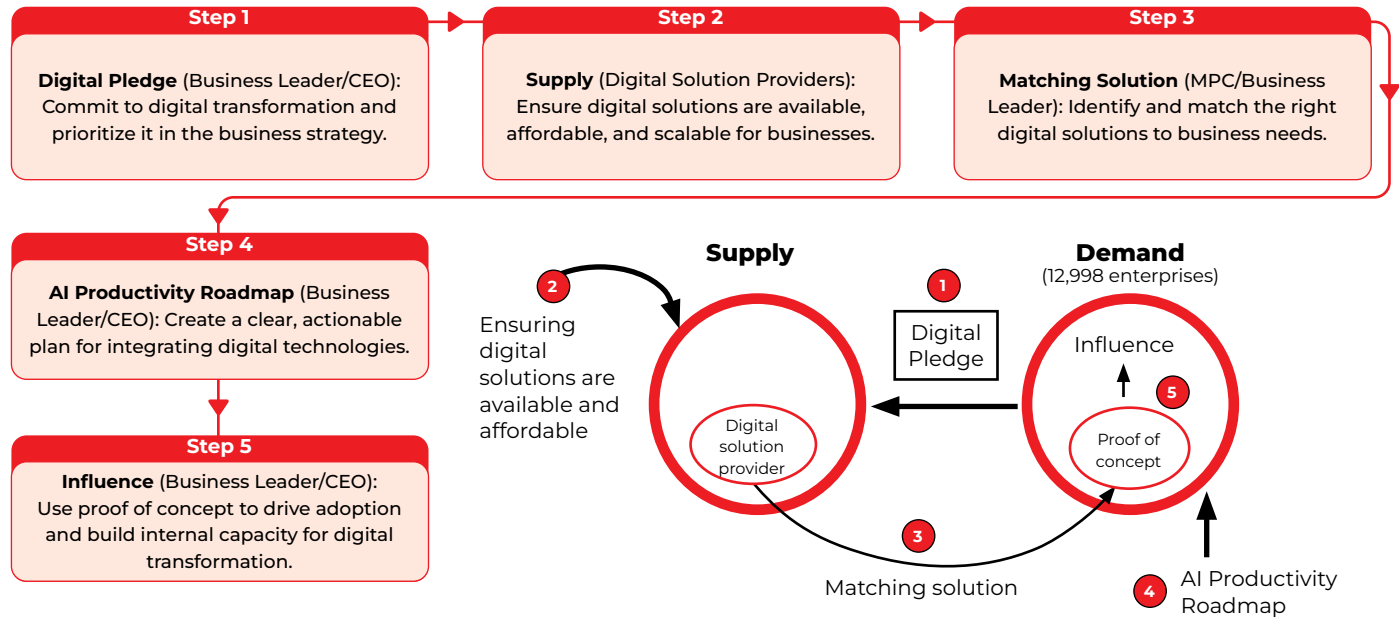


Source: World Competitiveness Yearbook 2017-2024







Accelerating Productivity through Digitalisation via MPC's Digital Platform Network+

Business leaders can enhance productivity and strengthen the ecosystem by leveraging MPC's Digital Platform Network+ (DPN+), which provides access to affordable digital solutions and promotes skills enhancement to drive digital transformation.



AI and Digital Adoption in Agro-Food Industry

This table outlines the progressive stages of digital adoption across various functions in the agro-food industry, categorising them into **Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced** levels to illustrate the industry's transformation journey toward enhanced efficiency, automation, and AI-driven insights

Category	Functions in Services	Basic	Intermediate	Advanced
Poultry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm & Flock Management • Feed & Nutrition Planning • Health & Vaccination Monitoring • Regulatory Compliance • Production Performance Tracking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual flock records • Paper feed logs • Visual health checks • Manual reporting for compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital flock management tools • IoT feed dispensers • Mobile vaccination records • Cloud reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI for health prediction • Precision feeding algorithms • Automated compliance dashboard • Analytics for productivity
Ruminant 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herd Management • Breeding & Genetics • Health Monitoring • Feed Optimisation • Regulatory Compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual animal tracking • Basic spreadsheets • Visual health checks • Offline logs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFID tagging & herd software • Digital health & breeding schedules • Cloud feed analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI-powered breeding programs • Real-time health alerts • Automated regulatory reports
Crop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field Operations • Irrigation & Fertilisation • Crop Health Monitoring • Harvest Management • Market Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual logs for activities • Visual pest detection • Basic irrigation systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm management systems • Sensor-based irrigation/fertiliser • Mobile pest alerts • e-Marketplace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI for yield forecasting • Automated precision irrigation • Satellite & drone analytics
Aquaculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Quality Monitoring • Stocking & Growth Tracking • Feed & Nutrition Management • Harvest Scheduling • Compliance & Sustainability Reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual water testing • Spreadsheet tracking of stock • Paper feed logs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IoT water quality sensors • Digital stock tracking apps • Feed scheduling tools • Compliance reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI for biomass prediction • Automated water control systems • Blockchain traceability • Sustainability dashboards

For more info on the digitalisation tools, go here mpc.gov.my/knowledge-hub



Poultry

This table outlines the progressive stages of digital adoption in Poultry in the agro-food industry, categorising them into Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced levels to illustrate the industry's transformation journey toward enhanced efficiency, automation, and AI-driven insights

Functions in Services	Basic	Intermediate	Advanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm & Flock Management • Feed & Nutrition Planning • Health & Vaccination Monitoring • Regulatory Compliance • Production Performance Tracking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal use of digital tools • Limited online presence • Basic email & manual transactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital CRM & customer service tools • Online booking & support- Digital marketing & advertising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI-powered customer engagement • Omnichannel integration • Predictive analytics for customer behavior
	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gmail, Google Drive, Microsoft Outlook, OneDrive- Trello, Slack 	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Workspace, Google Ads, HubSpot CRM • Microsoft Dynamics 365, Mailchimp, Calendly • AppSheet (for workflow automation & digitisation) 	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Google Looker, Google Analytics, Microsoft Power BI • ChatGPT, Drift, Pipedrive CRM • AppSheet (for advanced automation & AI-powered workflows) • Gemini (for AI-driven chatbots & customer insights)

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Ruminant

This table outlines the progressive stages of digital adoption in Ruminant in the agro-food industry, categorising them into Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced levels to illustrate the industry's transformation journey toward enhanced efficiency, automation, and AI-driven insights

Functions in Services	Basic	Intermediate	Advanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herd Management • Breeding & Genetics • Health Monitoring • Feed Optimisation • Regulatory Compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual record-keeping & payroll • Siloed operations • Limited regulatory compliance automation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloud-based HRM & payroll automation • Data analytics for performance management • Basic AI in financial forecasting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI-driven HR & recruitment automation • Automated compliance monitoring • Predictive analytics for business insights
	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Excel, Google Sheets- QuickBooks, Wave Accounting (for finance) • Trello, Notion (for basic operations management) 	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloud-Based HR & Payroll: BambooHR, Zoho People, Deel • Data Analytics: Google Data Studio, Microsoft Power BI • Financial AI: Xero, FreshBooks 	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI in HR & Compliance: Workday, SAP SuccessFactors • Predictive Analytics: Google Looker, Tableau, IBM Watson • AI Automation: Gemini, ChatGPT, AppSheet

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This table outlines the progressive stages of digital adoption in Corps in the agro-food industry, categorising them into Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced levels to illustrate the industry’s transformation journey toward enhanced efficiency, automation, and AI-driven insights

Functions in Services	Basic	Intermediate	Advanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field Operations Irrigation & Fertilisation Crop Health Monitoring Harvest Management Market Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic IT support Minimal cybersecurity measures No automation in procurement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System integration for IT management Partial process automation Periodic cybersecurity risk assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI-driven cybersecurity Full automation of internal processes Blockchain for secure transactions
	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Defender, Avast for Business (basic cybersecurity) Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive (basic cloud storage) Excel, Google Sheets (manual procurement tracking) 	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> System Integration: Microsoft Intune, Google Workspace Admin, ServiceNow Cybersecurity: CrowdStrike, Palo Alto Networks, IBM Security Process Automation: AppSheet, Power Automate, UiPath (basic automation) 	<p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AI & Cybersecurity: Darktrace, Microsoft Sentinel, Google Chronicle Process Automation: RPA with UiPath, Automation Anywhere Blockchain: IBM Blockchain, Hyperledger for secure transactions

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Aquaculture

This table outlines the progressive stages of digital adoption in Aquaculture in the agro-food industry, categorising them into Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced levels to illustrate the industry's transformation journey toward enhanced efficiency, automation, and AI-driven insights

Functions in Services	Basic	Intermediate	Advanced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Quality Monitoring Stocking & Growth Tracking Feed & Nutrition Management Harvest Scheduling Compliance & Sustainability Reporting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic IT support Minimal cybersecurity measures No automation in procurement <p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Defender, Avast for Business (basic cybersecurity) Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive (basic cloud storage) Excel, Google Sheets (manual procurement tracking) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> System integration for IT management Partial process automation Periodic cybersecurity risk assessments <p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> System Integration: Microsoft Intune, Google Workspace Admin, ServiceNow Cybersecurity: CrowdStrike, Palo Alto Networks, IBM Security Process Automation: AppSheet, Power Automate, UiPath (basic automation) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI-driven cybersecurity Full automation of internal processes Blockchain for secure transactions <p>Suggested Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI & Cybersecurity: Darktrace, Microsoft Sentinel, Google Chronicle Process Automation: RPA with UiPath, Automation Anywhere Blockchain: IBM Blockchain, Hyperledger for secure transactions

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AI-Powered Digital Transformation Journey In Agro-Food Industry



Basic

Paper logs and manual field inspections



Intermediate

Sensor data and mobile monitoring apps



Advance

AI-based analytics, predictive monitoring

AI and digitalisation Use Cases: Enhancing Operational Efficiency



Helmy Agrisolutions Sdn Bhd is an agricultural company specialising in fertigation across a 10-acre farm.

Problem

The farm and plant needs are monitored manually.

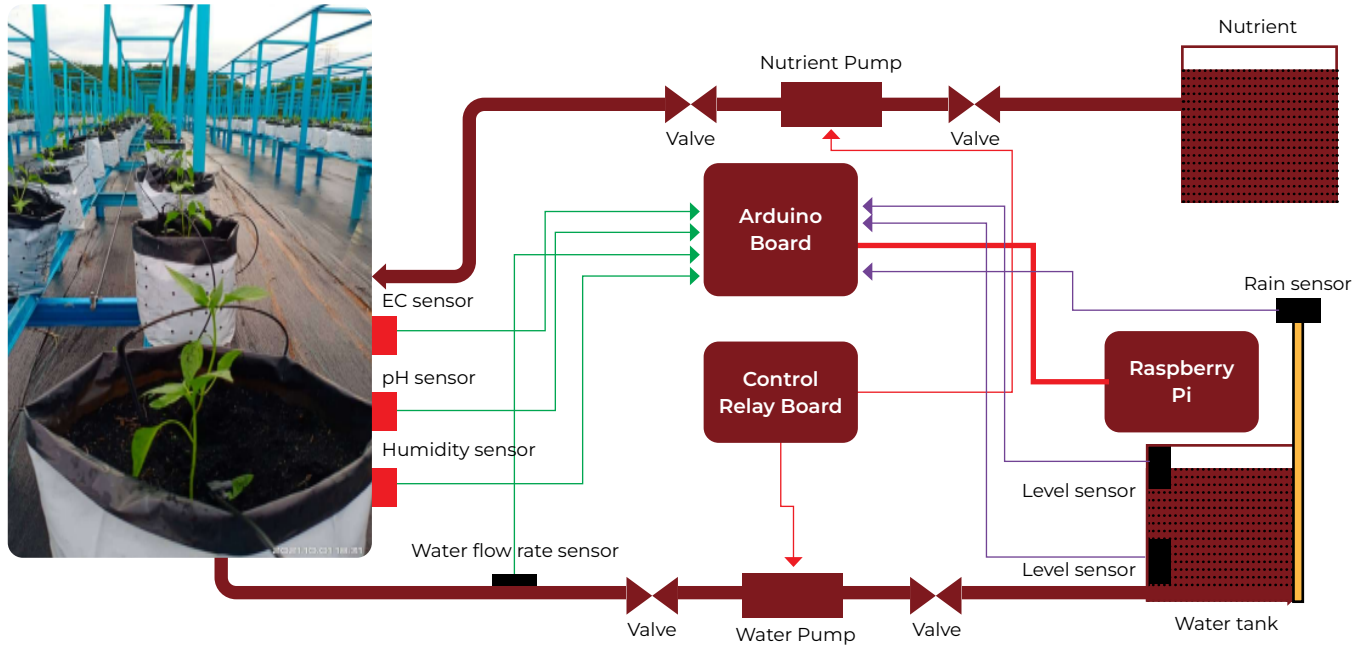
Solution

The use of sensors can prevent wastage of fertiliser and water in the farm.

Operation of machines and water pumps becomes more efficient.

Accuracy in nutrient mixing for crops.

Productivity Metric	Before	After
Efficiency and wastage prevention	Manually monitored & recorded	Monitoring using sensor



Value Creation

By implementing sensors on a 10-acre chilli farm, Helmy Agrisolutions can save on fertiliser, water, and labour costs, boosting yields by **10–20%**. This results in more efficient operations, healthier crops, and a stronger, more sustainable profit margin.

Cahaya Nurkasih Sdn Bhd (1044226-K) specialises in livestock management, focusing on poultry farming. The company operates a chicken farm that offers high-quality, hygienic broiler chickens for both wholesale and retail markets.

Problem

One of the biggest challenges faced:

Birds often die from heat or cold stress because it's impossible to monitor them 24/7 — most losses are only discovered the next day when it's too late.

High humidity levels can quickly spread diseases within the poultry house, making continuous monitoring essential to maintain flock health.

Solution

IoT sensors monitor the key environmental factors — temperature, humidity, and light — within a poultry house. The system provides real-time data and sends immediate alerts

Productivity Metric	Before	After
Mortality Rate	3,000 birds / year	Less than 20 birds / year

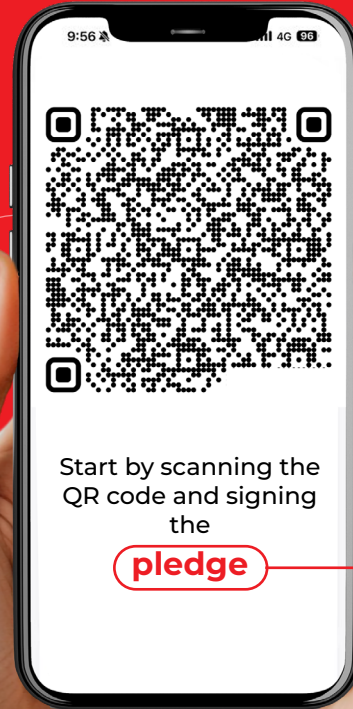


Value Creation

Due to heat stress, the farm is estimated to lose around 3 – 5% in damages. Implementing real-time environmental monitoring can help prevent these losses and significantly improve farm productivity and profitability.



How to Get Started?



For more info, visit
mpc.gov.my/knowledge-hub

List Of Contributors

	Name and Designation
MPC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Datuk Zahid Ismail, Director General 2. Dr Mazrina Mohamed Ibramsah, Deputy Director General 3. Encik Mohd Yazid Abdul Majid, Director 4. Puan Safniwati Jasri, Deputy Director 5. Encik Ahmad Mursyidi Adzmi, Assistant Manager
Agro-Food Productivity Nexus (AFPN)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Datuk Jeffrey Ng Choon Ngee, Champion of AFPN
Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Datuk Zul Hadi Ahmad, Kementerian Ekonomi 2. Puan Intan Shahirah Ramli, Kementerian Ekonomi 3. Puan Noraishah Abd Manan, Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan 4. Dato' Nor Sam Alwi, Jabatan Pertanian 5. Puan Yazeereen A. Bakar, Jabatan Perikanan 6. Dr. Rozeita Binti Laboh, Institut Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Pertanian Malaysia 7. Dr. Suratan Bin Kamarudin, Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar 8. Prof. Dr. Shafiqque Fahmi Ahmad Sidique, Universiti Putra Malaysia
Industry Partners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encik Chay Ee Mong, Pertubuhan Pekebun-Pekebun Sayur-Sayuran Malaysia 2. Encik Wong Seng Yee, Pertubuhan Pengusaha Bunga-Bunga Cameron Highland 3. Encik Edmond Chow, The Federation of Malaysia Fruit Farmers Association 4. Encik Azmi Zainal, Farm Fresh Milk Sdn Bhd 5. Dr. Yap Teow Chong, Federation of Livestocks Farmers Association of Malaysia 6. Encik Ng Yih Chen, Persatuan Kemajuan Akuakultur Malaysia 7. Encik Munir Ashim Abdullah, Grasicili Plt





