



ASEAN-Australia  
Centre

# ASEAN-Australia Centre Leadership Program

Are you an early-to-mid-career professional in the agriculture  
or food security sector?

Apply now for the *Food Security and Climate Change in  
ASEAN and Australia Short Course*

## ASEAN-AUSTRALIA CENTRE

The ASEAN-Australia Centre (the Centre) was announced by the Prime Minister of Australia at the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit in March 2024. Operational since 1 July 2024, the Centre implements key recommendations from *Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040* to promote greater Southeast Asia literacy in Australia. The Centre delivers initiatives that strengthens business, education, cultural and community connections between Australia and ASEAN member states.

The goal of the ASEAN-Australia Centre Leadership Program is to build a network of future ASEAN leaders with strong connections to Australia, who will drive positive change across Australia and Southeast Asia.

## THE SHORT COURSE

The Food Security and Climate Change in ASEAN and Australia Short Course will strengthen the capacity of 25 emerging and mid-career leaders from ASEAN member states and Australia to design, implement, and promote climate-smart, and technologically enabled agricultural systems.

The short course will be delivered by the University of Queensland over a period of up to 12 weeks, from the fourth quarter of 2026 to the first quarter of 2027, through a blend of online learning and a 7-day immersion program in Brisbane, Australia. The online component will commence on **5 November 2026**. The in-Australia component will begin with participants arriving on **15 November 2026** and conclude with departures on **22 November 2026**.

Participants will learn from diverse industry experts and each other through interactive sessions and discussions. They will network with relevant Australian individuals and organisations

and contribute to their country's development through upskilling and fostering their new connections.

## OBJECTIVES

The short course will support participants to:

- Analyse the impacts of climate change, land-use pressures, and transboundary risks on ASEAN's agricultural productivity and food security.
- Apply principles of sustainable and climate-smart agriculture, including integrated pest management, soil and water management, and adaptive crop systems suited to local contexts.
- Explore how digital transformation and agri-technology—such as precision farming, drones, smart irrigation, and virtual trade systems—can drive sustainability and resilience across the value chain.
- Identify investment and partnership opportunities between ASEAN and Australia in agri-tech innovation, research, and sustainable trade.
- Develop actionable strategies or pilot initiatives that integrate climate adaptation, and digital innovation to strengthen local and regional food systems.
- Foster cross-sectoral and regional collaboration by engaging with policymakers, researchers, and industry counterparts in Australia and ASEAN member states.

## BENEFITS

Short course participants will receive:

- a program of stimulating and interactive sessions delivered by expert facilitators

- a return airfare, accommodation, transport and meals for the in-Australia component
- pre-departure information and virtual briefing
- a tailored in-Australia program of learning, networking and cultural experiences
- 24/7 in-Australia support through a dedicated Welfare Officer.

## KEY DATES

**Applications open:** 10 September 2026

**Applications close:** 04 October 2026 (11:59 PM AEST)

*Please note, applications submitted after the closing date will not be considered.*

*Candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application by early November 2026.*

## APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications must be submitted **here:** [Food Security and Climate Change in ASEAN and Australia Short Course Application Form](#).

All applications must include a:

- completed application form
- curriculum vitae (CV)
- current employer referee report in the template provided [here](#).
- a certified copy of bachelor's degree.

For Southeast Asian applicants only:

- a copy of their passport ID page
- evidence of working proficiency in English if available (e.g. English language test or evidence of undergraduate studies undertaken in English)

*Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend an online interview in late October 2026.*

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

All prospective applicants must adhere to the following eligibility requirements:

- submission of a complete application including all relevant documents

- commitment to full attendance throughout the program including the in-Australia immersion week
- be a citizen of and residing in Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam or Timor-Leste (\*Residency requirement does not apply to Myanmar citizens)
- hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent.

Southeast Asia applicants must also adhere to the following eligibility requirements:

- professional working proficiency in English (recommended at least IELTS 6.5)
- hold a valid passport that meets Australian immigration requirements.

***Applications are strongly encouraged from women, people with disability and other marginalised groups.***

***Reasonable accommodations and accessibility support will be provided, where possible, to support participation throughout the application process and program.***

## ASSESSMENT

Applicants will be assessed on the following criteria:

- early-to-mid-career professional with between five- and ten-years' work experience related to agriculture or food security
- demonstrated commitment to building networks and leading sustainable, resilient, and equitable agricultural and/or food security practices in their country.

## MORE INFORMATION

A **virtual information session** will be held at 2:00 pm AEST on Tuesday 29 September 2026.

Interested applicants can join here: [Information Session: The Food Security and Climate Change Short Course | Meeting-Join | Microsoft Teams](#)  
Meeting ID: 293 850 548 337 482  
Passcode: Se7sU9c5

For more information please contact: [alp.enquiries@thepalladiumgroup.com](mailto:alp.enquiries@thepalladiumgroup.com)