

Strategies for Establishing Thailand as the World's Food Capital

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ABSTRACT

Thailand has substantial potential to evolve into the "World's Food Capital," given its excellence in the food industry, comprehensive support systems, and its position as one of the top global food exporters. Transforming the country into the World's Food Capital is essential for fostering economic growth, overcoming the middle-income trap, and addressing domestic food insecurity, which is increasingly impacted by global crises. Furthermore, this strategic development could play a pivotal role in alleviating global food insecurity. To achieve this vision, Thailand must adopt a holistic and comprehensive strategy encompassing several critical components. These include enhancing agricultural productivity and reducing food production costs, improving the quality and standards of food products, mitigating the negative externalities of food production, and adding value to food products. Moreover, creating a unique identity for Thai cuisine, developing an ecosystem for the food industry, fostering systemic innovation to ensure national and global food security, engaging in proactive food diplomacy, and formulating effective national food policies are indispensable. The establishment of a dedicated Ministry of Food is proposed to lead and coordinate these strategies and policies, ensuring Thailand's successful emergence as the World's Food Capital.

Keywords: World's food capital, food industry, agricultural productivity, food production, food policies