

Asian Productivity Organization "The APO in the News"

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Taiwan ready to help others invigorate rural economies

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Taiwan is willing to share its experiences in revitalising rural economies with other countries, said Council of Agriculture (COA) chief Chen Bao-ji on Monday.

Speaking to representatives of a mission in Taiwan for five days to study rural revitalisation, Chen said Taiwan has run a programme to bring new vitality to rural economies since 2010 that hopes to attract 4,000 rural villages to the programme within 10 years.

He said 2,000 rural villages are already participating in the project, which is aimed at encouraging Taiwan's youth to engage in agriculture through a series of incentives.

They include a six-tier development programme for the specialisation of agricultural production, ranging from the production of agricultural products to the development of agricultural products.

In terms of revitalising rural economies, Taiwan is relatively more advanced than other nations participating in the study mission – known formally as the Multicountry Observational Study Mission on Revitalising Rural Economies for More Inclusive Development.

The mission will visit different facilities and rural villages in Taiwan from September 14 to 18, Chen said.

A total of 42 experts from 18 countries are participating in the mission, including those from Japan, Iran, Pakistan, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea, Laos, Fiji, India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, Nepal and the host country, Taiwan.

The five-day mission has been organised by the COA, the Asian Productivity Organisation (APO) and the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions.

http://focustaiwan.tw/news/aeco/201509140027.aspx