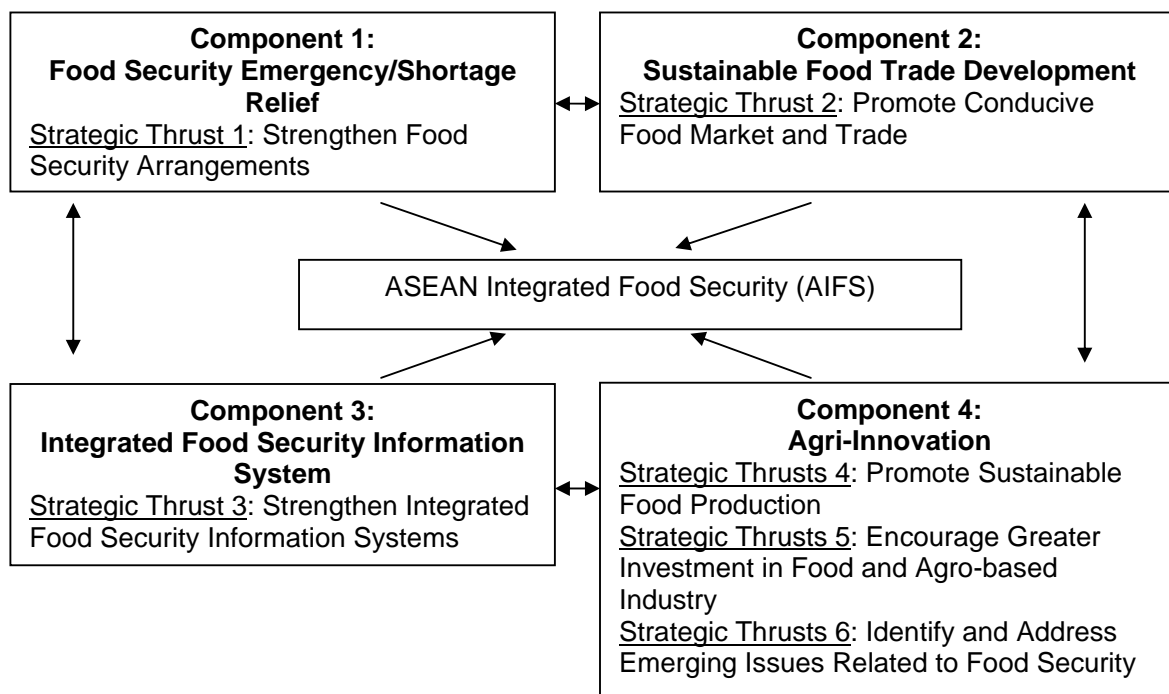


COMPONENTS AND STRATEGIC THRUSTS OF ASEAN INTEGRATED FOOD SECURITY (AIFS) FRAMEWORK

To achieve the goal in ensuring long-term food security in the ASEAN region, an ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework provides scope and joint pragmatic approaches for cooperation among ASEAN Member States. The AIFS Framework comprises four components, which are distinctive but inter-related in nature. The four components are Component 1: Food Security and Emergency/ Shortage Relief; Component 2: Sustainable Food Trade Development; Component 3: Integrated Food Security Information System; and Component 4: Agricultural Innovation. The AIFS Framework's Components are supported by six corresponding Strategic Thrusts, which appears in the Figure 1.

Figure 1: Components and Strategic Thrusts of ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework



Component 1: Food Security and Emergency/Shortage Relief – The component aims at establishing a long-term mechanism for ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve. The component focuses on strengthening national food security programmes/ initiatives, and development of a regional effective and timely mechanism for supply of rice as food aid for emergency relief (food aid or grant) and/ or under unusual market situation (grant or loan agreement). This core component is considered as the fundamental part of the AIFS Framework.

Component 2: Sustainable Food Trade Development – The component aims at developing a buffer mechanism to support fair/balanced food trade within the acceptable levels of food prices. The component helps ensuring that due consideration is given to balancing domestic accessibility to food, intra and extra regional food trade. Agreed criteria and conditions (i.e.

high speculative food commodities such as rice, cooking oil, sugar and maize) for the application apply. The experience drawn from the implementation of EAERR project, particularly the application of TIER 1 and TIER 2 could be considered as a basis to develop such a buffer mechanism.

Component 3: Integrated Food Security Information System – The component aims at fast-tracking the current AFSIS project under an AMAF PLUS THREE initiative by establishing an information network on food security among the Plus Three Countries to provide a sound and timely information on outlook and surveillance report for food security policy planning, implementation and monitoring. In addition, other elements include Early Warning Information System, Mutual Technical Cooperation and Preparation of Commodity Outlook Reports. Provision and submission of timely and reliable data and information by all countries concerned is considered a critical element for effective operation of this component. This will enable the Integrated Food Security Information System to provide a basis for a regular monitoring and surveillance system to the making of sound development planning and policy decision to address food security and also the soaring food prices.

Component 4: Agricultural Innovation – The component is a long-term plan aiming at formulating and implementing a regional comprehensive R&D plan, through public and private sector partnership, to promote efficient and sustainable food production, food consumption, post-harvest practices & loss reduction, marketing and trade. R&D areas, through priority setting, may include strengthening and expanding agriculture cooperatives and farmers' organisations, agri-business entrepreneurship particularly SMEs, intra-regional contract farming, etc. In addition, other supporting activities include building upon the ASEAN Good Agriculture Practices (GAP), targeting at promoting sustainable agricultural practices with due consideration on environmental concern. In this context, GAP could be used as a market tool adding value to food and agriculture products, which in return could support sustainable food production and trade. The key roles of the governments are to encourage success models, support R&D, technology transfer and capacity building, and develop GAP certification scheme and its accreditation system.

Conceptual Diagram of ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS) Framework

