

Agri Food Hub Facilities: A Boost to Efficiency in the Value and Market Chains

In 2025, the value of production in Philippine agriculture and fisheries reached PHP 1.79 trillion, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). Total agricultural trade also rose 8.9% year on year to USD 29.63 billion.

These figures show the scale of the opportunity. Philippine agriculture already supports a vast network of farmers, fisherfolk, processors, traders, agribusinesses, exporters, and consumers. The challenge is to keep more value within the chain as goods move from production areas to markets.

Research published by the Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PHilMech) in 2025 shows how losses build up across commodities and stages of the chain. A study on broccoli in Benguet estimated postharvest losses at 17%, mainly during harvesting, handling, packing, and transport. Losses for bulb onion in Nueva Ecija reached 29%, with most occurring during storage. For mangoes in Pangasinan, losses reached 24% from harvest to retail. These losses extend beyond the field. Challenges in handling, transport, storage, processing, and marketing reduce the value that reaches the market and the income that stays within communities.

Agri food hub facilities can help bridge these gaps by bringing essential services closer together. A well-designed hub can connect storage, processing, packaging, logistics, and market access in one system. This can help producers preserve quality, reduce losses, and gain more options on when and where to sell. It can also give processors, traders, and private companies stronger links to agricultural goods closer to the source.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) has begun translating this need into infrastructure projects. It announced a PHP 3-billion initiative to build around 99 cold storage facilities nationwide, aimed at reducing losses, extending the shelf life of fruits, vegetables, and other high-value crops, and helping stabilize supply and prices. More than PHP 2 billion is also expected to be allocated for a large food hub in Clark, Pampanga, with PHP 500 million each for food hubs in Pili, Camarines Sur and Manolo Fortich, Bukidnon. The Manolo Fortich hub is planned for a 40-hectare site with a grain terminal and nearby cold storage, while the Pili hub will be built next to a mega cold storage facility in Camarines Sur.

These projects are a broader shift in how the industry rethinks efficiency. For farmers and fisherfolk, better access to these facilities can improve the economics of production. For consumers, it can mean fresher products, better quality, less spoilage, and more reliable supply. When the chain works better, the gains can travel from the farm or fishing community all the way to the market.

This is the conversation at the heart of Agrilink 2026. With the theme, “Agri Food Hub Facilities: A Boost to Efficiency in the Value and Market Chains,” the 31st Agrilink, Foodlink, and Aqualink will bring together the technologies, services, organizations, and partnerships that can help build stronger, more connected value chains across the Philippines.

Co-organized by over 20 national trade associations, Agrilink will showcase local and international innovations across farm mechanization, postharvest systems, cold storage, food processing, packaging, logistics, livestock and poultry production, aquaculture, smart farming, and market linkage. The event will also feature exhibits, expert-led seminars, live demonstrations, and opportunities to connect with industry stakeholders.



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