



*The participants of Standardisation and Product Compliance for Virgin Coconut Oil and Spices – a course aiding in the understanding of key international trade priorities, strengthening the export competitiveness of Indonesia's regulators and businesses in the virgin coconut oil and spices sectors.*

The Australia Award Standardisation and Product Compliance for Virgin Coconut Oil and Spices Short Course acknowledged the significance of Australia's relationship with Indonesia and the opportunities arising from IA-CEPA. In alignment with VISI Indonesia 2045, the course aimed to support the Government of Indonesia's development pillar of sustainable economic growth by focusing on key international trade priorities, including the acceleration of export growth through high value-added goods and services.

Led by Associate Professor Robin Roberts and Dr Ben Mullen, the course was attended by 20 industry professionals from Indonesia, strengthening the export competitiveness of the country's regulators and businesses in the virgin coconut oil and spices sectors.

## Course Highlights

- **Pre-Course workshop**  
21 – 23 May 2024
- **In-Australia program**  
8 – 22 June 2024
- **Post-Course workshop**  
11 – 13 November 2024





Participants meeting with Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities, Mark Furner MP in Brisbane.

### Site Visits

During the In-Australia program the participants had the opportunity to visit a variety of organisations and senior experts in the field. Site visits included:

- ACIAR
- Sony Trading Pty Ltd
- Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- ANU Agrifood Innovation Institute
- Kokonut Pacific

### Participant Projects

During the course participants completed an Award Project, applying the knowledge and skills gained throughout the program. Each participant leveraged their newfound insights to refine their products, assess potential improvements, and identify strategies for successfully entering the Australian market. The projects were then presented to course leaders and peers for constructive feedback and evaluation.

### Pre-Course Workshops

The 3-day Pre-Course workshop took place in Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia between 21 – 23 May 2024. The pre-course was presented by the course leaders and was designed to introduce the program objectives and expectations to the participants as well as provide them with an overview of the main topics.

### Post-Course Workshops

The 3-day Post Course workshop was held in Jakarta, Indonesia between 15 – 17 October 2024. During the Post Course participants completed workshops and activities, summarising their learning from the course. Participants also had the opportunity to present their Award Projects, providing an opportunity for peer feedback and potential collaboration.

*“The Australian Awards gave me a great opportunity to observe how the various VCO & spices markets in Australia, especially ideas for coconut derivative products and how these products get in to market and become a trend, such as drinking coffee with bit spoon of coconut oil. This visit also gave me insight about export regulation actors and of course how to access markets in Australia smoothly.”*

**Anonymous Participant**

*“The course makes me more enthusiastic about making good product with more competitive price standards and trying my best to be able to export them to Australia. Special thanks to Robbin and Ben who taught us a lot of lessons whole heartedly.”*

**Anonymous Participant**



Participants on a site visit to the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research.

**For further information about the program, please contact:**

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