

# Australia Awards in Indonesia Short Course Standards and Halal Certification



*The course participants at the Post-Course Workshop*

The Australia Awards Short Course on Standards and Halal Certification was funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), managed by the Australia Awards in Indonesia (AAI), and delivered by The University of Queensland's (UQ) specialist International Development unit (UQID). The Short Course was conducted between 30 October 2023 and 21 May 2024, with the in-Australia component delivered on 27 November – 8 December 2023. Leading the course was UQ Associate Professor Ammar Abdul Aziz, along with Course Co-Designer and expert Dr Md Ali Akber from the School of Agriculture and Food Sustainability (AGFS), UQ.

This Short Course aimed to build knowledge and develop a deeper understanding of Australia's approach to standard setting and halal certification, particularly in the agri-food sector, and to facilitate an exchange of information about Indonesia's approach.

## Course Participants

The Short Course was delivered to 25 course participants, including 16 females and 9 males ranging in age from 28 to 57 years. The participants selected to undertake the Standards and Halal Certification Short Course included mid to senior level staff primarily working in the regulatory and compliance sections within public and private organisations as well as the university sector.

## Course schedule:

- **Pre-Course workshop**  
30 October – 1 November 2023
- **In-Australia program**  
27 November – 8 December 2023
- **Online mentoring of Award Projects**  
January, February and March 2024
- **Post-Course workshop**  
20-21 May 2024



## Course Highlight

Highlights of the Standards and Halal Certification Short Course included:

- Theory and practical knowledge of quality control in halal production, including chemical and sensory analysis and the systems thinking approach.
- The experience, expertise, and perspectives of the expert presenters from academic, regulatory and business organisations in Australia and Indonesia throughout the Short Course.
- Opportunity to meet with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and the Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand (JASANZ) in Canberra.
- Site visits to a range of businesses in Brisbane, Gatton and Toowoomba, Australia and Jakarta, Indonesia.
- The networking opportunities with academic and industry speakers, alumni from the 2023 Grains Leadership Short Course and invited guests from Australia and Indonesia.
- The delivery and feedback from the Award Project Presentations during the post-course workshop.

## Pre-Course Workshop

The pre-course workshop provided the course leaders and participants with the opportunity to explore the foundational theoretical concepts within the confines of standards and halal certification and the learning objectives of the course. In addition, the pre-course workshop provided participants with the opportunity to visit PT Japfa Comfeed Indonesia Tbk, a renowned integrated poultry business in Indonesia, provided participants with practical insights into halal certification compliance procedures, enriching their understanding through a real-world perspective. The pre-course workshop also allowed the course leaders to better understand the learning needs of the participants and the objectives for their Award Projects.

## In-Australia Program

The in-Australia program was delivered in Brisbane, Gatton, Toowoomba & Canberra. The content of the program was related to three major themes:

- **Halal Certification Processes and Standards:** Covering the technical aspects and regulatory frameworks.
- **Systems Thinking for Supply Chain Analysis:** Introducing participants to systems thinking approaches to analyse

and improve the performance of halal supply chains and

- **Global Implications and Ethical Considerations:** Addressing ethical consumerism and the global market dynamics of halal products.

The content was delivered through a mix of lectures from the delivery team, guest presentations from content experts, site visits to butchers, farms and feedlots as well as government organisations such as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) in Canberra. These activities supported a thorough understanding of halal certification processes, technical regulations, and standards in both Australia and Indonesia.

## Post-course workshop

The post-course workshop provided an opportunity for participants to present their finalised projects, incorporating the feedback and lessons learned from the in-Australia sessions. Participants showcased detailed plans with measurable outcomes, reflecting a thorough understanding of the course material. The final component was a great success with all the participants in attendance along with some of the participants supervisors and mentors.

## Award Project Highlight

As part of the short course, course participants developed and implemented Award Projects, which applied what they had learned from the course to implement, review, or standardise halal compliance in their work. Some of the projects included:

- A team formed by Agus Suryanto from PT. Sucofindo, along with Fitriah Setia Rini and Bintan Dzumirroh A., embarked on drafting and implementing the Halal Logistic Guidelines. The draft of the Halal Logistic Guidelines will be delivered to BPJPH as a reference for developing formal logistic guidelines. Once regulated by BPJPH, the guideline will support logistic business entities and halal consultants in developing halal management systems within their companies. Additionally, the guideline will be used by Halal Inspection Agencies and Foreign Halal Certification Bodies to inspect and audit the implementation of halal assurance systems in logistic business entities. This project highlights the importance of strategic collaboration and regulatory support in promoting Indonesia's halal industry.
- Comparison of Indonesia & Australia

Halal Standards," leveraging insights from the Short Course. The team compared Indonesia's single government-run certification body with Australia's multiple private certification bodies. The Short Course enabled them to connect with Australian certifiers like AHDA, AHAA, and SICHMA. These connections helped gather essential documents for a comprehensive comparative study, identifying key similarities and differences. The team plans to continue this international collaboration, comparing more certification bodies and supporting regional halal standards development in ASEAN and Australia. In addition, the team has also prepared a journal article based on the project.

*"I liked the systematic concept materials and delivery by the teachers during the pre-course. First, it started by teaching me how to think systematically to see a problem and how to map it to find alternative solutions. The knowledge that I received during this pre-course changed my perspective on solving problems today. I am very happy to be part of this course."*

## Anonymous survey response

*"We obtained comprehensive knowledge to share through teaching, researching and servicing communities. The perception and value emerged during this halal course are also very important to shape my behaviour and perception about halal. New values such as food quality, animal welfare, traceability, meet quality and cross contamination are my main concern when working with halal. This will have impact to my daily activities as an academia in term of lecturers and researching."*

## Anonymous survey response

*"I am personally very pleased, grateful and beyond my words to describe how good this program was. All the materials, people, environment, facilities experience are no doubt the best."*

## Anonymous survey response

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

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