

Taiwan to strengthen agriculture sector by encouraging sustainable and smart farming

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As part of the government's efforts to promote smart and sustainable production, Taiwan's Premier Cho Jung-tai assured that protections for agriculture will be enhanced.

The first National Food & Agriculture Education Outstanding Contribution Award was presented in Taipei City Jan. 14. Cho said despite Taiwan's small area, the country has a strong agricultural tradition and actively advances high-quality products.

The advancement of agri-food education required collaboration between a variety of government agencies, according to Cho. In addition to the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Education educates about sustainable agriculture practices, the Ministry of Health and Welfare ensures food safety, while the Ministry of Culture, the Hakka Affairs Council, and the Council of Indigenous Peoples preserve diverse food cultures.

In addition to recognizing Professor J. P. Lin from National Taiwan Normal University for her support of domestic agricultural education, the premier also presented awards to five other winners. One of five winners in individual categories was Liao Zao-rui, a teacher from Ancing Elementary School in southern Taiwan's Tainan city, for creating traceable menus; and Li Fa-xian, an organic farmer, was honored for organizing an agricultural festival through fundraising.

In the group category, ten winners were recognized, including Taipei-based Presicarre Corporation, which promotes agri-food education in its supermarkets, and the Chi-shang Farmers' Association in Taitung County, which offers a number of experiential activities, the Executive Yuan added.