

Translational Research for Food Innovation Program in Thailand

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ABSTRACT

Program Management Unit for Competitiveness (PMUC) has a mission to administer research fund to enhance the nation's competitiveness by fostering collaboration between the public and private sectors in Thailand as well as enhancing international collaboration to advance research outputs to global market. PMU creates a sustainable and balanced development by utilizing biological and cultural capitals into manufacturing and service businesses, creating economic value with the focus on Thailand's strategic sectors, including agriculture, food, medicine, energy, and tourism, as well as promoting technology uptake in SMEs to achieve higher value goods and services. The supporting under PMUC includes projects that will lead to new businesses of superior quality and higher value, a development of standards and national quality infrastructure (NQI) to certify and build consumer confidence in innovative products, using engineering design and information technology to expedite the research commercialization process, as well as utilization of biological and cultural capitals in the manufacturing and service sectors and increase waste utilization to support the circular economy. PMUC's food innovation program emphasizes on production of health and functional food products which meeting the market demand by employing advanced technologies, development of biological processes to produce food ingredients and natural products, upcycling of agricultural and agro-industrial wastes, and circular agricultural and food production as well as development of equipment and machines to support farmers and food processing SMEs.