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Report Name: US Ambassador to Indonesia Inaugurates World's
Largest Tempeh Factory

Country: Indonesia

Post: Jakarta

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Report Highlights:

On September 26, 2023, U.S. Ambassador Sung Y. Kim participated in the opening of one of the largest tempeh exporting factories in the world located in Bogor, Indonesia. This new factory, belonging to Tempe Azaki, will increase the company's current production capacity of tempeh to 50 metric tons a day. Tempe is a traditional Indonesian food staple made mostly of yellow soybeans imported from the United States. This event illustrated the importance of international trade and U.S. capacity building and the success of transforming a microenterprise into an industrial-scale, food exporter. Tempe Azaki, which has been trained by the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC), utilizes almost exclusively U.S. soybeans in its manufacturing process to export its tempeh products to international markets, including the United States.

On September 26, 2023, U.S. Ambassador Sung Y. Kim joined USSEC representatives, Indonesian soybean stakeholders, and Government of Indonesia officials in a ribbon cutting ceremony inaugurating the opening of a new, industrial-scale tempeh factory located in Bogor, Indonesia. According to USSEC, Tempe Azaki's new factory is the largest tempeh exporting factory in the world.



U.S. Ambassador Sung Y. Kim helps inaugurate tempeh factory.

The occasion marked a major milestone for the once microenterprise, which highly benefited from USDA-funded technical assistance to improve its food safety and quality standards.

When it was founded in 2005, Tempe Azaki only processed less than 0.5 metric tons (MT) of soybeans per day, barely enough to fill two bathtubs. Capitalizing on USSEC guidance and technical assistance, Tempeh Azaki implemented what they learned during the capacity building program to improve their food safety, product quality, and production methods. This process enabled Tempe Azaki to flourish and expand selling its products to the global market with the addition of its newest factory, Azaki will now have the total capacity to process about 50 MT of U.S. soybeans per day.



U.S. Ambassador Kim Tours Tempeh Factory.

The evolution of this tempeh company also illustrates how international trade is beneficial to the growth of Indonesia's food manufacturing sector. Thanks to the USSEC program, Tempe Azaki's product quality and food safety improved to the point that it was able to expand sales into export markets with rigorous standards. Starting in 2021, Azaki began shipping tempeh to Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. On July 21, 2023, Azaki sent its first shipment of tempeh to the U.S. market. Export markets now make up over 80 percent of the company's sales. Because Tempe Azaki uses 100 percent U.S. soybeans to produce their tempeh, the growth in this company's production and export earnings for Indonesia was made possible by the reliable supply of high-quality U.S. soybeans.

In his remarks at the ribbon cutting ceremony, U.S. Ambassador Kim noted the importance of reliable, imported raw materials to Indonesia's growing economy. Azaki, provided a good example of the mutual benefits international

trade provides to U.S. and Indonesian companies. Just as important, this collaboration highlighted how imports of high-quality ingredients like U.S. soybeans can assist international companies to produce good quality products that mutually benefit companies and consumers around the world.

Attachments:

No Attachments.