



Embassy of Japan in  
Brunei Darussalam



## ***RESEARCH SHARING SESSION AT WASAN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL***

**Wednesday**

**20<sup>th</sup> June 2012 / 30 Rejab 1433**

**Multi-Purpose Hall, Wasan Vocational School**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Programme</b>
8:45am	Arrival of Guests
9:00am	Arrival of Guest of Honour, Mr. Akira ICHIOKA, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Secretary, Public Relations, Culture and Education, Embassy of Japan
9:05am	Welcoming remarks by Acting Principal of Wasan Vocational School
9:10am	Research Sharing Presentation by Dr. Fadil Galawat <i>"Consumer Preferences and Production Efficiency of Rice in Brunei Darussalam: Current Status and Prospects"</i>
9:40am	Q&A Session
9:50am	Brief introduction of Japanese Scholarship by Embassy of Japan
10:00am	Refreshment
10:30am	Tour of SVW Campus
11:00am	End

### **Objectives of the session**

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|------|---|---|
| i.   | o dissipate latest research findings to relevant stakeholders: latest finding regarding rice development in Brunei, | T |
| ii.  | o share information on advance agricultural development in Japan,   | T |
| iii. | o share with students prospects of working in the Agricultural sector in Brunei and                                 | T |
| iv.  | o inform students about Japanese Scholarship for furthering their education in Japan.                               | T |

### **Speaker:**

Dr Fadil Galawat

PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics



### **Brief Biography**

Dr Fadil recently graduated from Kyushu University, Japan in March, 2012, under the Japanese Government Scholarship. He was born in Temburong and graduated from Universiti Brunei Darussalam in 2005. He has 5 years of experience in research and published several papers in an international reviewed journal. Raised from a family with rice farming background, Dr Fadil hope that his knowledge and expertise can help to improve the socio-economic of rural rice farmers and boost rice production in Brunei. He is a football fanatic where he won a lot of competitions and also an amateur photographer.

### **Description of my course**

The program takes a problem-solving approach to issues involving renewable and fixed natural resources, and it is based on a foundation in micro-economic theory and the economics of resources and the environment.

My specific study is to conduct research on the international food system from the viewpoint of social sciences with the aim of maintaining a stable supply of safe food and sustainable development of food industries and regional societies. The main content of this course are as follows:(1) environmental economics and policy, (2) international/domestic agricultural policies and structure, (3) farm management and rural planning, (4) international agricultural development and international agricultural relationships, (5) food industrial organization and international food trade, (6) food distribution economics and food marketing.

## **Research Title**

### ***“Consumer Preferences and Production Efficiency of Rice in Brunei Darussalam: Current Status and Prospects”***

## **Abstract**

Economic diversification and self-sufficiency in food production are crucial for Brunei. The country relied too heavily on oil and gas income and import foods. The government see that agricultural sector particularly rice sector is important in economic diversification as well as in increasing self-sufficiency to an acceptable rate. Consequently, the government has aggressively carried out various programs and plans in order to increase rice production. Steps have been taken by the Department of Agriculture and Agribusiness to raise domestic rice production from the present meager 3 percent self-sufficiency to a more acceptable figure. The DAA is targeting a 60 percent (equivalent to 18,000 metric tons) increase by 2015 in a bid to achieve self-sufficiency in rice production.

Therefore it is thought that this research will assist stakeholders, particularly those in the government, policy makers, and farmers, to decide to produce rice which is highly consumed; low cost of production and a high net of return.

The findings of this study are primarily based on the data derived from a cross-sectional consumer survey conducted in 2008 and face to face interview with farmers in 2010.

On the demand aspect of local rice in Brunei, this study revealed that Bruneians had the ability to pay more than the maximum bidding price of B\$2.00 in the survey, indicates there is strong demand for locally produce rice in Brunei. In addition, this will help to improve farmers socio-economic and motivates them to produce more rice. Consumer willingness to pay for local rice is related with their health and organic factor, demonstrate that not only increase in health awareness among Bruneians, but also safety aspects of local rice has become main concerns and important. Consumers' age, education and location also has a positive relationship with willingness to pay for local rice. A strong demand of organic rice by Bruneians is another significant finding revealed in this study.

In production viewpoint, improving farmer efficiency is the most reasonable and cost effective way in increasing rice output than buying machinery. Farmer technical and profit efficiency are 76 and 80 percent, respectively. This study shows interesting points that if farmer join a group or an association, not only their technical and profit efficiency are improved but also their profit loss per hectare, hence increase farmer income. The results also suggest that availability of irrigation significantly reduce technical and profit inefficiencies.