

and



LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND IN OUR COMMUNITY

Promoting Complementarities  
between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025  
and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Progress Report  
July 2019

ASEAN-Thailand

# **PROGRESS REPORT**

**PROMOTING COMPLEMENTARITIES  
BETWEEN THE ASEAN COMMUNITY VISION 2025 AND  
THE UN 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**JULY 2019**

**ASEAN-THAILAND**



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Progress Report

Appendix 1: ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement on Partnership for Sustainability

Appendix 2: ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific

Appendix 3: Co-Chairs' Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue on Enhancing Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Appendix 4: Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region

Appendix 5: ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris

Appendix 6: Chiang Mai Statement of ASEAN Ministers Responsible for CITES and Wildlife Enforcement on Illegal Wildlife Trade

Appendix 7: Presentation on the Outline of the Draft Complementarities Roadmap (2020-2025)

Appendix 8: Concept Note – Terms of Reference for the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue

Appendix 9: “Mind Map” on How to Synergise ASEAN Platforms on SDGs



**PROGRESS REPORT**  
**PROMOTING COMPLEMENTARITIES**  
**BETWEEN THE ASEAN COMMUNITY VISION 2025 AND**  
**THE UN 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

Following the second edition of the *Progress Report on Promoting Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*<sup>1</sup> released at the 51<sup>st</sup> ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Singapore in August 2018, Thailand, as the ASEAN Coordinator on Sustainable Development Cooperation, continues to work closely with ASEAN Member States and external partners to promote the “Complementarities Initiative” in the region.

Since its inception in 1967, ASEAN has made significant development progress and improved the quality of life of peoples in ASEAN. Nevertheless, amidst the various challenges ASEAN is currently facing such as climate change, development gaps, degradation of natural resources and disruptive technology brought about by the Fourth Industrial Revolution, ASEAN needs to ensure that its decades-long development gains and growth trajectory are sustained and that its policies continue to contribute to sustainability and sustainable development.

At the ASEAN Leaders' Gathering in Bali in October 2018, ASEAN's efforts in promoting sustainable development were endorsed not only by all ASEAN Leaders, but also by the heads of the United Nations (UN), the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank. ASEAN's commitment to sustainable development is further reaffirmed by the *ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement on Partnership for Sustainability* ([Appendix 1](#)) which was adopted at the 34<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in June 2019 in Bangkok. The Vision Statement underscores the importance of promoting cooperation and partnership in achieving the “Sustainability of Things” (SoT), or sustainability in all dimensions, including sustainable development. ASEAN Leaders also adopted the *ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific* ([Appendix 2](#)) which identifies sustainable development as one of the priority areas of cooperation. This reflects that sustainable development has been fully embraced as a strategic priority of ASEAN.

This third edition of the Progress Report aims to take stock of the progress made in the implementation of the Complementarities Initiative from August 2018 to July 2019. To further enhance ASEAN's collective efforts in this endeavour, the Report also suggests next steps and recommendations in taking forward the Complementarities Initiative in ASEAN, particularly the contribution of the Complementarities Roadmap and the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD).

## **II. THE THIRD HIGH-LEVEL BRAINSTORMING DIALOGUE ON ENHANCING COMPLEMENTARITIES BETWEEN THE ASEAN COMMUNITY VISION 2025 AND THE UN 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (HLBD)**

Building on the success of the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> HLBD in 2017 and 2018, Thailand and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)

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<sup>1</sup> Electronic version of the *Progress Report on Promoting Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2018) can be accessed at <http://www.mfa.go.th/asean/contents/files/news-20180806-173758-211968.pdf>

jointly organised the 3<sup>rd</sup> HLBD on 29 March 2019 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok. The Meeting was co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, and H.E. Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of UN ESCAP. Participants included H.E. Mr. Kung Phook, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, as well as high-level representatives from ASEAN Member States, UN agencies, and other external partners, namely, China, Japan, the European Union, Switzerland, Norway, Germany, the World Bank, the Asia Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation.

This Meeting reviewed the progress made in following up the recommendations of the Complementarities Report<sup>2</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> HLBD as well as discussed the ways forward to enhance ASEAN's efforts in promoting the Complementarities Initiative. The Co-Chairs' Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> HLBD appears in Appendix 3. Key outcomes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> HLBD are as follows:

**a. PROGRESS FROM THE 2<sup>ND</sup> HLBD AND WAYS FORWARD**

The Meeting noted that ASEAN had achieved good progress in several areas linked to the five priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative<sup>3</sup> such as poverty eradication, nutrition, promoting industrialisation and innovation, greening SMEs, sustainable infrastructure and urbanisation, access to energy as well as disaster risk reduction. At the same time, trends in areas such as inequality and climate change should be reversed for ASEAN to succeed in achieving relevant SDGs.

Furthermore, the Meeting also underscored the importance of a people-centred approach in promoting the SDGs and enhancing the Complementarities Initiative as well as raising public awareness and increasing engagement of the youth. The role of youths in promoting sustainability was one of the issues underscored at the ASEAN Leaders' Interface with Representatives of ASEAN Youth at the 34<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Bangkok in June.

**b. SUPPORT FOR THE ASEAN CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND DIALOGUE**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> HLBD expressed its support for Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship theme of "**Advancing Partnership for Sustainability**" as well as the establishment of the **ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD)** which will be officially launched in Thailand in November 2019.

Overall, the Meeting emphasised the ACSDSD's important role in facilitating, promoting and coordinating efforts on sustainable development cooperation in the region. Among other things, the Meeting highlighted the ACSDSD's potential to strengthen data and monitoring systems for sustainable development and promote collaboration with universities and other relevant centres across ASEAN. The Meeting also welcomed the support of UN agencies and ASEAN's external partners extended to the ACSDSD, particularly in developing concrete projects with and building capacity of the ACSDSD.

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<sup>2</sup> Electronic version of the *Complementarities Report* can be accessed at <http://www.mfa.go.th/asean/contents/files/asean-media-center-20180213-164208-619213.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> The five priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative are (1) poverty eradication, (2) infrastructure and connectivity, (3) sustainable management of natural resources, (4) sustainable consumption and production and (5) resilience.

### **c. DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPLEMENTARITIES ROADMAP**

As a follow-up to a recommendation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> HLBD in 2018, the 3<sup>rd</sup> HLBD exchanged views on the draft **Complementarities Roadmap (2020 - 2025)** prepared by Thailand and UN ESCAP. The Roadmap will guide future cooperation and identify concrete actions to reinforce synergies in further advancing the Complementarities Initiative in ASEAN.

The Meeting gave in-principle support to the proposed outline of the draft Roadmap and reaffirmed that key areas of cooperation in the proposed Roadmap should be based on the five priority areas of the Complementarities Report as well as capacity-building of ASEAN experts and institutions, which is a cross-cutting issue.

The draft Roadmap will be further developed in close consultation with ASEAN Member States, UN ESCAP and the ASEAN Secretariat. Once the text is sufficiently mature, Thailand will liaise with the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) to coordinate with the ASEAN Economic Community and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community pillars. The ultimate goal is to submit the Roadmap to the ASEAN-UN Summit in November 2019 in Thailand for notation.

## **III. ACTIVITIES ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN ASEAN, BASED ON THE FIVE PRIORITY AREAS OF THE COMPLEMENTARITIES INITIATIVE**

As sustainable development is high on ASEAN's Community-building agenda, ASEAN has continued to promote joint efforts – either among ASEAN Member States or with ASEAN's external partners – towards the realisation of the SDGs. These efforts are done through a number of initiatives and activities – whether in the form of seminars, meetings and publications. Many of these activities are directly under or support the five priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative. Below are key activities:

### **a. ASEAN-CHINA-UNDP SYMPOSIUM ON LOCALISING THE SDGS AND REALISING POVERTY ERADICATION**

Building on the two previous symposiums<sup>4</sup> focusing on joint efforts to eradicate poverty in ASEAN, the ASEAN Secretariat, China and UNDP co-organised the ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium on Localising the SDGs and Realising Poverty Eradication on 20-21 August 2018 in Siem Reap, Cambodia, to promote sustainable development cooperation at the regional level and mainstream the SDGs at the sub-national context. Based on the discussions at this Symposium, the co-organisers released a publication entitled “*SDG Localisation in ASEAN: Experiences in Shaping Policy and Implementation Pathways*”<sup>5</sup> to showcase the different approaches by ASEAN Member States to strengthen the core enablers in localising the SDGs. In addition, another joint project will be undertaken in the Mekong sub-region under the ASEAN-China-Japan-UNDP SDG Localisation Initiative.

To maintain the momentum of this collaboration, the ASEAN Secretariat, China and UNDP will organise the ASEAN-China-UNDP Symposium: Innovation in Achieving the SDGs and Eradicating Poverty in September 2019 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

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<sup>4</sup> (1) Symposium on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development “Leave No One Behind” in 2016 in Jakarta, Indonesia

(2) ASEAN-China-UNDP Research and Symposium on Financing the Implementation of SDGs in ASEAN in 2017 in Chiang Rai, Thailand

<sup>5</sup> Electronic version of *SDG Localisation in ASEAN: Experiences in Shaping Policy and Implementation Pathways* can be accessed at <https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/sustainable-development-goals/sdg-localization-in-asean.html>



## **b. LAUNCH OF A STUDY ENTITLED “ASEAN AS THE ARCHITECT FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION”**

Against the backdrop of a rapidly changing geo-political landscape in ASEAN, the Asia Foundation produced a study entitled “*ASEAN as the Architect for Regional Development Cooperation*”<sup>6</sup> with the aim of providing insights and recommendations on how ASEAN can play a more catalytic role in addressing regional development challenges, and maintaining ASEAN centrality through shaping development assistance to the region.

Two launch events for this publication were organised. The first event took place on 25 September 2018 in New York. It was co-hosted by H.E. Mr. Virasakdi Futrakul, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, Ms. Christine Heenan, Vice President of the Rockefeller Foundation, and Mr. David Arnold, President of the Asia Foundation. H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN, was also present to deliver a keynote address. The second event was held on 20 November 2018 in Bangkok. It was presided over by Deputy Foreign Minister Virasakdi Futrakul. Mr. David Arnold, President of the Asia Foundation, and Ms. Deepali Khanna, Managing Director for Asia of the Rockefeller Foundation, were also present at the event to deliver their opening remarks.

The discussions at the two launch events centred around how ASEAN could play a more catalytic role in shaping the future of regional development cooperation. It was recommended that ASEAN should create strategic-level platforms for dialogue and coordination and put in place an ASEAN-centric framework for development assistance. Collaboration on sustainable development was identified as one of the strategic approaches that ASEAN could utilise to engage with external partners. The ACSDS was recognised as a potential platform to strengthen ASEAN’s leadership in this important issue.

## **c. LAUNCH OF A PUBLICATION ENTITLED “MAPPING SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION IN ASEAN”**

On 27 September 2018, H.E. Mr. Virasakdi Futrakul, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, H.E. Mr. Jorge Chediek, Envoy of the UN Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary-General of ASEAN, officially launched a publication entitled “*Mapping South-South Cooperation in ASEAN*”<sup>7</sup> at the UN Headquarters in New York.

With the purpose of sharing successful ASEAN initiatives which are South-South cooperation in nature with other countries and regional organisations, the event presented key findings and recommendations from the publication. Principles of South-South cooperation shared by ASEAN such as solidarity, respect for sovereignty, and mutual benefits were highlighted. Various ASEAN initiatives such as the ASEAN Smart Cities Network, the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 and the Complementarities Initiative were also presented as living examples of South-South cooperation in ASEAN.

## **d. SPECIAL ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON MARINE DEBRIS**

On 5 March 2019, Thailand hosted the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Marine Debris in Bangkok to underscore the need to address the issue of marine debris, which is a global environmental problem. The Meeting produced two outcome documents, namely,

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<sup>6</sup> Electronic version of *ASEAN as the Architect for Regional Development Cooperation* can be accessed at <https://asiafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/ASEAN-as-the-Architect-for-Regional-Development-Cooperation.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Electronic version of *Mapping South-South Cooperation in ASEAN* can be accessed at <http://www.mfa.go.th/asean/contents/files/asean-media-center-20180910-104655-731920.pdf>

the *Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Debris* and the *ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris*. Both documents, which appear in Appendix 4 and 5, were adopted and noted by the 34<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in June 2019 respectively.

**e. SPECIAL ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE**

On 21-22 March 2019, ASEAN Ministers responsible for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and Wildlife Enforcement attended the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Illegal Wildlife Trade in Chiang Mai, Thailand. At this Meeting, ASEAN agreed to intensify efforts to combat illegal wildlife trafficking through expedited implementation of the *Plan of Action for ASEAN Cooperation on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (2016-2020)*, developing *ASEAN Guidelines for Preventing and Detecting Wildlife Trafficking*, and engaging in cooperation with the UNDP on addressing wildlife cybercrime, among other things. The Meeting also issued the *Chiang Mai Statement of ASEAN Ministers Responsible for CITES and Wildlife Enforcement on Illegal Wildlife Trade*. The said statement, which appears in Appendix 6, was noted by the 34<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit.

**f. SIDE EVENT AT BAPA+40 ENTITLED “SHAPING THE FUTURE OF REGIONAL SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION: SHARING THE ASEAN EXPERIENCES AND NURTURING SYNERGIES ACROSS REGIONS”**

On 19 March 2019, Thailand, Viet Nam, the ASEAN Secretariat, UNOSSC, UN ESCAP and the Asia Foundation co-organised a side-event on “Shaping the Future of Regional South-South Cooperation: Sharing the ASEAN Experiences and Nurturing Synergies across Regions” at Sala de Prensa, Palacio San Martín, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The side event took place on the sidelines of the Second High-Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40 Conference).

The objective of this event was to advance regional South-South cooperation, share ASEAN’s regional coordination and development experience, promote inter-regional knowledge sharing, and identify opportunities for inter-regional cooperation. Also present at the panel discussion were high-level representatives from eight regional organisations and intergovernmental institutions, namely, the African Union (AU), the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA), the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF), the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP), the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral and Technical Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), and the Partners in Population and Development (PPD).

**g. ASEAN MEETING ON COMBATING IUU FISHING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EU**

On 4 -5 April 2019, the ASEAN Meeting on Combating IUU Fishing in Partnership with the EU was held in Bangkok to address the IUU issue and promote sustainable fisheries. The Meeting agreed to work towards the establishment of **the ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing (AN-IUU)** in order to support effective exchange of information and create a network for better communication among law enforcement and other competent authorities.

**h. ASEAN FORUM ON SDGS WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AGENCIES: ACCELERATING SDGS IMPLEMENTATION IN ASEAN**

On 8 July 2019, the ASEAN Secretariat, led by H.E. Mr. Kung Phoak, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, hosted the ASEAN Forum on SDGs with National Development Planning Agencies: Accelerating SDGs

Implementation in ASEAN in Jakarta. The Forum was aimed not only to provide a venue for dialogue between the National Planning Agencies/Inter-Agency Coordinating Platforms in each ASEAN Member State in charge of overseeing, coordinating and monitoring the implementation of the SDGs, but also to identify common challenges and good practices on effectively implementing the SDGs. The Forum also underscored the importance of collective efforts at the regional level, including those under the Complementarities Initiative, in support of the implementation of the SDGs at the national level. The Forum is envisaged as working in tandem with other institutions and fora in the region, including the ACSDS and the Directors-General Forum of ASEAN Countries on Development Cooperation, initiated by Thailand, to promote a more coordinated effort in support of sustainable development cooperation in the region.

#### **i. ONGOING COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS WITH THE WORLD BANK**

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> HLBD in 2017, the World Bank has provided strong support for the Complementarities Initiative and sustainable development cooperation in ASEAN. In helping ASEAN address its development challenges, the World Bank has identified areas of cooperation such as nutrition, integration of service sectors, climate change, connectivity and human capital development. To translate this into concrete action, the World Bank is currently working with ASEAN on three projects as follows:

##### **a) ASEAN HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**

Human capital is at the heart of sustainable development. Potential cooperation between ASEAN and the World Bank in human capital development was raised by the Prime Minister of Thailand at the ASEAN Leaders' Gathering in October 2018 in Bali, Indonesia. The Meeting supported Thailand's proposal to host a high-level meeting in collaboration with the World Bank to have preliminary discussions on human capital development in ASEAN.

The ASEAN High-Level Meeting on Human Capital Development is scheduled to be convened on 9 September 2019 in Bangkok with the aim of sharing knowledge and experience in human capital development and recommending potential next steps for ASEAN to accelerate progress on this issue. The Meeting will address important topics such as improving the quality of education, promoting universal health coverage and ending all forms of malnutrition.

##### **b) A POLICY BRIEF ON ADDRESSING THE DOUBLE BURDEN OF MALNUTRITION IN ASEAN**

The double burden of malnutrition is a common challenge for many ASEAN Member States. It has hindered the region's human capital and socio-economic development, and prevents ASEAN from fully realising the SDGs. Policy commitment towards this endeavour is reflected in *the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Ending All Forms of Malnutrition*<sup>8</sup> adopted in November 2017 in Manila. Furthermore, one of the flagship initiatives suggested in the Complementarities Report also concerns a project on improving nutrition and reducing stunting in ASEAN.

As a follow-up to the World Bank's proposal to the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> HLBD, the World Bank and Thailand are working together to develop a *Policy Brief on Addressing*

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<sup>8</sup> The *ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Ending All Forms of Malnutrition* can be accessed at [https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2.-ADOPTION\\_2017\\_ALD-on-Ending-All-Forms-of-Malnutrition\\_Endorsed-by-the-AHMM.pdf](https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/2.-ADOPTION_2017_ALD-on-Ending-All-Forms-of-Malnutrition_Endorsed-by-the-AHMM.pdf)

*the Double Burden of Malnutrition in ASEAN*. This policy brief, which will be launched at the 35<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2019, will be a concise and evidence-based document focusing on action-oriented policy recommendations, including the importance of having a monitoring and evaluation framework, as well as the possible supporting role of the ACSDS to be launched in November 2019 in Thailand.

#### **c) A STUDY ON CONNECTING THE CONNECTIVITIES IN ASEAN AND THE REGION**

Infrastructure and connectivity play a significant role in the process of ASEAN economic integration and improvement of peoples' livelihood. It is also an important driver of sustainable development. It is therefore recognised as one of the priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative.

A study on Connecting the Connectivities in ASEAN and the Region is a joint collaboration between the World Bank and Thailand to conduct a mapping exercise which will provide more clarity on overlaps and gaps as well as potential for synergies among different connectivity strategies in the region. The study will be launched at the 35<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2019.

#### **j. FUTURE PROJECTS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITH ASEAN'S EXTERNAL PARTNERS**

With the envisaged launch of the ACSDS in Thailand in November 2019, a number of external partners of ASEAN have expressed keen interest to develop concrete projects related to sustainable development with the Centre. These include:

**a) NORWAY** has expressed interest to promote cooperation with ASEAN on green and sustainable energy. A seminar on ASEAN-Norway Clean and Sustainable Energy Partnership 2019 will be co-organised by Thailand and Norway, with the support of ASEAN Energy Centre (ACE), in October 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. This activity will pave the way for Norway's further cooperation with the ACSDS in the area of sustainable energy.

**b) SWITZERLAND** has expressed willingness to work with ASEAN on enhancing sustainable consumption and production and is currently in consultation with Thailand to collaborate with the ACSDS in this area, specifically in the context of business and human rights which can draw on Switzerland's extensive experiences.

**c) THE ASIA FOUNDATION AND THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION** have expressed support to the building of capacity of ASEAN experts and institutions that are involved with sustainable development cooperation. This will be done in the form of capacity-building and fellowship programmes at leading international institutions on development cooperation, and will also benefit the ACSDS and its personnel. Moreover, these two organisations have also shown interest in supporting the implementation of the Complementarities Roadmap and are developing a report entitled "*Translating the ASEAN-UN Complementarities Roadmap into Sustainable Action*", which will be launched in early 2020.

### **IV. NEXT STEPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **a. NEXT STEPS**

##### **a) FINALISATION OF THE COMPLEMENTARITIES ROADMAP (2020-2025)**

Following consultations and coordination within ASEAN and with UN ESCAP, the Complementarities Roadmap is aimed to be finalised and submitted to the ASEAN-UN Summit in November 2019 in Thailand for notation.

Based on the five priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative, namely, poverty eradication, infrastructure and connectivity, sustainable management of natural resources, sustainable consumption and production, and resilience, as well as capacity-building, the Roadmap will provide a guideline to further advance the Complementarities Initiative during 2020 - 2025. The presentation on the outline of the Draft Complementarities Roadmap, which was discussed at the 3<sup>rd</sup> HLBD in March 2019, appears in [Appendix 7](#).

Given the cross-cutting nature of sustainable development, the implementation of action lines identified in the Roadmap will be carried out, as appropriate, by relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, ASEAN Centres and with ASEAN's external partners.

The conclusion of this Complementarities Roadmap in 2025 marks the final year of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

#### **b) ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASEAN CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND DIALOGUE (ACSDSD)**

As endorsed by ASEAN Leaders at the 33<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2018 in Singapore, the ACSDSD will be launched in Thailand in November 2019. It will not only promote research and build capacity of ASEAN on sustainable development but also serve as a platform for policy dialogue among ASEAN Member States, and between ASEAN and its external partners. The Centre will also serve as a secretariat to the annual HLBD to ensure effective policy coordination and dialogue between ASEAN and external partners, especially UN agencies. The *Concept Note - Terms of Reference* of the Centre, which was noted by the 33<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Summit, appears in [Appendix 8](#).

The Centre will also support the implementation of the Complementarities Roadmap by facilitating policy dialogue, developing networks for cooperation, and raising public awareness on the Complementarities Initiative. In addition, the Centre will also serve as an institutional mechanism for monitoring and evaluating progress made on the implementation of the Roadmap.

#### **b. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**a) BALANCED AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMPLEMENTARITIES INITIATIVE:** Under the framework of the Complementarities Roadmap (2020 - 2025), ASEAN should pursue activities in the five priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative in a balanced and effective manner. Activities and projects implemented should cover all of the five priority areas. Outcome monitoring and evaluation are essential in ensuring that resources are used effectively and that the overall progress made is satisfactory. To ensure the effective implementation of the Roadmap, ASEAN also needs to enhance coordination among relevant ASEAN platforms and Sectoral bodies across the three pillars of the ASEAN Community to ensure that all efforts on sustainable development in ASEAN are moving in the right direction.

**b) PROMOTING ASEAN'S VOICE AND ACTION ON THE SUSTAINABILITY ISSUE:** ASEAN should further consolidate and strengthen ASEAN's voice and action on the sustainability issue in the international fora. As the international community enters the second quarter of the SDGs cycle, the SDG Summit and the Climate Action Summit will be convened in September 2019 in New York, under the auspices of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly. These high-level events are examples of platforms and fora that ASEAN should utilise and "speak in one voice". As a result, ASEAN should follow through co-organising side-events and delivering ASEAN statements in these and other high-level events so as to raise ASEAN's visibility and demonstrate ASEAN's collective commitment to achieving the SDGs, in line with the suggestions made at the 34<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Bangkok.

**c) FOSTERING SYNERGIES AMONG ASEAN-RELATED PLATFORMS AND MECHANISMS THAT WORK ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION:** With several ASEAN platforms having been created to promote sustainable development in the region, ASEAN should consider how best to avoid overlaps and enhance synergies among these ASEAN platforms. Such platforms include the ASEAN Forum on SDGs, the ACSDS, and the newly created Directors-General Forum of ASEAN Countries on Development Cooperation, which will be convened by Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA) on 22-23 August 2019 in Bangkok. This Forum is not an ASEAN mechanism but involves ASEAN Member States. It seeks to focus on advancing technical cooperation with an emphasis on capacity-building that would support sustainable development efforts. To this end, a suggested “mind map” of how the various fora and institutions dealing with sustainable development cooperation in the ASEAN region can potentially link up and interface with one another appears in Appendix 9 as an illustrative, rather than prescriptive, tool to depict potential pathways for enhanced coordination and cooperation.

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**Appendix 1:**  
**ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement**  
**on Partnership for Sustainability**







**ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement on  
Partnership for Sustainability  
23 June 2019, Bangkok**

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We, the Heads of State/Government of the Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam:

**RECALLING** the Bangkok Declaration of 1967 in which ASEAN declared to promote regional cooperation in the spirit of equality and partnership and to secure for its peoples and for posterity the blessings of peace, freedom and prosperity, and ASEAN's pledge to its peoples in the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 to realise a rules-based, people-oriented, and people-centred ASEAN of One Vision, One Identity, One Community.

**REAFFIRMING AND ADHERING** to the purposes and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter and upholding the Charter of the United Nations.

**REAFFIRMING** the importance of continuity and sustainability in ASEAN Community-building efforts and committing to further cooperate in promoting partnership for sustainability, within ASEAN and with various sectors of society, and in ASEAN's relations with the international community, in order to reinforce a people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community that leaves no one behind, looks to the future and remains central in the regional architecture.

**RECOGNISING** the growing change and complexities in the regional and global environments, and global trends including the Fourth Industrial Revolution which pose both challenges and opportunities for ASEAN and its peoples as it seeks to navigate through this period.

To this end, we hereby agree to:

1. **PROMOTE** cooperation and partnerships within ASEAN and with external partners through various ASEAN-led mechanisms in order to achieve sustainability in all dimensions of ASEAN Community-building and in promoting regional peace and prosperity.
2. **MAINTAIN** ASEAN as an area of peace, freedom and security, where differences and disputes are resolved by peaceful means; where states remain free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction, including through the effective implementation of the Southeast Asia Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone (SEANWFZ) Treaty

and its Plan of Action; where ASEAN adheres to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of ASEAN Member States; and where maritime cooperation is enhanced in accordance with internationally-accepted treaties and principles, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

3. **STRENGTHEN** ASEAN unity and solidarity as well as ASEAN's central role in maintaining and promoting peace, stability, harmony and prosperity in the region.

#### **(Political-Security Cooperation)**

4. **PROMOTE** sustainable security in the region by reinforcing strategic trust and mutual confidence within ASEAN and in the wider Asia-Pacific region and reaffirming the principles of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) as well as its application to this wider region.

5. **STRENGTHEN** defence cooperation to tackle traditional and non-traditional security challenges, while upholding the principles of ASEAN Centrality, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, consensus-based decision making, participation on the basis of flexible, voluntary, and non-binding nature with assets remaining under national command and control.

6. **CONTINUE TO ENHANCE** strategic dialogue and promote practical cooperation on regional defence and security issues among ASEAN Member States and Dialogue Partners by implementing the Work Programme of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and the Three Year Work Plans of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Groups, namely, in the areas of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, peacekeeping operations, maritime security, military medicine, counter-terrorism, humanitarian mine action, and cyber security.

7. **REAFFIRM** the importance of maintaining and promoting peace, security, stability, safety and freedom of navigation in and overflight above the South China Sea, work actively towards the full and effective implementation of the 2002 Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) in its entirety and the early conclusion of an effective Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC), exercise self-restraint in the conduct of activities and avoid actions that may further complicate the situation, and pursue the peaceful resolution of disputes in accordance with international law, including the 1982 UNCLOS, while enhancing mutual trust and confidence.

8. **PROMOTE** regional peace and stability by practising and enhancing confidence-building measures such as the Code for Unplanned Encounters at Sea, the Guidelines for Air Military Encounters, Guidelines for Maritime Interaction and the ASEAN Direct Communications Infrastructure, to promote communication, mutual trust and confidence, and reduce miscalculations and mishaps in the air and at sea.

9. **COOPERATE EFFECTIVELY** with partners within and beyond the region to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as well as prevent and counter the rise of radicalisation and violent extremism as enshrined in the Manila Declaration adopted in

2017 and the ASEAN Plan of Action to Prevent and Counter the Rise of Radicalisation and Violent Extremism adopted in 2018.

10. **STRENGTHEN** cooperation on border management in accordance with domestic laws and policies to better safeguard the increasingly interconnected and integrated ASEAN Community by having the relevant sectoral bodies discuss common concerns such as transnational crimes, human trafficking, illegal wildlife trade, illicit drug trafficking and cross-border challenges including pandemics.

11. **COMMIT** to progressing negotiations on the ASEAN Extradition Treaty to strengthen ASEAN's resilience and capacity to combat transnational crimes, and enhance cooperation within ASEAN to ensure respect for the rule of law.

12. **CONTINUE TO ENHANCE** cybersecurity cooperation and the building of an open, safe, secure and resilient cyberspace supporting the digital economy of the ASEAN region through a feasible coordination and discussion mechanism on Cybersecurity issues, promoting voluntary and non-binding cyber norms of responsible State behaviour in cyberspace and adopting cybersecurity Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) as per the ASEAN Leaders' Statement on Cybersecurity Cooperation, as well as supporting the cybersecurity activities and training programmes of the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC) in Bangkok and the ASEAN-Singapore Cybersecurity Centre of Excellence (ASCCE) in Singapore which will complement existing ASEAN efforts in cybersecurity capacity-building.

13. **PROMOTE** cooperation in addressing humanitarian aspects of landmines and other explosive remnants of war (ERW) issues in the region through the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Centre (ARMAC).

### **(Economic Growth, Cooperation and Sustainable Development)**

14. **PROMOTE** dynamic, sustainable, equitable and inclusive economic growth in ASEAN by equipping ASEAN to take advantage and maximise the opportunities of the Fourth Industrial Revolution through region-wide initiatives such as deepening trade facilitation measures for stronger economic cooperation with the full participation of ASEAN Member States in the ASEAN Single Window in 2019; enhancing digital integration in line with the Fourth Industrial Revolution with the development of the ASEAN Digital Integration Framework Action Plan 2015-2025 and improving connectivity through sustainable infrastructures; achieving inclusivity through narrowing the development gaps within and between Member States; promoting a green economy through the effective use of existing centres and institutions such as ASEAN Institute for Green Economy (AIGE) and other similar centres and institutions in the region for green growth opportunities, and pursuing economic partnerships which promote the effective and comprehensive implementation of the AEC Blueprint 2025.

15. **EXERT** strong political impetus to conclude a modern, comprehensive, high quality, and mutually beneficial Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) that will generate benefits for the region, urge the exercise of maximum flexibility by all

RCEP Participating Countries, and intensify the ongoing efforts to conclude a modern, comprehensive, high quality and mutually beneficial RCEP this year, which will uphold a global trade environment that is open, mutually beneficial, rules-based and inclusive.

16. **ENHANCE** sustainable development cooperation, including with Dialogue Partners and external parties, by promoting complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Complementarities Initiative) including through the development of a “Roadmap of Action for the Complementarities Initiative” and other feasible projects that generate concrete benefits for the people of the region and strengthen partnerships between ASEAN, regional organisations and UN Regional Commissions, UN Development System and other international organisations in achieving sustainable development for the region.

17. **LOOK FORWARD** to the launching of the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue in Thailand in 2019 and its role in helping promote sustainable development cooperation in the region, including in the areas of smart cities, and implement the Complementarities Initiative, as well as encourage the Centre to cooperate with various centres and institutions in the region.

18. **LOOK FORWARD** also to the launching of the STI Framework for Action: Converging towards the Development of an ASEAN Platform on Science, Technology and Innovation for Disaster and Climate Resilience.

19. **CONTINUE TO TAKE FORWARD** the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) in order to realise a smart cities network that is sustainable, and catalyse more opportunities for growth, collaboration, innovation, capacity-building, climate change mitigation and adaptation and sustainable development, while promoting cultural links and understanding, and explore the development of networks of cooperation between smart and sustainable towns and villages.

20. **ENHANCE** cooperative efforts to narrow development gaps within ASEAN through bilateral, trilateral and multilateral programmes based on the needs and priorities of the relevant ASEAN Member States, the effective and comprehensive implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan III and subsequent plans, and the development of links and synergies with other regional and subregional initiatives, including through promoting rural development and poverty eradication.

21. **ENCOURAGE** ASEAN and regional cooperation to promote sustainable fisheries and address the issue of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing through existing mechanisms under ASEAN, including by supporting effective implementation of relevant international law and instruments, exploring the possibility of establishing an ASEAN IUU Network, as well as implementing sustainable fisheries management and cooperation.

22. **SUPPORT** inclusive human capital development regional cooperation, and public-private partnership initiatives such as mentorship programmes to further enhance skills and capacities of ASEAN human resources especially for Micro, Small and Medium

Enterprises (MSMEs), women, youth, children, and persons with disabilities, as well as other vulnerable groups in preparation for the opportunities and challenges brought by the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

23. **SUPPORT** the conduct of inclusive business in ASEAN; through business models and practices that address the needs of and generate opportunities for all.

24. **ENHANCE** regional connectivity through effective implementation of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 (MPAC 2025) and development of links and synergies between MPAC 2025, the ACMECS Master Plan and other connectivity strategies in the region, in order to strengthen physical, institutional and people-to-people linkages, and also enhance cooperation in the pursuit of ASEAN as a single tourism destination.

25. **CONTINUE** to strengthen the role of sub-regional mechanisms, including the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS), and Singapore-Johor-Riau (SIJORI) Growth Triangle, in creating a resilient, inclusive, sustainable, and economically competitive ASEAN region.

### **(Socio-Cultural Cooperation)**

26. **STRENGTHEN** the capacity of ASEAN to address the challenge of natural disasters in a timely and systematic manner through the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) as the common platform for effective implementation of “One ASEAN One Response” and, in this regard, welcome the launch of the Disaster Emergency Logistics System for ASEAN (DELSA) warehouse in Chai Nat, operating alongside other DELSA warehouses in the region and the enhancement of ASEAN-ERAT members’ capabilities under the management of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on disaster management (AHA Centre) in Jakarta, and work towards the operationalisation of the ASEAN Militaries Ready Group on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (AMRG on HADR).

27. **SUPPORT AND PROMOTE** the conservation and sustainable use of ASEAN’s coastal and marine environment, including to ensure food security, improve nutrition and promote benefits for the people.

28. **CONTINUE TO PROMOTE** biodiversity conservation and management and endeavor to mainstream biodiversity into the various development processes in ASEAN through ASEAN Member States’ concerted efforts through, with the support of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, cognisant that diversity of life provides a multitude of opportunities for livelihood and economic development, contributes to poverty alleviation, and technology and innovation, and serves as an effective adaptation and mitigation measure against climate change impacts and natural disasters in the region, and acknowledge that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is an inter-generational responsibility that is entrusted to the present generation.

29. **STRENGTHEN** ASEAN's capability and capacity to respond to the adverse effects of climate change, by facilitating the sharing of information and best practices to enhance the implementation of the Paris Agreement and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in order to build climate resilient communities in Southeast Asia and advance ASEAN's agreed concerns based on consensus on common interests on climate change through joint statements at the 2019 Climate Action Summit in New York and the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 25) in Santiago, Chile.

30. **STRENGTHEN** the preparedness of ASEAN to deal with the trends of an ageing society including through development of an ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI), and promote better social safety nets in the region through the development of an ASEAN Training Centre for Social Work and Social Welfare.

31. **SUPPORT** efforts to intensify convergence among ASEAN Member States on Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and workforce development, with a view to develop a world class ASEAN labor force responsive to the rapid changing needs of the labor market.

32. **SUPPORT** efforts to mainstream gender and development initiatives, consistent with the ASEAN Declaration on the Gender-Responsive Implementation of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals.

33. **ENHANCE** regional platforms to promote equitable opportunities, participation, and effective engagement of youth living in remote and border areas and vulnerable groups in the development and implementation of ASEAN policies and programmes.

34. **STRENGTHEN** engagement with relevant stakeholders in society, with a view to enhancing their roles as partners for sustainable development and contributing to the realisation of a people-oriented and people-centred ASEAN Community.

35. **ENHANCE** awareness of ASEAN culture through concrete joint activities during ASEAN Cultural Year 2019, promote dialogue and cooperation between the ASEAN Cultural Center in Thailand and other similar centres and institutions in ASEAN Member States, and to further strengthen cooperation with culture centres and institutions of dialogue partners.

36. **PROMOTE** a greater sense of ASEAN identity and sense of belonging to the ASEAN Community, including through the development of a Network of ASEAN Associations in ASEAN Member States and strengthening the role of the ASEAN Foundation.

### **(External Relations)**

37. **CONTINUE TO DEVELOP** friendly relations and mutually beneficial dialogue, cooperation and partnerships with countries and sub-regional, regional and international organisations and institutions.

38. **REINFORCE** an effective, sustainable and inclusive ASEAN-centred regional architecture based on ASEAN-led platforms and a rules-based order underpinned by international law, regional norms, mutual trust, mutual respect and mutual interest.

**(Continuity)**

39. **ENSURE** continuity in ASEAN policies across the various ASEAN Chairmanships while ascertaining the full functionality and effective use of existing ASEAN institutions and centres in promoting sustainability in the region and, in this connection, reaffirm the principles and priorities as contained in the ASEAN Leaders' Vision for a Resilient and Innovative ASEAN adopted in 2018.

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**Appendix 2:**  
**ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific**





## **“ASEAN OUTLOOK ON THE INDO-PACIFIC”**

### **I. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE**

1. The Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions are amongst the most dynamic in the world as well as centers of economic growth for decades. As a result, these regions continue to experience geopolitical and geostrategic shifts. These shifts present opportunities as well as challenges. On the one hand, the economic growth of the region opens up possibilities of cooperation to alleviate poverty and elevate living standards of millions of people. On the other hand, the rise of material powers, i.e. economic and military, requires avoiding the deepening of mistrust, miscalculation, and patterns of behavior based on a zero-sum game.
2. Southeast Asia lies in the center of these dynamic regions and is a very important conduit and portal to the same. Therefore, it is in the interest of ASEAN to lead the shaping of their economic and security architecture and ensure that such dynamics will continue to bring about peace, security, stability and prosperity for the peoples in the Southeast Asia as well as in the wider Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions or the Indo-Pacific.
3. ASEAN, which for decades has been engaging in the development of an inclusive regional architecture, needs to consistently come up with its collective leadership in forging and shaping the vision for closer cooperation in the Indo-Pacific and to continue to maintain its central role in the evolving regional architecture in Southeast Asia and its surrounding regions. ASEAN also needs to continue being an honest broker within the strategic environment of competing interests.
4. Against this backdrop, ASEAN Leaders have agreed to further discuss an initiative that reinforces the ASEAN-centered regional architecture, namely, ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific. This Outlook is not aimed at creating new mechanisms or replacing existing ones; rather, it is an Outlook intended to enhance ASEAN’s Community building process and to strengthen and give new momentum for existing ASEAN-led mechanisms to better face challenges and seize opportunities arising from the current and future regional and global environments. Moreover, the Outlook is intended to be inclusive in terms of ideas and proposals.
5. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific envisages ASEAN Centrality as the underlying principle for promoting cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region, with ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as the East Asia Summit (EAS), as platforms for dialogue and implementation of the Indo-Pacific cooperation, while preserving their formats. Furthermore, ASEAN may also seek to develop, where appropriate, cooperation with other regional and sub-regional mechanisms in the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions on specific areas of common interests to complement the relevant initiatives.

## **II. ASEAN OUTLOOK ON THE INDO-PACIFIC**

6. Consistent with decades of ASEAN's role in developing and shaping regional architectures in Southeast Asia and beyond, and with ASEAN's norms and principles as contained in the ASEAN Charter and other relevant ASEAN documents, ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific envisioned by ASEAN consists of the following key elements:
  - A perspective of viewing the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions, not as contiguous territorial spaces but as a closely integrated and interconnected region, with ASEAN playing a central and strategic role;
  - An Indo-Pacific region of dialogue and cooperation instead of rivalry;
  - An Indo-Pacific region of development and prosperity for all;
  - The importance of the maritime domain and perspective in the evolving regional architecture.

## **III. OBJECTIVES**

7. This ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific should support and provide ballast for the current dynamism in the Indo-Pacific region, which should be viewed from the perspective, of encouraging progress. As such, it should also provide added value to the existing regional arrangements. Therefore, the said ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific is aimed at: (1) offering an outlook to guide cooperation in the region; (2) helping to promote an enabling environment for peace, stability and prosperity in the region in addressing common challenges, upholding the rules-based regional architecture, and promoting closer economic cooperation, and thus strengthen confidence and trust; (3) enhancing ASEAN's Community building process and further strengthening the existing ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as the EAS; and (4) implementing existing and exploring other ASEAN priority areas of cooperation, including maritime cooperation, connectivity, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and economic and other possible areas of cooperation.
8. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific involves the further strengthening and optimization of ASEAN-led mechanisms, including the East Asia Summit (EAS), the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus), the Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF) and others such as the relevant ASEAN Plus One mechanisms.
9. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific is meant to contribute to the maintenance of peace, freedom, and prosperity.

## **IV. PRINCIPLES**

10. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific is based on the principles of strengthening ASEAN Centrality, openness, transparency, inclusivity, a rules-based framework, good governance, respect for sovereignty, non-intervention, complementarity with existing cooperation frameworks, equality, mutual respect, mutual trust, mutual benefit and respect for international law, such as UN Charter, the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and

other relevant UN treaties and conventions, the ASEAN Charter and various ASEAN treaties and agreements and the EAS Principles for Mutually Beneficial Relations (2011).

11. Recognizing the continuing importance, relevance and positive contributions of the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC) to sustaining peace and stability in the region for over 40 years, ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific would be guided by the purposes and principles contained in the TAC, which, among others, encompass peaceful settlement of disputes, renunciation of the threat or use of force and promotion of rule of law, with a view to further promoting amity and cooperation among countries in the Indo-Pacific region.
12. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific will, at the same time, help to generate momentum for building strategic trust and win-win cooperation in the region, which would be further reinforced by ASEAN reaffirming those purposes and principles of the TAC and promoting their application in the conduct of relations between states in a wider Indo-Pacific region, including through an appropriate ASEAN document.

## **V. AREAS OF COOPERATION**

13. In order to realize the key elements of ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific, ASEAN will undertake cooperation in a broad range of areas, including:

### **Maritime Cooperation**

14. The existing and arising geopolitical challenges facing countries in the region also revolve around maritime issues such as unresolved maritime disputes that have the potential for open conflict. In addition, unsustainable exploitation of maritime resources and maritime pollution have also increasingly become major problems. There is a need to prevent, manage and eventually resolve these issues in a more focused, peaceful and comprehensive way.
15. Areas of maritime cooperation, in accordance with universally recognised principles of international law including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, may include the further enhancement of:
  - cooperation for peaceful settlement of disputes; promoting maritime safety and security, and freedom of navigation and overflight; addressing transnational crimes, including trafficking in persons or of illicit drugs, sea piracy, robbery and armed robbery against ships at sea; etc.
  - cooperation for sustainable management of marine resources; to continue to promote maritime connectivity; to protect livelihood of coastal communities and to support small-scale fishing communities; to develop blue economy and to promote maritime commerce, etc.
  - cooperation to address marine pollution, sea-level rise, marine debris, preservation and protection of the marine environment and biodiversity; promoting green shipping, etc.
  - technical cooperation in marine science collaboration; research and development; sharing of experience and best practices, capacity-building, managing marine hazards, marine debris, raising awareness on marine and ocean-related issues, etc.

### **Connectivity**

16. The second area of cooperation is connecting the connectivities. The existing and future connectivity initiatives in the Indo-Pacific region should complement and support the existing Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025. The ASEAN vision on Connectivity, that is to achieve a seamlessly and comprehensively connected and integrated region that will promote competitiveness, inclusiveness, and a greater sense of community, as well as the Declaration on the 6<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit on ASEAN Connectivity should guide the ASEAN outlook on connectivity in Indo-Pacific region. The increasing integration and interconnection among Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean countries require investments and efforts to build connectivity infrastructures, including physical, institutional and people-to-people linkages. Environmental and ecological impacts and considerations must be taken into account to ascertain the sustainability of such initiatives in the long term.
17. Connecting the connectivities may include:
- Exploring key priority area of cooperation to reinforce the existing MPAC 2025 and promote prosperity and development in the Indo-Pacific region;
  - Developing a regional public-private partnership (PPP) development agenda to mobilize resources for connectivity projects, including infrastructure projects in Indo-Pacific region;
  - Exploring potential synergies with sub-regional frameworks, such as, IORA, BIMSTEC, BIMP-EAGA, Mekong subregional cooperation frameworks, including ACMECS, etc.;
  - Working towards the establishment of a Seamless ASEAN Sky, with ASEAN airspace as a seamless block of airspaces with harmonised and interoperable procedures and operations, to increase air traffic management capacity and efficiency while enhancing safety;
  - People-to-people connectivity, through cooperation, collaboration and exchanges between the academe and business, etc.; and
  - Addressing challenges of rapid urbanization through the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) initiative.

### **UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030**

18. The SDGs targets are in line with those of the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 as well as the wider EAS vision. This common objective of realizing SDGs under ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific will be a major contribution of the region to the global community.
19. Activities to attain the SDGs may include:
- Contributing to achieving the SDGs including through the utilization of digital economy;
  - Enhancing complementarities and aligning regional development agenda with the SDGs, such as the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development.; and
  - Promoting cooperation with the ASEAN Center for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue and other relevant institutions in the region.

20. **Economic and Other Possible Areas of Cooperation:**

- South-South Cooperation (including South - South Triangular Cooperation /SSTC)
- Trade Facilitation and Logistics Infrastructure and Services
- Digital Economy and the facilitation of cross-border data flow
- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- Science, Technology Research and Development, and Smart Infrastructure
- Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management
- Active ageing and innovation
- Deepening economic integration, ensuring financial stability and resilience, as well as strengthening and promoting trade and investment by supporting the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025 and other free trade agreements including the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)
- Cooperation on preparing for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, including by facilitating the sharing of experiences and expertise on ways to benefit from, and address challenges of, the digital revolution.
- Development of private sector, including Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, can also be further explored to enable their participation in the regional and global value chains.

**VI. MECHANISM**

21. ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific provides a guide for ASEAN's engagement in the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions.
22. The Outlook also recognizes the potential for cooperation with other regional mechanisms in the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regions on issues of common interests through innovative, inter-disciplinary and complementary approaches based on the relevant ASEAN-led mechanisms, such as the EAS.
23. Strategic discussions on this matter and practical cooperative activities can be pursued at ASEAN-led mechanisms including, among others, the EAS, the ASEAN Plus One mechanisms, ARF, and ADMM-Plus.





**Appendix 3:**  
**Co-Chairs' Summary**  
**of the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue**  
**on Enhancing Complementarities**  
**between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and**  
**the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**



**Co-Chairs' Summary**  
**of the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue on Enhancing Complementarities**  
**between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and**  
**the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

**29 March 2019, Bangkok**

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1. Thailand and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) jointly organised the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue on Enhancing Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (HLBD) on Friday 29 March 2019 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, following the success of the first and second HLBD held in Bangkok in the past two years. This Meeting aimed to review the progress made in following up the recommendations of the Complementarities Report as well as the recommendation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> HLBD in 2018 and discuss the ways forward to enhance ASEAN's efforts in promoting the complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, also known as the "Complementarities Initiative".

2. The Meeting was co-chaired by His Excellency Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, as ASEAN's Coordinator on Sustainable Development Cooperation, and Her Excellency Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP. H.E. Mr. Kung Phoak, Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, participated in the Meeting as did high-level development experts of ASEAN Member States and high-level representatives of UNDP, UN Women, UNOSSC, UNICEF and the World Bank. Representatives of China, Japan and the European Union, as ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, Switzerland and Norway, as ASEAN's Sectoral Development Partners, and Germany, as ASEAN's Development Partner, were also present as Guests of the Co-Chairs. Representatives of the Asia Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation also attended as Observers and Guests of the Host.

3. The Co-Chairs highlighted specific enabling factors to continue promoting the Complementarities Initiative and the implementation of its Flagship Initiatives including (a) putting people first (b) protecting the environment and ensuring strong climate action (c) sustaining political commitment and (d) promoting partnerships. The progress of sub-regional cooperation frameworks including ACMECS, BIMP-EAGA and IMT-GT in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was presented. It was revealed that the region has achieved good results in the areas such as poverty eradication, access to energy as well as promoting industrialisation and innovation.

At the same time, trends in areas such as inequality and climate change should be reversed for ASEAN to succeed in achieving relevant SDGs.

4. The Meeting had wide-ranging and in-depth discussions on how to concretely advance the Complementarities Initiative and reaffirmed the commitment to promoting and concretising sustainable development cooperation in ASEAN.

5. The Meeting noted with satisfaction the progress made on the Complementarities Initiative presented by ESCAP, Thailand and the ASEAN Secretariat. The Meeting also reiterated its support for the establishment of the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD) and took note of the Concept Note - Terms of Reference of the ACSDSD which was endorsed by the 33<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Summit in November 2018. The Meeting looked forward to the launch of the ACSDSD in Thailand in November this year and emphasised the ACSDSD's important role in facilitating, promoting and coordinating efforts on sustainable development in the region. Among other things, the Meeting highlighted the ACSDSD's potential to strengthen data and monitoring systems for sustainable development and to promote collaboration with universities and other centres across ASEAN to best leverage knowledge and expertise in order to ensure high quality output of the studies as well as to support implementation of the proposed Complementarities Roadmap. The Meeting also welcomed the support of the UN and other ASEAN's external partners extended to the ACSDSD, particularly in building capacity and developing concrete projects with the ACSDSD.

6. The Meeting exchanged views on the Discussion Paper: Draft Complementarities Roadmap (2020 - 2025) prepared by Thailand and ESCAP to guide future cooperation and identify concrete actions to reinforce synergies in further advancing the Complementarities Initiative in ASEAN. The Meeting gave in-principle support to the proposed outline of the draft Roadmap and reaffirmed that the key areas of cooperation in the proposed Roadmap would be based on the five priority areas of the Complementarities Report, namely poverty eradication, infrastructure and connectivity, sustainable management of natural resources, sustainable consumption and production, and resilience. Capacity-building of ASEAN's experts and relevant institutions would also be a distinct focus of the Roadmap across all priority areas. During the dialogue following the presentation of the draft, it was highlighted that the Roadmap should refrain from listing bilateral activities under the priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative but rather focus on projects that will have ASEAN-wide impact and results. The need to identify custodian agencies that would carry forward the implementation of the Flagship Initiatives and other activities under the priority areas was highlighted together with the need to establish a proper monitoring framework based on indicators that will help measure progress in the five priority areas. There were suggestions that ASEAN Member States could explore the possibility of convening a working group meeting of national planning agencies to examine the lessons in implementing the SDGs. The importance of ensuring gender responsiveness across envisaged initiatives was noted. The Meeting also welcomed the support of the UN and ASEAN's external

partners for the future implementation of the Roadmap, through cooperation with the ACSDD and other relevant ASEAN Centres. The Meeting recognised the importance of the Roadmap becoming an integral part of joint ASEAN-UN initiatives to maintain high-level political support and looked forward to the draft Roadmap being further discussed and finalised by ASEAN and the UN, and subsequently submitted to the ASEAN-UN Summit in Thailand in November 2019 for notation.

7. The Meeting appreciated comments from the high-level representatives of China, Japan, the European Union, Switzerland, Norway, Germany, UNDP, UN Women, UNOSSC, UNICEF and the World Bank. These partners updated on progress linked to the priorities under the Complementarities Report and commended the continuity in ASEAN policies across the various ASEAN Chairmanships, including the proposed Complementarities Roadmap.

8. The Meeting reaffirmed the importance of a people-centred approach and ensuring that no one is left behind in sustainable development efforts. The Meeting also stressed the importance of forging partnerships among all stakeholders and raising awareness, especially among the youth. The Meeting looked forward to continuing dialogue and discussions between relevant organisations and ASEAN, as well as to the ASEAN Secretariat's continued efforts in coordinating this matter with relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies.

9. The Meeting commended Thailand's efforts, as the ASEAN Coordinator on Sustainable Development Cooperation, to further enhance the Complementarities Initiative and strengthen ASEAN-UN partnerships in this respect. The Meeting also expressed its support for Thailand's ASEAN Chairmanship theme of "Advancing Partnership for Sustainability", which reaffirms ASEAN's commitment to reinforcing sustainable development cooperation in the region.

10. The Meeting appreciated the efforts of ESCAP in coordinating within the UN System to promote the Complementarities Initiative. The Meeting recognised the importance of potential cooperation between ASEAN, regional organisations and UN Regional Commissions, UN Development System and other international organisations in achieving sustainable development in the region.

11. The participants expressed their appreciation to the Royal Thai Government and ESCAP for hosting this High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue and looked forward to the 4<sup>th</sup> High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue next year.

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**Appendix 4:**  
**Bangkok Declaration**  
**on Combating Marine Debris in ASEAN Region**







## **BANGKOK DECLARATION ON COMBATING MARINE DEBRIS IN ASEAN REGION**

**WE**, the Heads of State/Government of Member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), namely, Brunei Darussalam, the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the Republic of the Philippines, the Republic of Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (hereinafter referred to as "ASEAN Member States") on the occasion of the 34<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in Bangkok, Thailand on 22 June 2019;

**EMPHASISING** the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, particularly the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint 2025 on Conservation and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity and Natural Resources which reaffirmed the commitment of strategic measures to "promote cooperation for the protection, restoration and sustainable use of coastal and marine environment, respond and deal with the risk of pollution and threats to marine ecosystem and coastal environment, in particular in respect of ecologically sensitive areas";

**NOTING** the common aspiration of the ASEAN Member States to implement the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and its target 14.1 which seeks, by 2025, to "prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution";

**RECOGNISING** the complementarities between ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

**RECALLING** the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, which call for actions to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, including by partnering with stakeholders at relevant levels to address their production, marketing and use of plastics and microplastics;

**NOTING** the United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 3/7 entitled "Marine litter and microplastics", particularly paragraph 7(c) for the United Nations Environment Programme to facilitate the establishment and implementation of regional and national action plans to prevent and reduce litter and microplastics in the marine environment as requested by Member States;

**AFFIRMING** the determination of the ASEAN Member States demonstrated in the East Asia Summit Leaders' Statement on Combating Marine Plastic Debris on 15 November 2018 to take concrete actions in combating marine plastic debris, in particular to strengthen regional and international cooperation by exploring the possible development of an EAS regional plan of action and guidelines, and promoting efforts to support the development of national action plan to prevent, reduce and manage marine plastic debris;

**REITERATING** our concern on the high and rapidly increasing levels of marine debris in particular marine plastic litter and the expected increase in negative effects on marine biodiversity, ecosystems, animal well-being, fisheries, maritime transport, recreation and tourism, local societies and economies, and the urgent need for strengthened knowledge of the levels and effects of microplastics and nanoplastics on marine ecosystem, food safety and human health;

**NOTING** the key findings, lessons learned and way forward from the EAS Conference on Combating Marine Plastic Debris in Bali on 6-7 September 2017, and the recommendations from the ASEAN Conference on Reducing Marine Debris in ASEAN Region in Phuket on 22-23 November 2017;

**NOTING ALSO** the discussions of the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities in Bali from 31 October to 1 November 2018;

**RECOGNISING** the importance of multi-stakeholder cooperation, knowledge sharing, technology transfer, increasing public awareness and innovation dissemination to combat marine debris;

**RECOGNISING** the need to enhance cooperation among the ASEAN Member States to protect marine environments and ensure sustainable use of marine resources;

**EXTENDING** our full support to advance partnerships between ASEAN and its partners to promote sustainability in all dimensions;

**WELCOMING** the convening of the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Marine Debris, on 5 March 2019 in Bangkok, where ASEAN Member States proposed robust solutions and a framework of action to combat marine debris in the region;

**DO HEREBY DECLARE** to combat marine debris, namely to:

**STRENGTHEN** actions at the national level as well as through collaborative actions among the ASEAN Member States and partners to prevent and significantly reduce marine debris, particularly from land-based activities, including environmentally sound management;

**ENCOURAGE** an integrated land-to-sea approach to prevent and reduce marine debris, and strengthen national laws and regulations as well as enhance regional and international cooperation including on relevant policy dialogue and information sharing;

**PROMOTE** inter-sectoral coordination between ASEAN sectoral bodies to effectively address the multi-dimensional and far-reaching negative effects as well as sources of marine debris pollution;

**ENHANCE** the multi-stakeholder coordination and cooperation to combat marine debris, including implementing joint actions and partnerships for addressing such a challenge;

**PROMOTE** private sector engagement and investment in preventing and reducing marine debris, including partnerships between public and private sector through various mechanisms and incentives;

**PROMOTE** innovative solutions to enhance plastics value chains and improve resource efficiency by prioritising approaches such as circular economy and 3R (reduce, reuse, recycle), and welcome capacity building and exchange of best practices among ASEAN Member States as well as support from external partners in this regard;

**STRENGTHEN** research capacity and application of scientific knowledge to combat marine debris, in particular, to support science-based policy and decision making;

**ACCELERATE** advocacy and actions to increase public awareness and participation, and enhance education, with the aim to change behavior toward preventing and reducing marine debris;

**WELCOME** the ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris of the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Marine Debris held on 5 March 2019 in Bangkok, and encourage the ASEAN Member States to timely implement the Framework.

**ADOPTED** in Bangkok, Thailand, in this Twenty-Second Day of June in the Two Thousand Nineteen, in a single original copy, in the English language.



**Appendix 5:**  
**ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris**





## **ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris**

Marine debris is a transboundary issue which requires integrated regional cooperation. In addition to robust national actions to address marine debris strategies for strong collaboration are particularly crucial for the ASEAN region. Without immediate action, marine debris pollution may negatively impact marine biodiversity, environment, health, society and economy.

ASEAN Member States recognise the urgent need to take action and have made notable progress in combating marine debris.

The ASEAN Framework of Action on Marine Debris was developed to act on the recommendations from the ASEAN Conference on Reducing Marine Debris in ASEAN Region in Phuket in November 2017, taking into account the East Asia Summit (EAS) Conference on Combating Marine Plastic Debris in Bali in September 2017.

The Framework of Action on Marine Debris was welcomed by the Ministers and representatives responsible for natural resources, environment and marine affairs from all ASEAN Member States at the Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Marine Debris on 5 March 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The Framework comprises four (4) priority areas namely: (i) Policy Support and Planning; (ii) Research, Innovation, and Capacity Building; (iii) Public Awareness, Education, and Outreach; and (iv) Private Sector Engagement. Each priority area consists of actions and suggested activities for further collaboration in ASEAN region and among ASEAN and its partners in combating marine debris.



Framework / Actions	Suggested Activities*
<b>Framework I: Policy Support and Planning</b>	
A. Promote regional policy dialogue on prevention and reduction of marine debris from land- and sea-based activities by highlighting the issue, sharing information and knowledge, and strengthening regional coordination.	1. Organise regular regional policy dialogue/discussion on combating marine debris issues.
B. Mainstream multi-sectoral policy measures to address marine debris in national and ASEAN's development agenda and priorities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop and implement long-term and robust strategy to combat marine debris, including having comprehensive waste management systems to prevent pollution and circular economy approaches.</li> <li>2. Develop and implement extended producer responsibility (EPR) policies and schemes including design for environment, deposit refund, and take-back for reusing and recycling.</li> <li>3. Encourage national authorities in collaboration with businesses to develop and promote product sustainability and circularity criteria to stimulate the market for sustainable products and secondary raw materials while concurrently, addressing the unsustainable use and disposal of single-use plastic products.</li> <li>4. Develop/strengthen upstream policies for land-based leakage (including single-use plastics), and sea-based leakage (e.g. ghost nets, and waste from fishing vessels, maritime transport and marine tourism).</li> <li>5. Welcome inter-sectoral initiatives and collaboration to effectively address marine debris through various relevant ASEAN-led mechanism.</li> <li>6. Encourage national and local governments to incorporate marine debris issues in their priorities.</li> </ol>
C. Encourage ASEAN Member States to implement relevant international laws and agreements related to waste management- such as MARPOL Annex V ship generated waste, Basel Convention, and UN Environment Assembly resolutions 3/7 on Marine Litter and Microplastics.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Incorporate international laws and agreements related to waste management into regional platforms.</li> <li>2. Provide support for enabling conditions to the implementation of the international laws and agreement.</li> <li>3. Conduct regular dialogue through webinar; and/or through Basel Convention Regional Centre for South-East Asia (BCRC-SEA).</li> </ol>

Framework / Actions	Suggested Activities*
D. Develop a regional action plan on combating marine debris in the ASEAN Region by applying integrated land-to-sea policy approaches.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establish a taskforce on development of ASEAN regional action plan on combating marine debris as a mean to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1. exchange information on existing national policy instruments to combat marine debris.</li> <li>1.2. develop elements for a regional action plan.</li> <li>1.3. compile the regional action plan in accordance with the national and regional context.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Review and analyse best practices of Regional Seas Programmes to combat marine debris.</li> <li>3. Conduct feasibility study/consultative meeting on development of an ASEAN agreement on management of marine debris pollution.</li> <li>4. Conduct feasibility study/consultative meeting on establishment of an ASEAN Centre on Combating Marine Debris.</li> <li>5. Contribute to EAS efforts to develop the regional plan of action on combating marine plastic debris.</li> </ol>
<b>Framework II: Research, Innovation and Capacity Building</b>	
A. Compile regional baseline on status and impacts of marine debris in the ASEAN Region.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review and analyse information and data on status and impacts of marine debris in the ASEAN region, and develop a regional base-line report.</li> <li>2. Assess information and data gaps, and identify possible approaches to bridge the gaps.</li> </ol>
B. Strengthen regional, national and local capacities to develop and implement national action plans/initiatives.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explore standardisation of methods for the measurement and monitoring of marine debris, based on existing/established protocols.</li> <li>2. Conduct capacity assessment on addressing marine debris issue where appropriate and when requested to assess the existing capacity and capacity need of the ASEAN Member States to address marine debris issues.</li> <li>3. Provide trainings on combating marine debris among ASEAN Member States as well as with support from external parties including monitoring and management of marine debris.</li> </ol>

Framework / Actions	Suggested Activities*
C. Enhance scientific knowledge, transfer marine technology and promote innovative solution to combat marine debris.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support research and sharing of scientific knowledge, technology and innovation development among ASEAN Member States, including by engaging research institutions, public and private sectors, international partners, and other relevant stakeholders.</li> <li>2. Promote cooperation and partnership across research institutions to collect and exchange data and information and develop collaboration on combating marine debris including through national and international events/meetings, exchange visits.</li> <li>3. Promote efforts to identify and replicate innovative solutions implemented by cities for combating marine debris.</li> <li>4. Enhance research/study on marine debris, including plastics and microplastics.</li> <li>5. Explore the possible development of a network for sharing marine debris data and information.</li> <li>6. Promote efforts on research and development cooperation on the development of environmentally-friendly alternatives in combating marine debris.</li> </ol>
D. Promote integration and application of scientific knowledge to enhance science-based decisions and policies on marine debris prevention and management.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote science-policy interface in order to enhance interaction between scientist and policy maker, and accessibility to scientific information.</li> <li>2. Disseminate scientific knowledge through various communication channels such as peer-review publication, conferences/meetings and mass media.</li> <li>3. Encourage participation of scientist in policy making process, when appropriate, in order to provide evidence-based inputs to the policy.</li> <li>4. Encourage scientists to incorporate multiple points of view, especially from policy maker, into study design, delivery and communication.</li> </ol>
<b>Framework III: Public Awareness, Education and Outreach</b>	
A. Promote public awareness on status and impacts of marine debris and microplastics.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop communication materials on status and impacts of marine debris by incorporating science-based information.</li> <li>2. Disseminate the information/materials to general public via advance communication platforms, mass media and public events.</li> </ol>

Framework / Actions	Suggested Activities*
B. Accelerate advocacy strategy/ programme to promote behavior change to combat marine debris, and to incorporate marine debris issue into ASEAN's Culture of Prevention Initiative.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop communication plan to promote public awareness and behavior change</li> <li>2. Adapt and apply best practices and campaigns which successfully change behavior.</li> <li>3. Share alternative solutions and practices to prevent and reduce land- and sea- based debris.</li> <li>4. Integrate scientific finding on status and impacts of marine debris in advocacy strategy/programme.</li> <li>5. Engage multi-stakeholders including youth, public and private sectors, and government agencies in advocacy programs and outreach activities on combating marine debris.</li> </ol>
C. Promote platforms for knowledge sharing, innovative solutions and best practices to combat marine debris.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organise expert exchange platforms and/or study-trip programmes.</li> <li>2. Establish ASEAN information platform to exchange information and share innovative solution and best practices.</li> </ol>
<b>Framework IV: Private Sector Engagement</b>	
A. Promote collaborative actions with private sector and industry associations to implement measures to address marine debris issues.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support private sectors to implement measures to address marine debris issues.</li> </ol>
B. Encourage private sector investment in and contribution to combat marine debris.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Engage private sector in campaigns such as programme and campaign on circular economy, product life-cycle management, sustainable consumption and production and "3R" approaches.</li> <li>2. Mainstream private sectors support to develop research and innovation such as through project funding, and prioritise CSR activities on combating marine debris.</li> <li>3. Promote private sector investment in redesigning products/packaging and alternative materials.</li> <li>4. Engage value chain stakeholders to establish enabling mechanisms /infrastructure to increase waste recovery and recycling rates.</li> </ol>

*\*These are a listing of potential activities by ASEAN and its partners for further discussion under the proposed Action Plan (Framework I, Action D).*



## **Appendix 6:**

### **Chiang Mai Statement of ASEAN Ministers Responsible for CITES and Wildlife Enforcement on Illegal Wildlife Trade**





## **THE SPECIAL ASEAN MINISTERIAL MEETING ON ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE**

**21–22 March 2019, Chiang Mai, Thailand**

### **CHIANG MAI STATEMENT OF ASEAN MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR CITES AND WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT ON ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE**

1. We, the ASEAN Ministers responsible for CITES and Wildlife Enforcement, held our Special ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Illegal Wildlife Trade on 21-22 March 2019 in Chiang Mai, Thailand, under the chairmanship of H.E. General Surasak Karnjanarat, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Kingdom of Thailand.
2. We recognize the Southeast Asia as a sub-region with the one of the global mega-biodiversity that is home to many iconic species that need to be preserved for our future generation and essential to the sustainable livelihood of local communities.
3. We note with concern that illegal trade in wildlife remains an ever-present ASEAN issue, which contributes to the continuously dramatic decrease in populations of wild animals and plants species, such as elephants, tigers, rhinos, pangolins, and rosewood.
4. We recognize that demands for illegal live specimens, parts and products of wildlife is one of the main contributor to the decreasing wildlife population in conjunction with other pressures such as increasing human populations, habitat loss, land-use change, wildlife overexploitation, invasive alien species, climate change, pollution and urbanization.
5. We acknowledge that unsustainable use and illegal trade of wildlife are among the greatest challenges of ASEAN as the economic, social and environmental repercussions are severe and widespread in scale. They hampers opportunities for economic growth and take resources away from government revenues that could be utilized in other areas that would benefit the regional communities.
6. We will step up our efforts to take continuous and concrete steps to strengthen cooperation in addressing the illegal wildlife trade in ASEAN. Toward this goal, extensive collaboration with international organisations, private sector, academia and civil society is crucial to ensure the effectiveness of our efforts in combating wildlife trafficking.
7. We emphasize the importance of developing cooperation at all levels to eradicate wildlife poaching and trafficking. In this regard, we approach our cooperation



strategically, and constantly aim to move our cooperation forward firmly in the following key aspects: global and regional wildlife trade policy, demand reduction, law enforcement, and wildlife cybercrime.

### ***Global and Regional Wildlife Trade Policy***

8. We reaffirm our commitment to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Goal.15 Targets 15.7, and to quote *“Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products”*. We likewise reaffirm our commitment in 15.c of the said agenda and to quote *“Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities”*.
9. We recognize the important role of international agreements, in particular the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) that stand at the intersection between conservation and sustainable use of wild animals and plants.
10. We are committed to ensure the successful implementation of the Plan of Action for ASEAN Cooperation on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement, 2016-2020. We also noted the progress of SOMTC Working Group on Illegal Timber and Wildlife Trafficking towards better coordination of wildlife crime information sharing and investigation.

### ***Demand Reduction***

11. We acknowledged the collaborative efforts to reduce demand for illegal wildlife products being given importance among ASEAN Member States and the increase in scale of existing events such as World Wildlife Day.
12. We look forward to enhance our communication, education and public awareness program to promote greater awareness and legal literacy among local communities whose livelihoods are dependent on the goods and services provided by wildlife.
13. We acknowledge that domestic wildlife markets need to be regulated and enforced thoroughly to prevent over exploitation and ensure the sustainable population of endangered species.
14. We recognize the importance and needs for research to understand market drivers and specific species and/or products, which are undertaking that would require for greater investment in tools, data analysis and funding.

### ***Law Enforcement***

15. We reaffirm our commitment to strengthen regional actions to tackle the illicit financial flow associated with illegal wildlife trade in accordance with domestic law and international agreement to combat corruption and money-laundering activities
16. We will enhance related domestic legislations to give deterrence effect to wildlife offences and strengthen our enforcement efforts in fighting against these transnational organized crimes.

17. We are committed to combat illegal wildlife trade in the region by ensuring continued efforts and perseverance through the region's knowledge sharing, cross-border coordination, regulations and enforcement network.
18. We recognize the importance of continuous capacity building for better wildlife management and enforcement. In this regard, we welcome collaboration with other partners to strengthen our efforts in tackling the illegal wildlife trade such as establishing enforcement coordination mechanisms, closing domestic wildlife markets where they contribute to poaching and the illegal trade, providing equipment and training and joint international enforcement operations.
19. We welcome the development of the ASEAN Guidelines for Detecting and Preventing Wildlife Trafficking, including ASEAN wildlife crime database to develop effective regional mechanisms on detecting and preventing wildlife trafficking and enhance collaboration among relevant enforcement officers in dealing with wildlife enforcement issues.

### ***Wildlife Cybercrime***

20. We acknowledge the contribution by governments in fighting against wildlife cybercrime by allocating enforcement resources to identify and prosecute wildlife cybercriminals, and for online marketplaces and social media platforms to join the Global Coalition to End Wildlife Trafficking Online and ensure wildlife traffickers do not utilize their sites.
  21. We welcome the increased recognition of wildlife cybercrime through CITES with the adoption of a strong Resolution and Decision on wildlife cybercrime alongside the creation of an International Wildlife Cybercrime Working Group, and encourage ASEAN Member States to create or enhance national level specialized task force to monitor the online illegal wildlife trade.
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**Appendix 7:**  
**Presentation on the Outline**  
**of the Draft Complementarities Roadmap (2020-2025)**



## **Outline of the Working Paper: Draft Complementarities Roadmap (2020-2025)**

- A. Background and Rationale**
- B. Objectives of the Roadmap**
- C. Key areas of cooperation, possible action lines and deliverables**
- D. Implementation**

### **Key areas of cooperation**



**1. Poverty eradication**



**2. Infrastructure and connectivity**



**3. Sustainable management of natural resources**



**4. Sustainable consumption and production**



**5. Resilience**



**6. Capacity-building**



## **Elements of each key area of cooperation**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Suggested Flagship Initiative**
- 3. Actions to support the Flagship and Priority Area**
- 4. Potential Deliverables**

**Appendix 8:**

**Concept Note – Terms of Reference  
for the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development  
Studies and Dialogue**





## **Concept Note – Terms of Reference for the ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue**

### **1. Background and Rationale**

In 2015, ASEAN Leaders adopted the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 with the aim of building a people-centred ASEAN Community that leaves no one behind and uplifts the standards of living of ASEAN peoples. Also in the same year, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 70/1 “*Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*” that sets 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 associated targets to the pursuit of global development and of “win-win” cooperation.

Since then, recognising the potential to achieve the goals of enhancing regional integration while helping ASEAN Member States attaining SDGs at the same time, ASEAN has been promoting complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, otherwise known as the “Complementarities Initiative.” To this end, ASEAN mandated Thailand to serve as the ASEAN Coordinator on this issue since 2016. The essence of the Complementarities Initiative is to develop key regional catalysts that cut across the various SDGs and enable the region as a whole to advance towards the twin goals of implementing the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It envisages a cross-cutting approach, recognising that sustainable development cuts across all three pillars of the ASEAN Community.

As part of this endeavour, Thailand and UNESCAP organised the High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue on Enhancing Complementarities between the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (HLBD) in Bangkok in 2017 and 2018. As one of the outcomes of the first HLBD, Thailand, UNESCAP and the ASEAN Secretariat undertook the Complementarities Report<sup>1</sup> to develop strategies and policy recommendations that will help leverage the Complementarities Initiative. The Report identifies five priority areas of regional cross-cutting development catalysts namely (1) Poverty Eradication (2) Infrastructure and Connectivity (3) Sustainable Consumption and Production (4) Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and (5) Resilience.

Promotion of cooperation in these priority areas will help achieve both the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Report was submitted to the 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN-UN Summit in Manila in 2017 for notation and was subsequently launched at the 2<sup>nd</sup> HLBD on

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.mfa.go.th/asean/contents/files/asean-media-center-20180213-164208-619213.pdf>

30 March 2018 in Bangkok. It also recommends seven flagship projects,<sup>2</sup> including the establishment of an **ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue**.

Most recently, the ASEAN Leaders' Vision for a Resilient and Innovative ASEAN adopted at the 32<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Summit in Singapore on 27 April 2018 reiterated that one of ASEAN's key principles is that "ASEAN shall become a sustainable community that promotes economic and social development alongside environmental protection through effective mechanisms to meet the current and future challenges of its people, while leaving no one behind" and "reaffirms its commitment towards the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as its related goals and targets, as well as the Paris Agreement."

## 2. Objectives

While there are already a number of programmes and institutions that deal with promoting sustainable development in ASEAN Member States, what is still lacking is support facilities that would focus on promoting sustainable development cooperation at the regional level for ASEAN as a whole. Such regional support facilities would aim to help facilitate, promote and coordinate ASEAN efforts on sustainable development cooperation, cutting across all three pillars. Such efforts would be anchored on the "Complementarities Initiative" that seeks to find synergies between ASEAN Community-building and the attainment of the SDGs. They would focus on reinforcing regional catalysts that enable States to better achieve multiple SDGs simultaneously. They would advance cooperation through specific sustainable development projects with external parties of ASEAN including, for example, the ASEAN-EU dialogue on sustainable development.

The ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue is envisaged for this purpose. Such a Centre would act as a regional catalyst to (1) promote research on specific issues on sustainable development of mutual interest and (2) support dialogue within ASEAN, and between ASEAN and external parties on sustainable development cooperation. The Centre would seek to promote sustainable development cooperation using a cross-cutting approach and complement the work of existing centres within ASEAN that deal with sustainable development, and develop networks of cooperation amongst these centres.

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<sup>2</sup> (1) Improving Nutrition and Reducing Stunting in ASEAN (2) ASEAN Council for Sustainable Infrastructure (3) ASEAN Resources Panel (4) Greening Small and Medium Enterprises in ASEAN (5) ASEAN Risk Transfer Mechanism (6) **ASEAN Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue** and (7) ASEAN Programme for Knowledge and Outreach on Complementarities

### **3. Scope of Work, Role and Functions**

#### **(A) Sustainable development studies**

3.1. To promote and support research on sustainable development, particularly those that promote cooperation at the ASEAN or regional level.

3.2. To enhance capacity-building of practitioners and institutions on sustainable development issues such as, *inter alia*, on data collection and development of indicators for SDGs monitoring and implementation, through training and workshops.

3.3. To promote awareness of sustainable development in ASEAN.

#### **(B) Dialogue on sustainable development**

3.4. To facilitate consultations and dialogue among stakeholders through the annual High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue (HLBD) and other appropriate frameworks. The Centre will serve as the secretariat of the HLBD.

3.5. To strengthen and promote dialogue among relevant institutions including academic institutions involved in sustainable development work.

3.6. To initiate and facilitate ASEAN Member States in implementing concrete projects especially in the five priority areas of the Complementarities Initiative.

3.7. To develop networks of cooperation with other centres in the region that deal with sustainable development cooperation such as, *inter alia*, the ASEAN Institute for Green Economy (AIGE) in Myanmar, and Sustainable Development Solutions Network in Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

3.8. To enhance cooperation between ASEAN and external partners such as, *inter alia*, the United Nations including UNESCAP and UNDP and other related agencies, the World Bank and other international financial institutions, the EU, Germany as ASEAN's Development Partner and other partners.

### **4. Potential areas of work**

The work on sustainable development cooperation of the Centre will focus on, but not necessarily be limited to, the following areas:

4.1. the five priority areas of regional development catalysts of the Complementarities Initiative, as identified in the Complementarities Report;

4.2. other related areas that can promote sustainable development in ASEAN, such as climate change, disaster risk reduction, marine pollution, marine economy, sustainable urbanization, and malnutrition and stunting, and support for the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) initiative, as agreed to by ASEAN and between ASEAN and its external partners.

The approach will emphasise development and implementation of concrete projects with clear timelines that will generate concrete results in the area of

sustainable development cooperation that will benefit primarily the peoples of ASEAN. The ultimate objective is to enable ASEAN to simultaneously meet the twin goals of promoting a people-centred ASEAN Community that leaves no one behind and the attainment of the SDGs.

## **5. Budget and Organisational Setup**

**5.1. Budget** The Centre will operate within the existing Center for Research on Sustainable Leadership, College of Management of Mahidol University (CMMU) in Bangkok, Thailand. The costs for the establishment, launching and operation of the Centre will be borne by the Royal Thai Government. Specific projects on sustainable development cooperation to be pursued by the Centre will be financed by contributions, on a case-by-case and on a voluntary basis by Thailand, interested ASEAN Member States and interested external partners. To date, external partners such as the UN and related agencies, the World Bank, the EU, Germany, Norway and Switzerland have indicated interest to participate in specific projects to be agreed to by ASEAN and the relevant external partner. There will be no mandatory financial contributions from ASEAN Member States.

**5.2. Executive Director** Thailand will appoint an Executive Director of the Centre, in close consultations with ASEAN Member States, to be responsible for management and work of the Centre under the guidance from a Governing Council.

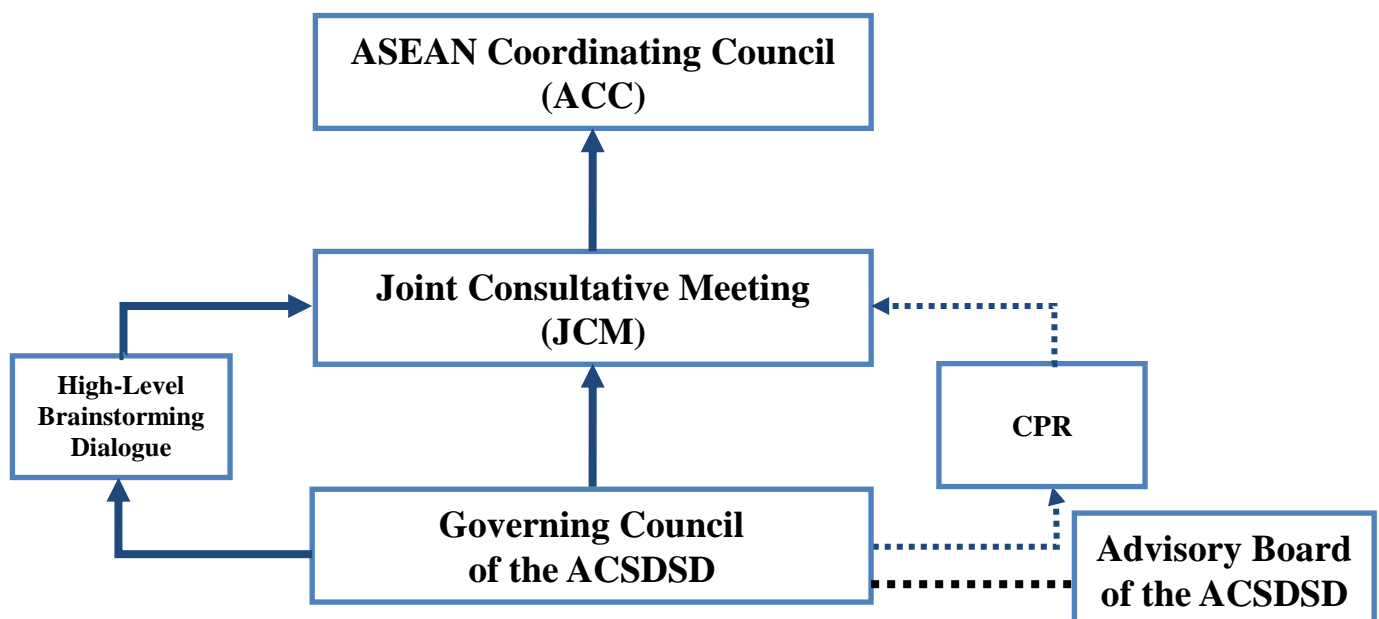
**5.3. A Governing Council** will be the policy guidance body of the Centre, comprising (1) Ambassadors of ASEAN Member States to Thailand, in their capacity as Permanent or Alternate Representatives of ASEAN Member States to UNESCAP, or a designated senior representative from each ASEAN Member State and (2) a representative from the ASEAN Secretariat. The Council is envisaged to meet twice a year, with one meeting probably back-to-back with the annual High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue in Bangkok, or as required, to review policy and to ensure that projects/activities under the Centre are appropriate and in accordance with ASEAN principles, processes and priorities. Decision-making of the Governing Council will be by consensus. The Governing Council will develop its own rules of procedure.

The work of the Centre will be supported by the ASEAN Secretariat, especially the Sustainable Development Directorate and the ASCC Monitoring and Analysis Directorate, under ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department (ASCC Department), who will coordinate with relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies across all three pillars of the ASEAN Community and other departments of the ASEAN Secretariat on the implementation of projects/activities of the Centre. The ASEAN Secretariat will also provide the Centre with relevant information and statistics, when so required.

**5.4. An Advisory Board** will play an advisory role for the Centre. It would comprise representatives of ASEAN Member States, and relevant ASEAN's

external partners, such as UNESCAP, UNDP Regional Office in Bangkok and other UN agencies, the World Bank, ASEAN Dialogue Partners, Sectoral Dialogue Partners and Development Partners. The Advisory Board is envisaged to meet once a year to provide support to the Governing Council. The Advisory Board will develop its own rules of procedure.

**5.5. Reporting Mechanism** Due to the cross-sectoral nature of sustainable development issues, the Centre will report its work and progress including the outcome of the annual High-Level Brainstorming Dialogue to the Joint Consultative Meeting (JCM) as the primary reporting mechanism, through Thailand as the ASEAN Coordinator on Sustainable Development Cooperation. The JCM will then report to the ASEAN Coordinating Council. The CPR will be notified of progress in the implementation of the Complementarities Initiative and of the work of the Centre. The flow chart of the envisaged reporting mechanism is as follows:



\* \* \* \* \*

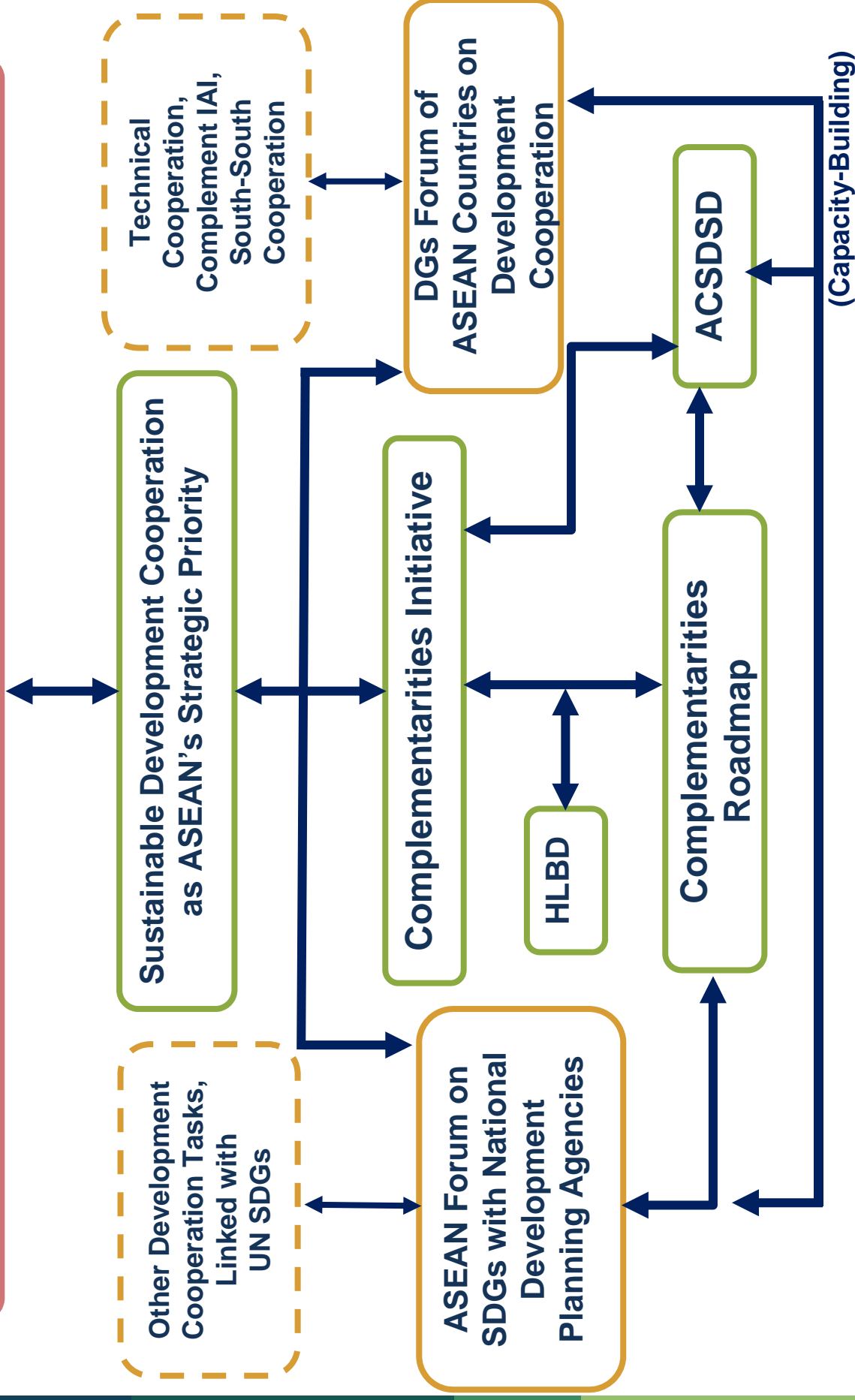


**Appendix 9:**  
**“Mind Map” on How to  
Synergise ASEAN Platforms on SDGs**





# Advancing Partnership for Sustainability (ASEAN Leaders' Vision Statement on Partnership for Sustainability)







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