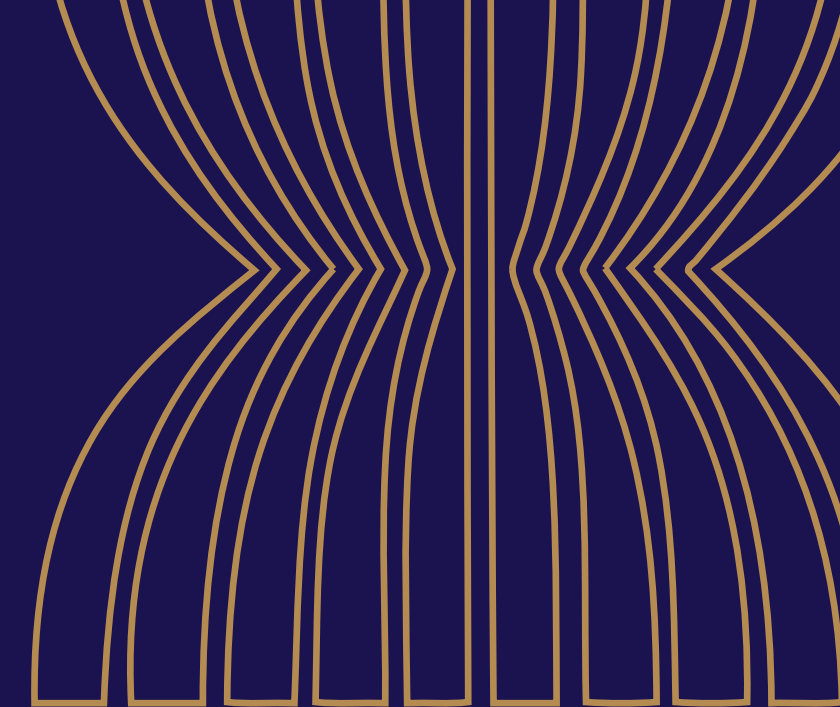


ASEAN-KOREA
COOPERATION FUND **2023**
ANNUAL REPORT



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ASEAN-KOREA
COOPERATION FUND **2023**
ANNUAL REPORT

AKCF ANNUAL REPORT 2023

AKCF
ASEAN-KOREA
COOPERATION
FUND



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Foreword



H.E. Lee Jang-keun

Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to ASEAN

I am delighted to celebrate with you the publication of AKCF's 2023 Annual Report which is the second of its kind encapsulating the current status of the fund's operation.

AKCF, ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund, has grown in tandem with the development of Korea and ASEAN partnership since its establishment in 1990. Starting with a symbolic annual amount of USD1 million, the annual contribution of the Korean government to the fund has grown to USD20 million in 2023. The AKCF is currently running 27 projects across the three pillars of ASEAN community building. The purpose of AKCF is to support ASEAN's efforts to realize its community vision and advance the partnership between ASEAN and Korea, and today the AKCF has become an indispensable core component of the ASEAN-Korea partnership.

Announcing the Korea-ASEAN Solidarity Initiative, so-called KASI, at the ASEAN-Korea Summit in Cambodia in 2022, President Yoon Suk Yeol pledged to double the existing ASEAN-Korea cooperation related funds, including the AKCF, to USD48 million by 2027. Backing our words by actions, Korea has already increased our annual contribution to AKCF from USD16 million in 2022 to USD20 million in 2023, and it is expected to reach USD28 million in 2024. The growth of the AKCF is not an isolated case, but part of a bigger picture that represents the importance of ASEAN in the ROK's in 2022 global strategy.

As the size of the fund has significantly increased, the effective and efficient management of the fund has also become increasingly important. Against this backdrop, the fund management team, AKPMT, opened in the ASEAN Secretariat in 2020. Taking this opportunity, I would like to commend the staff of the AKPMT for their devotion and contribution to deepening and strengthening the ASEAN-Korea partnership through the AKCF. This Annual Report provides a snapshot of their hard work.

This year, 2024, also marks the 35th anniversary of ASEAN-Korea Dialogue Partnership. On this auspicious occasion, Korea and ASEAN agreed to establish a CSP, Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, through which we will recommit ourselves to take our partnership to a new height. I am sure that the AKCF will continue to play a key role in this new chapter of ASEAN-Korea relations, and serve as an exemplary case for other Dialogue Partners to look to.

I am sure that this annual report will also help the readers and all stakeholders of the ASEAN-Korea partnership to understand the structure, the process and the current status of the AKCF as well as the width and depth of ASEAN-Korea ties.

Foreword



H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn

Secretary-General of ASEAN

It is a great pleasure for me to present the Annual Report of the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund (AKCF) for 2023. This report highlights a year of significant achievements and impactful initiatives, underscoring our joint commitment to strengthening ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Dialogue Relations and contributing to the ASEAN Community-building efforts. The report also encapsulates the ongoing activities, and future aspirations of a comprehensive strategic partnership that is substantive, meaningful and mutually beneficial.

Since its establishment in 1990, the AKCF has been a vital catalyst in propelling a wide spectrum of programmes and projects designed to meet the dynamic needs of ASEAN. I am pleased to note that, as of 2023, the AKCF has supported 456 projects valued at USD174 million, which span across various sectors. Throughout 2023, the AKCF has made remarkable progress in several critical areas. The educational programmes, such as Higher Education for ASEAN Talents and ASEAN-ROK Technical and Vocational Education and Training for ASEAN Mobility, have continued to empower young individuals, and have equipped them with the essential skills and knowledge to succeed in an interconnected world.

Cultural exchanges and people-to-people connections have continued to thrive under the AKCF's support. Activities carried out under the ASEAN-Korea Music Festival (AKMF), ASEAN-ROK Film Community Programme, among others, have promoted our diverse cultures, fostered mutual understanding and strengthened the close ties between the people of ASEAN and the ROK. Additionally, environmental conservation and economic resilience remain a cornerstone of ASEAN-ROK cooperation. Numerous projects on combating climate change and promoting sustainable practices as well as assisting ASEAN on digital transformation have helped promote sustainable development in the region.

Reflecting on the achievements of 2023, it is evident that the AKCF embodies the spirit of the ASEAN-ROK enduring partnership. In this regard, I extend my deepest appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea for its unwavering support to the ASEAN Community-building efforts and integration, particularly its commitment to doubling the ROK's contribution to the AKCF to USD32 million by 2027 as part of the Korea-ASEAN Solidarity Initiative (KASI). I also wish to commend the efforts made by all stakeholders in contributing to the success of the AKCF.

Let us continue to work together to further advance ASEAN-ROK cooperation, particularly toward the establishment of an ASEAN-ROK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP), in conjunction with the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations this year in order to create a brighter, more sustainable, and more inclusive future for our region.

Introduction

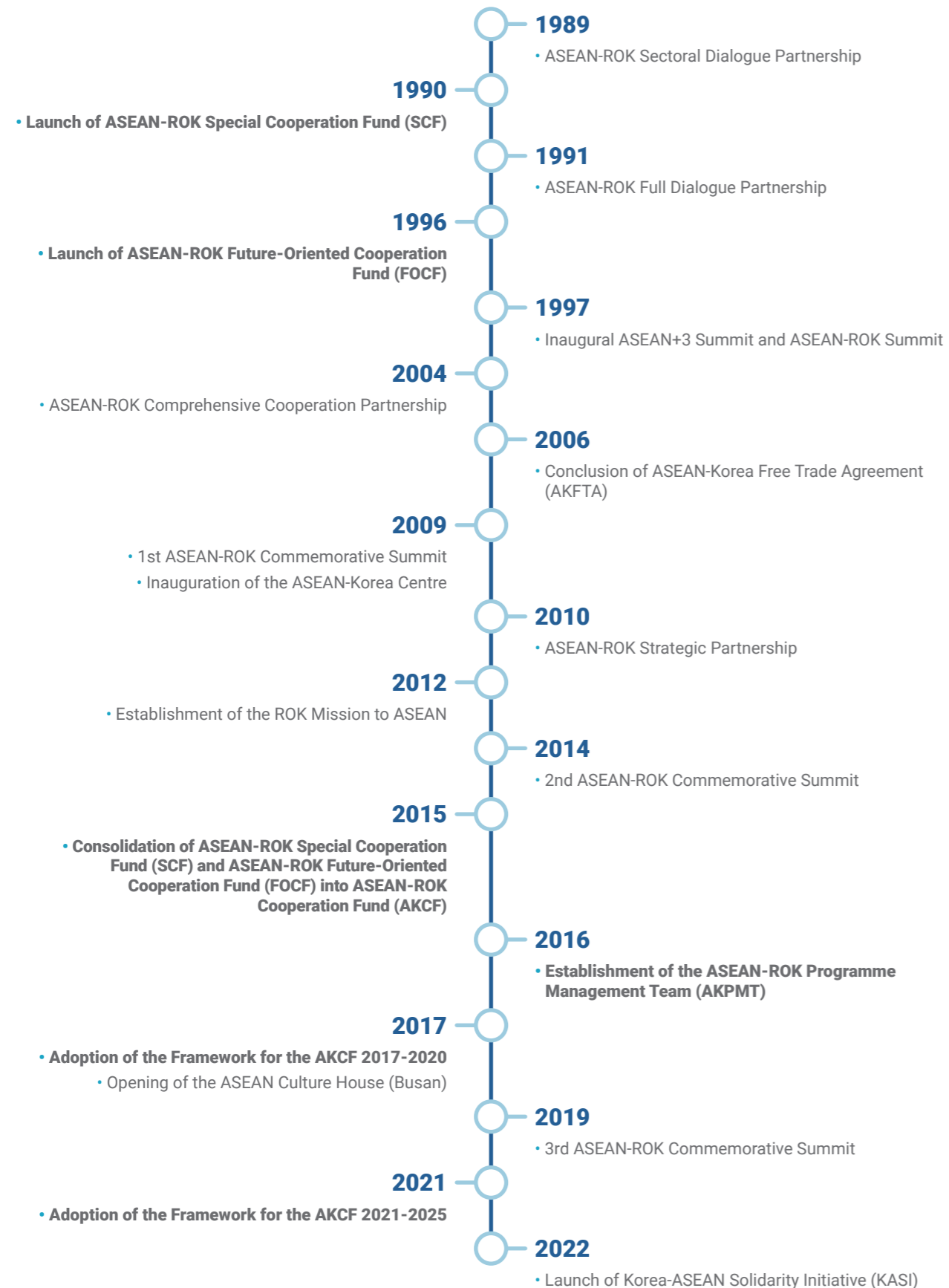
The AKCF Annual Report 2023 aims to showcase the main achievements of the AKCF-supported projects from 1 January to 31 December 2023.

The report comprises three chapters. Chapter 1 introduces general information on the AKCF. Chapter 2 highlights the main activities of AKCF-supported ongoing projects. Chapter 3 conveys our thanks to the AKCF partners.

Chapter 1

About ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund (AKCF)

Milestones of ASEAN-ROK Partnership



ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund

The ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund (AKCF) has been a pivotal cornerstone in fostering regional cooperation and solidarity between ASEAN and the Republic of Korea since its establishment in 1990.

Commemorating the milestones of ASEAN-ROK relations over the past 34 years, the ROK government has continued to increase its contribution from USD1 million in 1990 to USD20 million in 2023.

Furthermore, upon the announcement of KASI (Korea-ASEAN Solidarity Initiative) in 2022, President Yoon Suk Yeol pledged to further increase the annual volume of the AKCF to USD32 million by 2027 as a part of eight core lines of effort under KASI; increase ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Resources.*

* Contribution of USD200 million to three ASEAN-related cooperation funds (2022-2027)



* Expand ODA in the ASEAN region

Since its establishment, the AKCF has supported more than 456 projects with USD174 million in the priority areas mutually agreed upon by ASEAN and ROK in response to emerging challenges and opportunities at the regional and global levels.

In this regard, the AKCF has embodied the collective commitment of both ASEAN and ROK to cultivate a cooperative partnership across diverse sectors, encompassing education and training, culture and tourism, public health, economic resilience, and environment, safety and peace, thereby contributing to realizing the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.

By nurturing collaboration in these sectors and implementing the projects together, the AKCF continues to serve as a vital instrument to fortify the partnerships between ASEAN and ROK while yielding sustainable impacts that resonate in the region.

Framework for the AKCF 2021-2025

The strategic direction of AKCF is guided by the Framework for the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund 2021-2025. The Framework clarifies that AKCF should be utilized to advance the strategic partnership between ASEAN and ROK, and stands by the objectives laid out in 'ASEAN-ROK Joint Vision Statement for Peace, Prosperity and Partnership,' 'ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action 2021-2025', 'ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework' (ACRF) and the ROK's 'Korea-ASEAN Solidarity Initiative (KASI)'.

Eligibility of Proponents and Implementing Agencies



ASEAN

Ministries, Government-affiliated Organizations, Non-profit Organizations and Universities, Public Associations and Foundation, ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Intergovernmental Organizations



ROK

Ministries, Government-affiliated Organizations, Non-profit Organizations and Universities, Public Associations and Foundation



International Organization

Subject to prior endorsement by ASEAN Member States and ROK

***Individuals of for-profit organizations are not eligible to be proponents or implementing agencies of AKCF programmes.**

Eligibility of Programmes/Projects for Application

Contribute to enhancing the strategic partnership and mutually beneficial cooperation between ASEAN and ROK

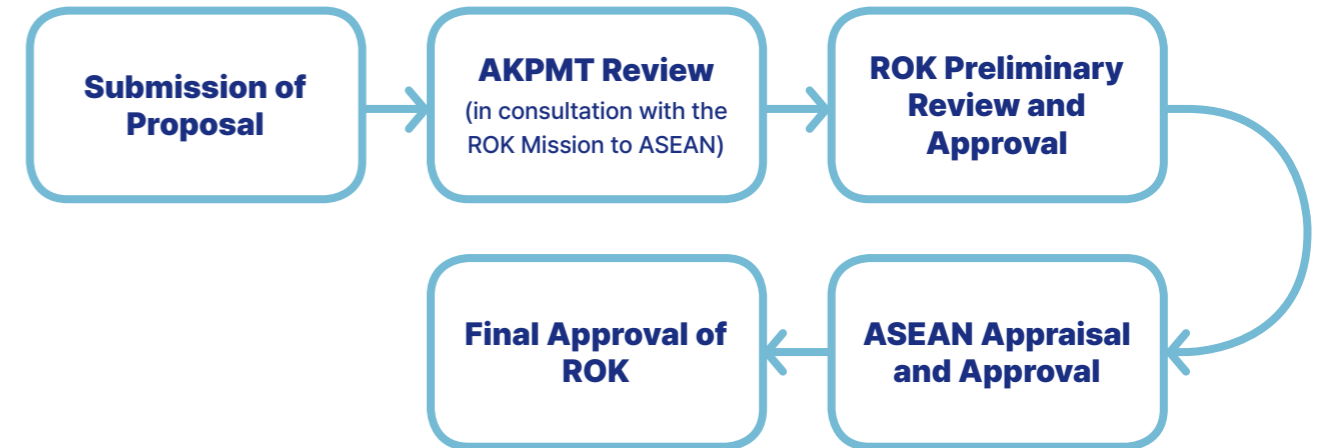
Align with the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, a roadmap that comprises blueprints for the three ASEAN Community Pillars - the ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC), the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), and the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) - and includes the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan IV and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025

Be in line with the cooperation areas of the ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific (AOIP)

Be in accordance with the ASEAN-ROK Cooperation Fund Framework (2021-2025), ASEAN-ROK Joint Vision Statement for Peace, Prosperity and Partnership, ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action 2021-2025, and the ROK's KASI (Korea-ASEAN Solidarity Initiative)

Engage all ASEAN Member States (AMS) and ROK except the programmes under the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)

Proposal Review and Approval Process

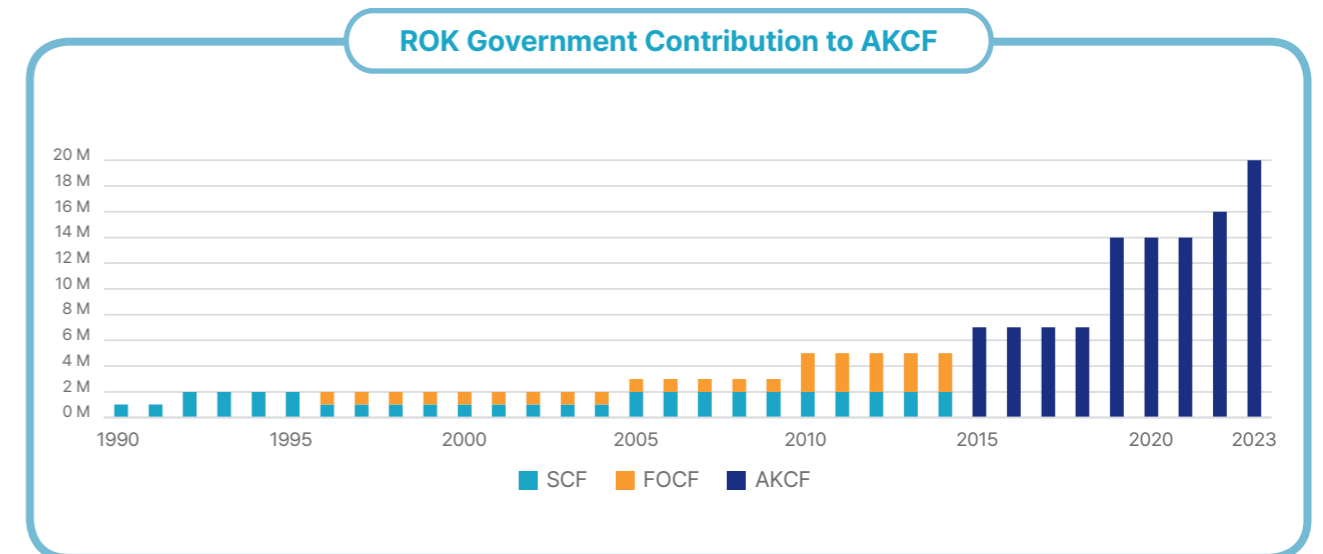


Project Development, Implementation and Reporting

AKCF-supported projects should be developed and implemented per the AKCF Manual and ASEAN Cooperation Projects Design and Management Manual.

In addition to that, the whole cycle of an ASEAN cooperation project should follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Project Appraisal and Approval, the ASEAN Secretariat Financial and Administrative Rules and Procedures (AFARP), ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure on Project Financial Disbursement and Reporting (SOP PFDR) and the Guidelines on Closing ASEAN Cooperation Projects.

Contribution from the Government of the Republic of Korea to AKCF



Following the establishment of sectoral dialogue partnership between ASEAN and the ROK in 1989, the ROK government launched the ASEAN-ROK Special Cooperation Fund (SCF) in 1990 to enhance people-to-people exchange.

In 1996, the ASEAN-ROK Future-Oriented Cooperation Fund (FOCF) was further launched to implement cooperation projects in the fields of human resource development, science & technology, governance and cultures outlined in the ASEAN-ROK Plan of Action to promote people-to-people exchange.

In order to effectively manage the cooperation project, SCF and FOCF were merged into the AKCF in 2015 with an annual contribution of USD7 million.

Commemorating the 30th anniversary of the ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Partnership, the ROK government doubled its contribution to AKCF from USD7 million to USD14 million to support more joint programmes.

In 2023, the annual contribution amounted to USD20 million. Furthermore, in line with one of the core lines under KASI, the ROK government pledged to increase the annual volume of the AKCF to USD32 million by 2027 to support meaningful, substantive and mutually beneficial cooperation between ASEAN and ROK.

Financial Trend of AKCF Projects 2019-2023

The table below indicates the financial trends of AKCF's approved projects for the past five years from 2019 until 2023.

Year	Number of Approved Project	Total Amount (in USD)
2019	6	12,586,817.28
2020	7	25,006,046.56
2021	2	3,022,796.00
2022	5	17,449,363.20
2023	7	40,189,528.84

The number of approved projects varies by year. Although the number of approved projects and the total amount of approved projects plunged in 2021 due to some impacts caused by COVID-19, they turned upward in 2022 and 2023. In 2023, the total amount of approved projects skyrocketed by 43% compared to 2022, reaching USD40,189,528.84.

AKCF-supported Projects' Financial Verification and Audit

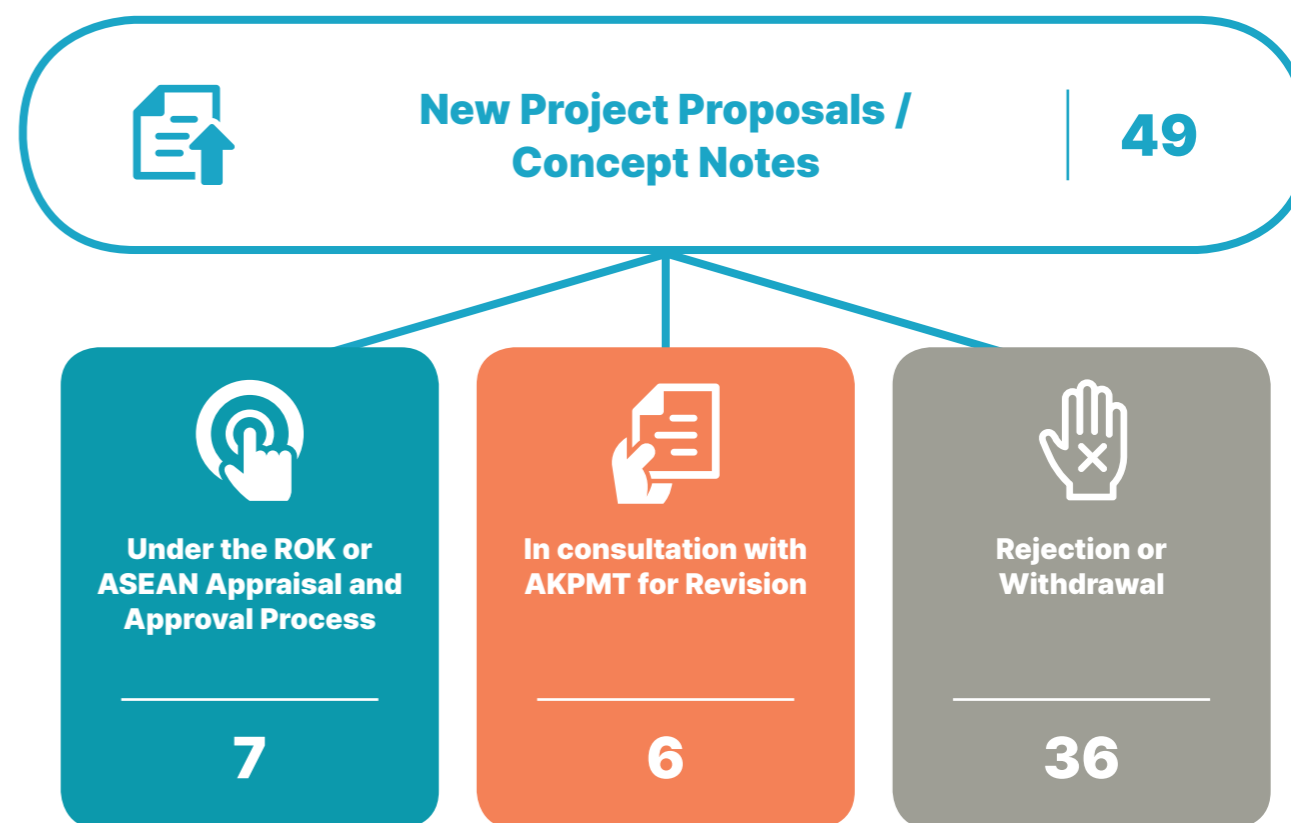
The utilization, management, and execution of the AKCF-supported projects should be in accordance with the existing ASEAN project guidelines and procedures, including the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Project Appraisal and Approval, the ASEAN Secretariat Financial and Administrative Rules and Procedures (AFARP), ASEAN Standard Operating Procedure on Project Financial Disbursement and Reporting (SOP PFDR), and the Guidelines on Closing ASEAN Cooperation Projects.

In this regard, all AKCF-supported projects are requested to submit an annual financial report and supporting documents to prove all expenditures in line with the approved budget to ensure transparency and accountability of the AKCF.

AKPMT Financial Officer reviews the financial report and supporting documents to ensure adherence to the ASEAN Secretariat's financial reporting requirements. Following the AKPMT Finance Officer's review and clearance, the Finance and Budget Division of ASEAN Secretariat further reviews and verifies each project's annual expenditure.

Furthermore, the ASEAN Secretariat is audited on an annual basis by the PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) to ensure the highest standards of accuracy and compliance.

Status of Newly Submitted Project Proposals in 2023





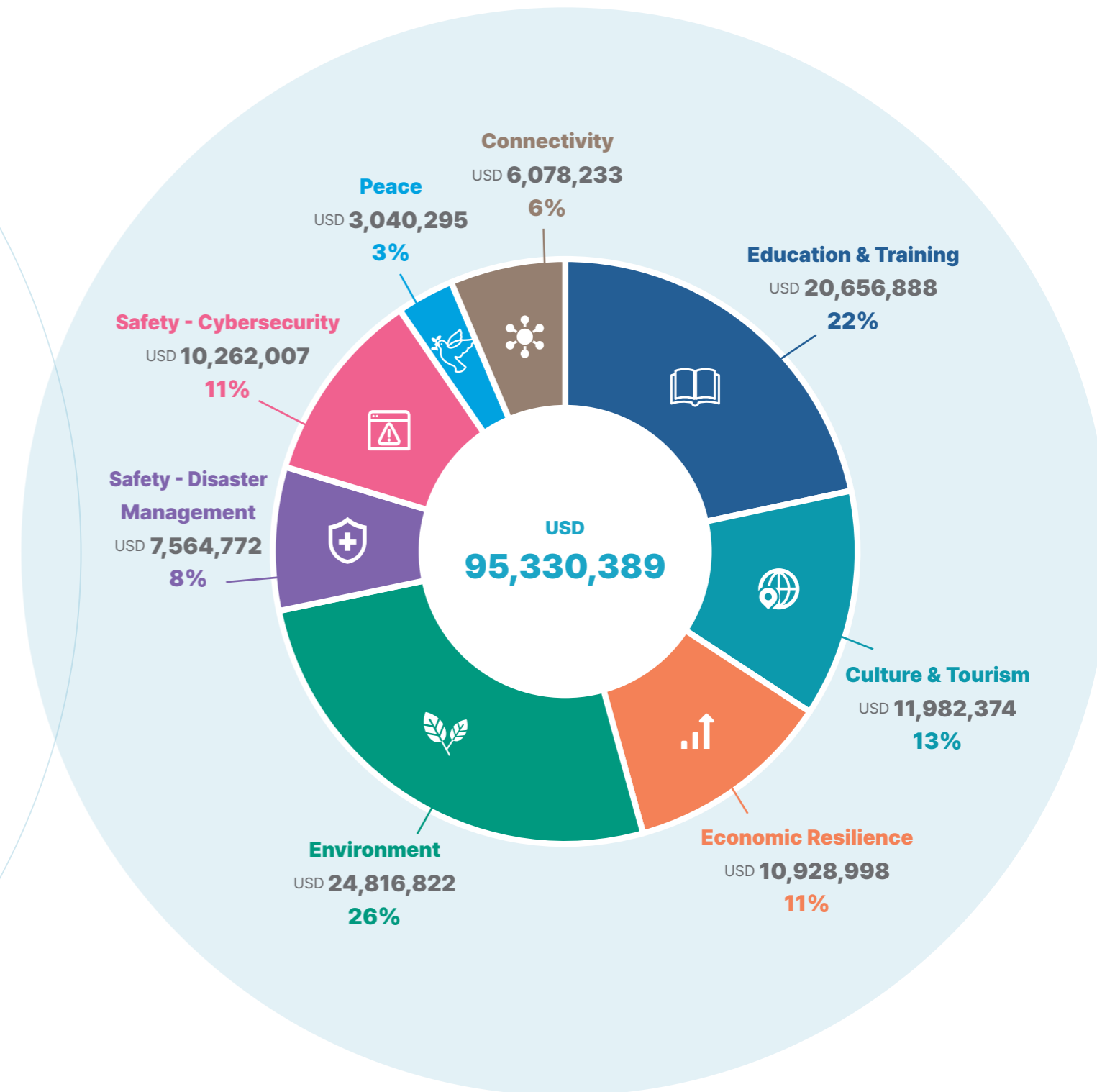
Chapter 2

AKCF Projects in 2023

AKCF Ongoing Projects in 2023 across the Priority Sectors



Total Amount of Ongoing Projects in 2023





EDUCATION AND TRAINING

VOICE ON THE GROUND



Ms. Afifah Dwi Anggita

Indonesia

Trained for Network Management Course in Micronet International College, Brunei Darussalam

“The TEAM (ASEAN-ROK Technical and Vocational Education and Training for ASEAN Mobility) project was my ticket to a promising and successful career ... it ignited my motivation to seek out more opportunities like the ASEAN-ROK Mobility Programme and drove me to proactively explore personal and professional growth avenues. Overall, these positive changes have been transformative, equipping me with the confidence, motivation, growth, mindset, and productive habits necessary for a successful and fulfilling future.”



Mr. Lawrence M. Ramos

Philippines

Trained for Sequence Control Course in Preah Kossamak Polytechnic Institute, Cambodia

“As a TVET trainer, TEAM (ASEAN-ROK Technical and Vocational Education and Training for ASEAN Mobility) Project is an essential training program for us to create opportunities for our professional growth, collaborative efforts, and discipline to be imparted to our constituents and clients particularly in the Philippines, to achieve a common goal, which is to accelerate economic growth, social progress, cultural development and provide world-class and high-quality technical education and to promote regional peace and stability in the ASEAN region.”

5 Projects

ASEAN-ROK Technical and Vocational Education and Training for ASEAN Mobility (TEAM)

Higher Education for ASEAN Talents (HEAT)

Improving learning outcomes in ASEAN countries: Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics Programme (SEA-PLM)



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Total Amount of 5 Ongoing Projects
USD20,656,888

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Research and Development Platforms: Future of Work Platform and Education Platform

ASEAN-Korea Football Interpersonal Exchange and Leadership Development (FIELD) Programme

Highlights

The education and training sector is one of the top priority areas for the AKCF, with a significant number of ongoing projects and allocated budget. In 2023, we witnessed the positive outcomes of the projects within this sector. The Mobility Programme for TVET Teachers and Practitioners, the 2nd component of **TEAM (ASEAN-ROK Technical Vocational Education and Training for ASEAN Mobility)**, successfully trained and provided internships for 107 students in eight different countries across five priority TVET fields, including computer and information service, building construction, electrical and electronics, hospitality and tourism, and automotive. Additionally, 67 TVET teachers underwent a four-weeks on-the-job training in Korea. In 2023, the **HEAT (Higher Education for ASEAN Talents)** scholarship enabled six ASEAN Member States faculty members to earn doctoral degrees. AKCF also supported **SEA-PLM (Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics Programme)** in conducting Field Trials to prepare for the SEA-PLM Main Survey in 2024 and organizing technical and capacity-building workshops for children's primary education. Furthermore, AKCF contributed to ASEAN's efforts to develop impactful evidence-based policies and initiatives by supporting the **ASCC Research and Development Platforms**. In this regard, the ASEAN Regional Forum on Education was held on 24-26 May 2023, and the 1st ASEAN Regional Forum on Work took place on 11 October 2023. Lastly, AKCF joined ASEAN's passion for football and its aspirations to ascend globally. **FIELD (Football Interpersonal Exchange and Leadership Development)** held its kick-off event on 12 November 2023 in Jakarta to introduce planned activities, such as training for football coaches and medical staff.

ASEAN-ROK Technical and Vocational Education and Training for ASEAN Mobility (TEAM)

TEAM is composed of three components with the total budget of USD6,924,470

- (1) Research on the labour market and TVET programme in ASEAN;
- (2) Mobility programme for TVET teachers and practitioners; and
- (3) Assessment of capacity building for the national qualification framework (NQF) on TVET of Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam . Component (1) and (3) were successfully completed.

Component (2) Mobility Programme for TVET teachers and practitioners is ongoing in 2023 with the budget of USD5,891,363.



Overall Objective (Impact)

Strengthening five priority TVET sectors (Computer and Information Service / Building Construction / Electrical and Electronics / Hospitality and Tourism, and Automotive) by developing a mobility programme and capacity building activities



Outputs

- 1 Identify ASEAN priority TVET sectors/areas
- 2 Identify Model programmes on ASEAN priority TVET sectors
- 3 Develop Mobility tools (learning standards, outcomes, assessment tools) for TVET Programme and guidelines for student internship and faculty exchange
- 4 Implement Mobility Programme (TVET Exchange Programme and On-the-Job Training)
- 5 Capacity building for policymakers and TVET personnel such as teachers, learning facilitators, education specialists, etc.



Budget

USD5,891,363



Project Period

2022-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Education (SOM-ED)

Implemented by Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), Korea University of Technology and Education (KOREATECH)

Main Activities in 2023

1 Commencement of TVET Mobility Programme

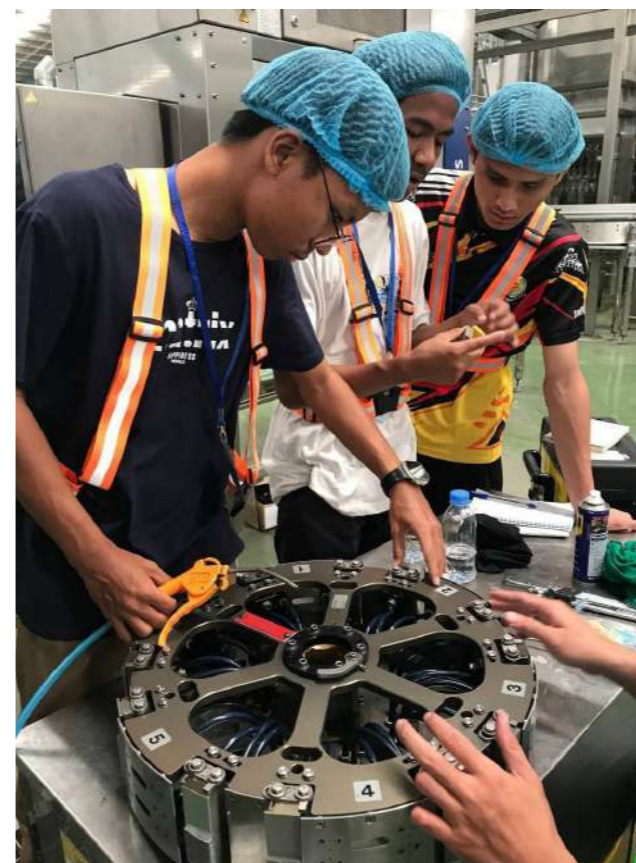
In June 2023, the 1st batch of the TVET Mobility Programme was commenced in eight ASEAN Member States except Myanmar and Malaysia. The programme provided the enrolled students with training and internships. The 1st batch facilitated the exchange of 107 students.

2 Capacity Building Workshop (7-9 November 2023, Philippines)

The 2nd Capacity Building Workshop took place in the Philippines to review the 1st batch's outcomes and discuss the lessons learned, challenges, and improvements from the 1st batch operation before the 2nd batch implementation.

3 Capacity Building and Training Program for TEVE Teachers in ASEAN

KOREATECH invited four batches - (1) Electrical and Electronics, 13 May - 9 June 2023, Korea; (2) Computer and Information Service, 13 May - 9 June 2023, Korea; (3) Hospitality and Tourism, 24 June - 21 July 2023, Korea; (4) Automotive, 18 November - 16 December 2023, Korea to enable the TVET teachers to capacitate the technological knowledge and skills in the field. In total, 62 TVET teachers from ASEAN Member States completed four-weeks on-the-job training in 2023.



Higher Education for ASEAN Talents (HEAT)



Overall Objective (Impact)

Enhancing the expertise of faculty members of higher education institutions in ASEAN Member States by providing scholarships for the doctoral degree in Korea



Outputs

- 1 Provide 90 ASEAN Member States faculty members who already hold a master's degree with a scholarship for the doctoral degree in Korea
- 2 Annual HEAT scholar's networking event



Budget

USD8,365,720



Project Period

2020-2025



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by Ministry of Education, Republic of Korea

Implemented by Korean Council for University Education (KCUE)

Main Activities in 2023

1 1st Annual HEAT scholar's networking event with the acquisition of doctoral degree

On 4 August 2023, attended by 97 participants, the 1st HEAT scholar's networking event was held by inviting the participating universities and scholars. Embassies of ASEAN Member States in Korea and participating universities attended the event to congratulate the scholars who earned doctoral degrees. On the occasion of the networking event, KCUE celebrated the 1st acquisition of a doctoral degree for six scholars as follows.

No	Name	University graduated in Korea	University in ASEAN	Nationality
1	Nguyen Thi Thu Huong		Viet Nam Maritime University	Viet Nam
2	Sengsouriya Phoudthavong	Kangwon National University	Savannakhet University	Laos
3	Cao Minh Tuan		Can Tho University	Viet Nam
4	Getar Hati	Ewha Womans University	Universitas Indonesia	Indonesia
5	Nwe Nwe Htun		Meiktila Education Degree College	Myanmar
6	Nguyen Thu Thi Phuong	Chung-Ang University	The University of Danang, College of Foreign Languages	Viet Nam



Improving learning outcomes in ASEAN countries: Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics Programme (SEA-PLM)

The Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM) is a regional learning assessment and capacity building programme designed by and for Southeast Asian countries, to monitor students' learning outcomes, contributing to equitable and quality education for all children in the region.



Overall Objective (Impact)

Monitoring and improving student learning outcomes in the ASEAN basic learning system



Outputs

- 1 Generate comparative data on students' learning competencies and contexts
- 2 Promote the use of data and findings from the assessment to develop policies and practices from school to system levels
- 3 Strengthen cross-border collaboration and national capacities to improve learning for all children in the region



Budget

USD2,272,011



Project Period

2022-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Southeast Asia Ministers of Education (SEAMEO) Secretariat

Main Activities in 2023

1 Survey Development

A field trial in seven ASEAN Member States was conducted throughout 2023 to test the psychometric quality of the cognitive items and questionnaires for the SEA-PLM Main Survey in 2024. This included adherence to the standards and procedures to be enforced for the forthcoming assessment in selected schools among the seven participating countries.

2 3rd SEA-PLM Regional Technical Workshop (11-15 December 2023, Korea)

The workshop discussed the psychometric analysis results of the cognitive booklets and contextual questionnaires tested among the sampled students, parents, teachers, and school principals across seven SEA-PLM participating countries. Regional and national psychometric reports were developed to show the psychometric properties of the cognitive test and questionnaire items.

3 Study Fellowship Programme (6-10 and 20-24 March 2023, Korea)

Korea Educational Development Institute (KEDI) conducted Evidence-Informed Policy Making (EIPM) to strengthen countries' capacity to analyze, interpret, and use data to inform policies, practices, and interventions geared towards improving basic education within the region.

4 2nd Capacity Building Workshop (12-15 June, 27 and 29 June, Virtual) 3rd (9-10 November 2023, Korea)

KICE (Korea Institute of Curriculum and Evaluation) provided a series of workshops for Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar, aimed at the continuous capacity-building of the countries in developing or enhancing established national student monitoring systems that feed and improve education policy and delivery.



ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Research and Development Platforms: Future of Work Platform and Education Platform



Overall Objective (Impact)

Building a repository of information and research framework in Work and Education area to develop more impactful evidence-based policies and initiatives to anticipate emerging trends and gaps



Outputs

- 1 Produce Flagship Reports which are targeted at assessing current trends within the Work and Education sector in ASEAN
- 2 Produce bi-monthly policy briefs for each platform which serve as “think-pieces” for information and consideration of SLOM (Senior Meeting on Labour) and SOM-ED (Senior Meeting on Education)
- 3 Conduct online forums for effective sharing of knowledge, case studies, and best-practices for each platform



Budget

USD307,494



Project Period

2022-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), ASEAN Secretariat

Implemented by ASCC Analysis Division (AAD) of the ASCC Analysis and Monitoring Directorate, ASEAN Secretariat

Main Activities in 2023

1 Policy Briefs and Trend Reports

The advisor for the Future of Education platform and Future of Work platform submitted initial drafts of trend reports and policy briefs for revision and final approval by divisions.

2 The ASEAN Regional Forum on Education (24-26 May 2023, Online)

The ASEAN Regional Forum on the Future of Education was organized and served as a platform for experts, policymakers and leaders from the ASEAN region and beyond to explore innovative approaches for education, focusing on fostering synergies among teachers, learners, and technology. It stressed the importance of capacitating and empowering the region's human resources to navigate 21st-century challenges.

3 The ASEAN Regional Forum on Work (11 October 2023, Online)

The 1st ASEAN Forum on the Future of Work was held by gathering policymakers and practitioners from across the region to share perspectives on addressing the challenges affecting the employment landscape in ASEAN, focusing on fostering synergies among private sector involvement and communities on human resources development. The discussions revolved around the megatrends of digitalization, the reconfiguration of global value chains, and the growing importance of the green economy, all of which have significant impacts on labor markets.



ASEAN-Korea Football Interpersonal Exchange and Leadership Development (FIELD) Programme



Overall Objective (Impact)

Improving expertise and capacity of human resources of football in ASEAN towards the advancement of ASEAN football



Outputs

- 1 Online/Offline Training for Coaches on expertise and capacities such as coaching methodologies, strategy/tactic plan for match, training plan, understanding of Big Data and ICT technology for management and enhancement of players' performance
- 2 Online/Offline Training for football medical staff and sports-related medical professionals on sports nutrition, injury treatment/rehabilitation, physical therapy practice, chiropractic/osteopathic treatment
- 3 ASEAN-ROK Football Conference



Budget

USD3,820,027



Project Period

2022-2025



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Korea Football Association Love Sharing Foundation and Sangmyung University

Main Activities in 2023

1 FIELD Kick-Off Event (12 November 2023, Indonesia)

The FIELD Kick-off was held in Jakarta to introduce the project and raise awareness. Ambassadors and representatives from ASEAN Member States and ROK, the ASEAN Secretariat, and stakeholders of AKCF were invited. The event provided opportunities to understand the project and establish a network for close cooperation on the FIELD project.

2 Online Lecture for Women and Youth Football Coach (20 November - 8 December 2023, Online)

The Online Lecture for Women and Youth Football Coaches was held online for three weeks and attended by 16 coaches from ASEAN Member States. The participating coaches took 60 courses uploaded on the online training platform (www.akfield.com). Some coaches who recorded high performance scores will be invited to on-site training in Korea in 2024.





CULTURE AND TOURISM

VOICE ON THE GROUND



Mr. Ji Hyun Woo

Republic of Korea

Host and Participating Artist of ROUND Festival in Indonesia

“ROUND Festival is a music network that connects ASEAN with Korea, it's a meaningful project with music fans from 11 countries gathering together for a communication through music and cross-culture exchanges.”



SB-19

Philippines

Participating Artist of ROUND Festival in Indonesia

“Together with the fellow artists, it is an honor for us to be part of this initiative in harnessing the potential of ASEAN as the region through music.”

6 Projects

KONNECT ASEAN - An ASEAN-ROK Art and Culture Programme

Development of Digital Heritage Contents with UNESCO World Heritage of ASEAN

Symposium and Youth Forum on ASEAN Identity and Strengthening ASEAN-ROK Cooperation: Now and Beyond



CULTURE AND TOURISM

Total Amount of 6 Ongoing Projects
USD 11,982,374

ASEAN Children's Reading Culture Development Project

ASEAN-ROK Film Community Programme

ASEAN-Korea Music Festival (AKMF)

Highlights

The year 2023 was marked by a series of exciting events in the fields of culture and tourism. One of the most noteworthy events was the 3rd ROUND Festival 2023, held in Jakarta, which featured musicians from 10 ASEAN countries and Korea. This offline **ASEAN-Korea Music Festival**, held under the theme 'Step Out, Sing as One', captivated an audience of over 2,000 people during the two-day event in October. **KONNECT** furthered the understanding of ASEAN and Korean cultures through various platforms such as exhibitions, educational outreach programs, community art exhibits, and workshops in Indonesia, Cambodia, and Thailand throughout 2023. The artworks created during the Chiang Mai residence program were showcased at the ASEAN Cultural House in Busan, Korea, under "ASEAN On Paper" from November 21 to December 31, 2023. In addition, 'FLY 2023', the **ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator**, brought together 22 young filmmakers from ASEAN and Korea for a two-week workshop in Da Nang, where they collaborated to develop screenplays and produce two short films. In December 2023, a screening of ten short films took place in collaboration with the ASEAN Culture House (ACH) and KONNECT Project. These films aligned with the exhibition's theme: ASEAN on Paper. **The Development of Digital Heritage Contents with UNESCO World Heritage of ASEAN** was successfully completed in 2023, installing a VR Experience Zone in the ASEAN Cultural Center in Bangkok. Furthermore, in October, three librarians from each ASEAN Member State spent two weeks in Korea to participate in the 2nd **ASEAN-ROK Children's Reading Culture Development** Committee (AKRCC) General Meeting & Training Program. They acquired new knowledge and skills to promote children's reading culture in ASEAN. Lastly, the **ASEAN Identity Symposium and Exhibition**, held in the ASEAN Secretariat, Indonesia, in September 2022, led to the publication of its contents and outcomes in 2023. These are also available online as a valuable source of ASEAN identity.

KONNECT ASEAN - An ASEAN-ROK Art and Culture Programme



Overall Objective (Impact)

Deepening the understanding between ASEAN and Korea cultures through different platforms such as exhibitions, educational outreach programme, community art exhibit exhibits and workshops



Outputs

- 1 Increase appreciation of contemporary SEA (South East Asia) and Korean Art through the Art Exhibition
- 2 Increase awareness and understanding of SEA and Korean contemporary art from the public through an educational outreach programme
- 3 Involve the community in expressing their idea through community art exhibition and workshop
- 4 Produce publications on contemporary SEA arts



Budget

USD1,760,585



Project Period

2020-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by ASEAN Foundation

Main Activities in 2023

Art Exhibition

1 KONNECT ASEAN Artists Residency Programme (12 July - 9 August 2023, Indonesia)

ASEAN and Korean artists collaborated to produce an artwork. This marked the 1st ASEAN residency programme in collaboration with a Dialogue Partner.

2 ASEAN On Paper (21 November - 31 December 2023, Korea)

Implemented at ASEAN Culture House in Busan, this activity was essentially a showcase of the artworks produced in Chiang Mai residency programme.

Educational Outreach Programme

1 External Assessment Summer School (13-19 August 2023, Indonesia)

This two-week programme targeted artists and designers and consisted of lectures and workshops addressing critical issues in the new normal (post-COVID-19) cultural landscape.

Community Art Exhibits

1 Chiang Mai Residency (1-29 July 2023) & Chiang Mai Exhibition (27 July - 18 August 2023)

These activities were part of a cultural project that included conceptualising, designing, and implementing a print artwork production residency. The produced artworks were exhibited to the public.

Community Art Workshop

1 Unheard Stories - Disappearing Ecologies, a Community Arts Project with Nanyang Technology University Centre for Contemporary Art (26-28 October 2023, Cambodia)

The conference aimed to gather creative minds to discuss, inspire and create artistic solutions to inform the public and to come up with ways to mitigate the effects of climate issues.



Development of Digital Heritage Contents with UNESCO World Heritage of ASEAN



Overall Objective (Impact)

Developing and archiving ASEAN cultural heritage contents



Outputs

- 1 Develop 360° HMD (Head-mounted Display) interactive VR contents
- 2 Develop UHD (Ultra High Definition) images of cultural heritages
- 3 Install VR Experience Zone in ASEAN Cultural Center in Bangkok and ASEAN Secretariat



Budget

USD1,527,044



Project Period

2019-2023



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Heritage Digital Archive Center (HDAC)

Main Activities in 2023

1 Fieldwork and Content Development for Singapore

HDAC visited the Singapore Botanic Gardens to develop content and completed the development of 360° HMD interactive VR content and UHD images.

2 Installation of VR Experience Zone in ASEAN Cultural Center in Bangkok

In November 2023, the VR Experience Zone was installed in the ASEAN Culture Center, which serves as a regional hub for fostering understanding of ASEAN's shared cultural heritage. The VR Experience Zone is expected to introduce ASEAN world heritage sites to people in the region and beyond.



Symposium and Youth Forum on ASEAN Identity and Strengthening ASEAN-ROK Cooperation: Now and Beyond



Overall Objective (Impact)

Improving the understanding of the ASEAN sectors and stakeholders in ASEAN-identity building



Outputs

- 1 Symposium on ASEAN Identity
- 2 Exhibition on ASEAN Identity
- 3 Publication on ASEAN Identity: Now and Beyond



Budget

USD181,357



Project Period

2023



Proponent and Implementing Agency

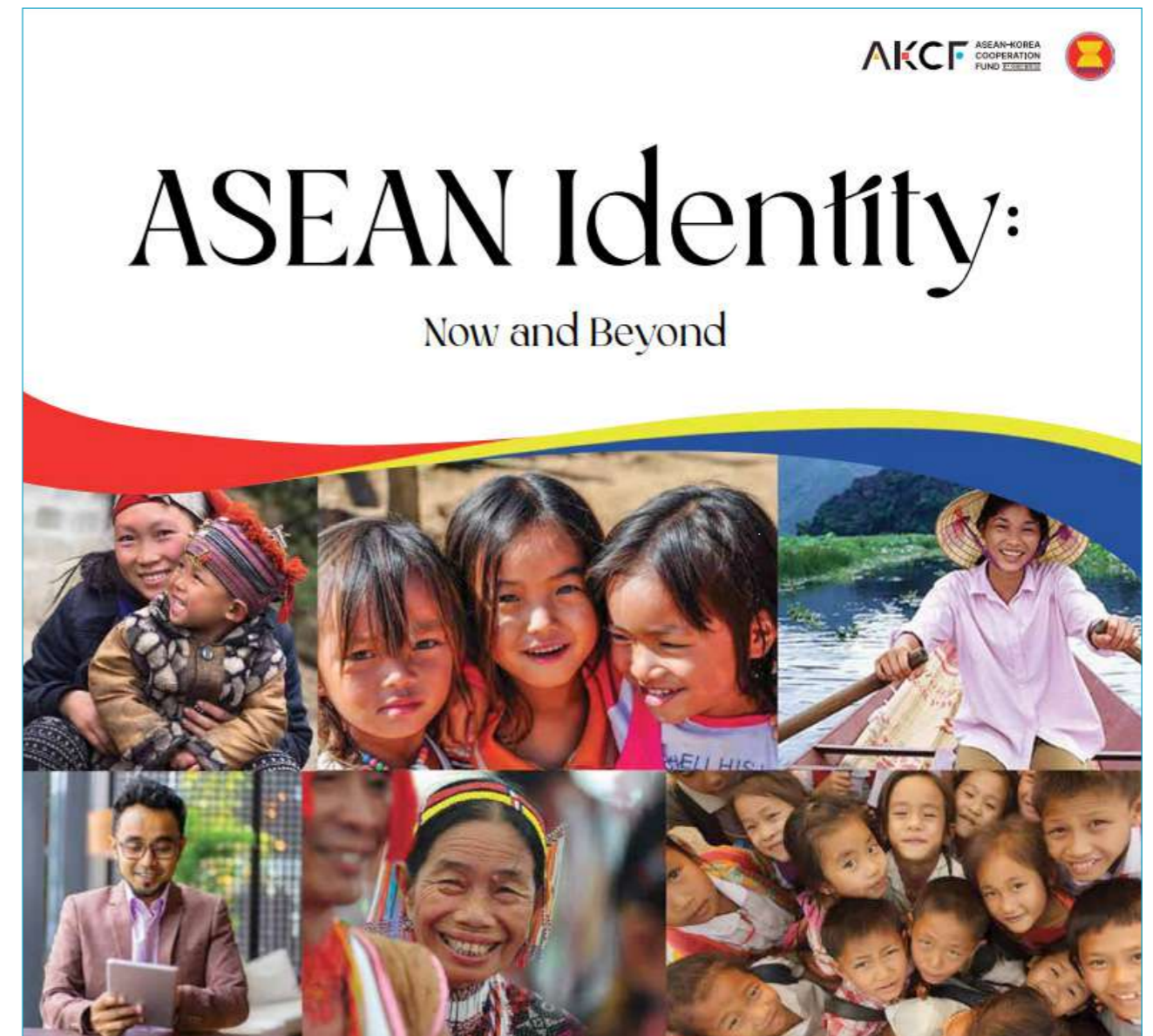
Proposed and Implemented by Culture and Information Division, ASEAN Secretariat

Main Activities in 2023

1 Publication of ASEAN Identity 'Now and Beyond'

Following the ASEAN Identity Symposium on 22 September 2022 and Exhibition from 19-24 September 2022, the outcome of the symposium was published in 2023. The publication expressed multiple perspectives on how we can foster ASEAN Identity from practitioners across ASEAN and Korea.

With the utilization of digital platforms, the publication is available online and can be shared as a valuable resource on ASEAN Identity. Furthermore, the publication is expected to increase the awareness of ASEAN Identity.



ASEAN Children's Reading Culture Development Project



Overall Objective (Impact)

Improving ASEAN children's reading culture and literacy in the longer term and raising awareness of the importance of children's reading culture in ASEAN by strengthening ASEAN Member States' public librarians



Outputs

- 1 Form a cooperative foundation for the member states' libraries in order to achieve mutual development
- 2 Establish mutually agreed communal goals and implementation plans for the promotion of the children's reading culture in ASEAN
- 3 Implement the agreed collaborative public relations strategy to raise the importance of children's reading culture in ASEAN
- 4 Implement an analytic evaluation on the status of the children's reading culture in ASEAN



Budget

USD439,436



Project Period

2021-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by National Library for Children and Young Adults (NLCY), Republic of Korea (ROK)

Main Activities in 2023

1 2nd ASEAN-ROK Children's Reading Culture Development Committee (AKRCC) General Meeting & Training Program (15-31 October 2023, Korea)

Three librarians from each ASEAN Member States were dispatched to acquire new knowledge and skills to promote children's reading culture in ASEAN. During the activity period, ASEAN Member States participants were able to experience Korea's libraries and their daily operations, which could be benchmarked. Furthermore, by observing the Korean librarians, their professional skills and knowledge such as on-site work skills and services to children were enhanced.



ASEAN-ROK Film Community Programme



Overall Objective (Impact)

Creating a foundation of the ASEAN-ROK film industry through workshops and training for young filmmakers in ASEAN, thereby enlarging the film industry market between ASEAN and ROK



Outputs

- 1 Convene the workshop and produce short films
- 2 Convene post-production workshop to enhance the competency of the filmmakers on the latest trend/equipment in the film industry
- 3 Screen the films at ASEAN Culture House



Budget

USD2,572,606



Project Period

2022-2025



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Busan Film Commission (BFC)

Main Activities in 2023

1 ASEAN-ROK Film Leaders Incubator 'FLY 2023' (1-14 December 2023, Viet Nam)

Held in Da Nang, 22 young filmmakers from ASEAN and Korea attended the FLY 2023 workshop for two weeks. The participants were gathered to develop a screenplay and produce two short films as the end products of the Workshop.

2 FLY Post-Production Workshop (10-14 December 2023, Viet Nam)

Attended by 30 participants experienced in post-production, the five-day workshop aimed to provide a deeper understanding and knowledge of managing post-production from an early stage of the film making process.

3 Film Screening at ASEAN Culture House

In December 2023, in collaboration with ASEAN Culture House (ACH) and KONNECT Project Exhibition, this screening produced ten short films that align with the theme of the exhibition: ASEAN on Paper. Further, the screening also served as a platform to promote ASEAN Films to be presented to Korean audiences.



ASEAN-Korea Music Festival (AKMF)



Overall Objective (Impact)

The ASEAN-Korea Music Festival aims to foster cultural exchange between ASEAN and Korea through music



Outputs

- 1 Convene ASEAN-Korea Music Festival
- 2 Establish a continuous and supportive music network through ASEAN-Korea Music Committee and Forum



Budget

USD5,501,346



Project Period

2023-2025



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Korean Broadcasting System (KBS)

Main Activities in 2023

1 ROUND Forum 2023 (3-4 August 2023, Korea)

The two-day forum was held in person in Korea. It served as a platform for the ASEAN-Korea Music Committee to establish a network to enable practical collaboration in the music industry between ASEAN and Korea.

2 3rd ROUND Festival 2023 (21-22 October 2023, Indonesia)

Attended by more than 2,000 audiences, ROUND Festival was held for two days in Jakarta under the theme 'Step Out, Sing as One'. The Festival featured musicians from all ASEAN Members States and Korea. Furthermore, the Festival was also broadcasted through various KBS channels.





ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

VOICE ON THE GROUND



Ms. Mylene Abiva

Philippines

Chairperson, WomenbizPH (Local Implementing Institution) of IDEAS Project

“If you provide capacity building opportunities by digitalization of women entrepreneurs, **they truly will be able to contribute to the economic growth and development of any country or any member state in ASEAN.**”



Ms. Wiga Ariayni

Indonesia

Women Entrepreneur and Trainee of IDEAS Project

“**The training programme of IDEAS (Increasing Digital Skills and E-commerce for ASEAN Women MSMEs) project was so much fun! I have seldom, even never, attended like this sort of exciting training program with easy-to-follow learning process and I could practice digital marketing right away during the session!**”

4 Projects

Enhancing Digital Economy Participation for ASEAN Women MSMEs

Digital Transformation: Facilitating ASEAN's Inclusive and Sustainable Digital Economy (ASEAN Digital Economy Agreement Leadership, ASEAN DEAL)

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

Total Amount of 4 Ongoing Projects
USD10,928,998

Support for the development of an ASEAN Green Map

Feasibility Study on Establishment of ASEAN-ROK Regional e-CO Exchange Platform

Highlights

In order to ensure economic resilience in the region, the AKCF has supported four projects in 2023. **IDEAS (Increasing Digital Skills and E-commerce for ASEAN Women MSMEs)** invited 200 local trainers to a two-week Training for Trainers in July 2023 in Korea. 200 local trainers from ten ASEAN Member States, who will subsequently train 4,002 ASEAN Women MSMEs, were capacitated to understand the e-Business Training Toolkit for their local training comprehensively. In November 2023, on the eve of the 1st round of DEFA (ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement) negotiations, **ASEAN DEAL (ASEAN Digital Economy Agreement Leadership)** invited DEFA lead negotiators and delegates to introduce the ASEAN DEAL project and share their insights and opportunities for DEFA negotiations and the project. AKCF has supported the **Development of an ASEAN Green Map** to provide an overarching guide for a sustainable financial ecosystem in the region. **Feasibility Study on Establishment of ASEAN-ROK Regional e-CO Exchange Platform** was designed to assess the feasibility of establishing an electronic platform to exchange Certificate of Origin (e-CO) data between ASEAN and ROK to facilitate the customs process.

Increasing Digital Skills and E-commerce for ASEAN Women MSMEs (IDEAS)



Overall Objective (Impact)

Providing opportunities for women entrepreneurs to actively participate in the ASEAN economy by increasing their capacity to use ICTs and online business platforms through trainings as well as access to information



Outputs

- 1 Establish partnership with local consultants and local institutions to develop Action Plans for local training
- 2 Develop e-Business training toolkit for Trainers
- 3 Foster 200 ASEAN Member States trainer through Training of Trainers
- 4 Local Trainings for ASEAN Women MSMEs
- 5 Establish e-Business Ecosystem for ASEAN women MSMEs by establishing project website (<https://www.ideasproject.co.kr/>) and organize ASEAN Women e-Business Acceleration EXPO



Budget

USD5,682,503



Project Period

2021-2027



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Asia Pacific Women's Information Network Center (APWINC), Sookmyung Women's University

Main Activities in 2023

1 Action Plan Workshop (13-17 March 2023, Korea)

APWINC held a workshop to develop Action Plans, attended by 49 stakeholders, including 10 local consultants and 14 local institutions. Local implementing institutions developed and presented Action Plans focusing on developing effective ways to promote the participation of ASEAN women MSMEs in the digital economy based on the 5-year project roadmap.

2 Development of e-Business Training Toolkit and Local Training Program and Content

The local consultants in ASEAN Member States developed training content and related teaching guidelines based on the finalized e-Business training courses for trainers. Local institutions developed localized training programs and content for local training in each ASEAN Member States.

3 Training of Trainers (ToT) Workshop (3-12 July 2023, Korea)

The ToT Workshop was held by inviting 200 ASEAN Member States local trainers. It capacitated the trainers to have a comprehensive understanding of the developed e-Business Training Toolkit for their implementation of local training.

4 Launch of IDEAS website

The project's official website (<https://ideasproject.co.kr>) was launched in November 2023. All project-related deliverables, such as project outputs, including research publications, training content, resources, and promotional materials, have been continuously shared through the official website.

5 2nd Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting (15 November 2023, Korea)

The 2nd PSC meeting consisting of ASEAN Coordinating Committee on MSMEs (ACCMSME), the ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN-ROK Programme Management Team (AKPMT), and APWINC, was organized to share key accomplishments of the project, deliberate on comprehensive local project implementation plans, and set to commence from 2024 onwards.



Digital Transformation: Facilitating ASEAN's Inclusive and Sustainable Digital Economy (ASEAN Digital Economy Agreement Leadership, ASEAN DEAL)

The ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA) aims to accelerate ASEAN's transformation into a leading digital economy. The overarching goal is to conclude its negotiations by the end of 2025.



Overall Objective (Impact)

Facilitating ASEAN's transformation towards an inclusive and sustainable digital economy



Outputs

- 1 Annual Business Survey and Dialogue on the various aspects of the digital economy targeting private sector business
- 2 Capacity building for ASEAN DEFA negotiators
- 3 Development of Digital Economy Agreements (DEA) online depository



Budget

USD3,922,839



Project Period

2023-2025



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by World Economic Forum (WEF)

Main Activities in 2023

1 Capacity Building for DEFA negotiators (30 November 2023, Indonesia)

In coordination with Ministry for Economic Affairs of Indonesia, DEFA lead negotiators and delegates were invited on the eve of the 1st round of DEFA negotiations to introduce the ASEAN DEAL project to ASEAN Member States and share their insights, challenges and opportunities that DEFA negotiations bring for ASEAN Member States.

2 Launch of ASEAN DEAL project website (www.asean-deal.org) and Digital Economy Agreement (DEA) online depository (<https://www.asean-deal.org/depository>)

In order to strengthen the capacity and competitiveness of all ASEAN Member States and to provide them with a tool to facilitate the DEFA negotiations, depository of digital economy agreements (DEAs) was launched. The depository will continue to be updated.



Support for the development of an ASEAN Green Map

ASEAN Green Map aims to advance a comprehensive sustainable finance agenda, encompassing banking, capital markets, and insurance sectors, while enhancing coordination among relevant ASEAN working committees.



Overall Objective (Impact)

Regionwide transition of ASEAN towards a sustainable financial ecosystem



Outputs

Develop ASEAN Green Map that integrates and articulates ASEAN's vision for a comprehensive sustainable finance ecosystem



Budget

USD830,309



Project Period

2023-2025



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by ASEAN-ROK Financial Cooperation Centre

Implemented by Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), United Nations Economic and Social Commission of Asia and Pacific (UNESCAP)

Expected Outcome

Since its initiation in November 2023, the project has drafted the ASEAN Green Map in close coordination with the ASEAN Senior Level Committee on Financial Integration (SLC) and ASEAN Member States financial sector representatives.

ASEAN countries have experienced escalating climate change-related impacts, including floods, droughts, habitat losses, and urban heat, leading to significant economic repercussions. In response to these challenges, ASEAN Green Map is expected to be crucial in addressing the region's vulnerability to climate change by promoting sustainable finance.

In this regard, ASEAN Senior Level Committee on Financial Integration (SLC) recommended the development of ASEAN Green Map by consolidating existing regional efforts to foster a consensus on sustainability. ASEAN Green Map will (1) chart a course for ASEAN's Green or sustainable finance efforts by providing an overarching guide for all ASEAN Member States in scaling up sustainable financing, (2) draw the attention of ASEAN SLCs, relevant ASEAN financial sectoral bodies, networks, and other stakeholders to the key priorities of the sustainable finance agenda to help inform the broader SLC agenda on climate and sustainability, future workplans of the SLC-Task Force, and other relevant ASEAN work.



Feasibility Study on Establishment of ASEAN-ROK Regional e-CO Exchange Platform



Overall Objective (Impact)

Providing an assessment that examines the establishment of an electronic platform to exchange Certificate of Origin (CO) data between ASEAN and ROK to facilitate the custom process



Outputs

- 1 Inception seminar to share the ASEAN Member States' insights and experience on developing the single platform for CO exchange system
- 2 Research on country-specific, technical and legal practices for CO exchange platform
- 3 Develop a 'to-be model of ASEAN-ROK CO exchange platform' based on the findings of the research
- 4 Evaluation seminar to share project outcomes, evaluate the developed 'to-be model', and form a consensus on the new model of the single platform for the CO exchange



Budget

USD493,347



Project Period
2023-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Customs UNI-PASS International Agency (CUPIA), Republic of Korea

Expected Outcome

The study was proposed by the ROK as a part of the East Asia Vision Group II (EAVG II) after the ASEAN-ROK Summit in 2013 to contribute to trade facilitation in the region. Moreover, the ASEAN-ROK FTA has been effective since 2007; the study is expected to form a consensus on the importance of developing a single platform for CO exchange between ASEAN and ROK.

As the project commenced in December 2023, the 1st project activity is an inception seminar on 13-16 February 2024. The seminar aims to explain the project and its objectives, as well as to describe the tasks and responsibilities of participants, including customs officers from ASEAN Member States and ASEAN researchers. Through the seminar, the participants are expected to share information from ASEAN Member States on the current state of cross-border system developments and relevant laws/regulations by discussing the challenges that each state has experienced and presenting insights for how to develop and improve CO exchange between ASEAN and ROK.

The project outputs will pave the way for enhancing availability and authenticity of origin information between ASEAN and ROK.





ENVIRONMENT

VOICE ON THE GROUND



Dr. Minh Cuong Nguyen

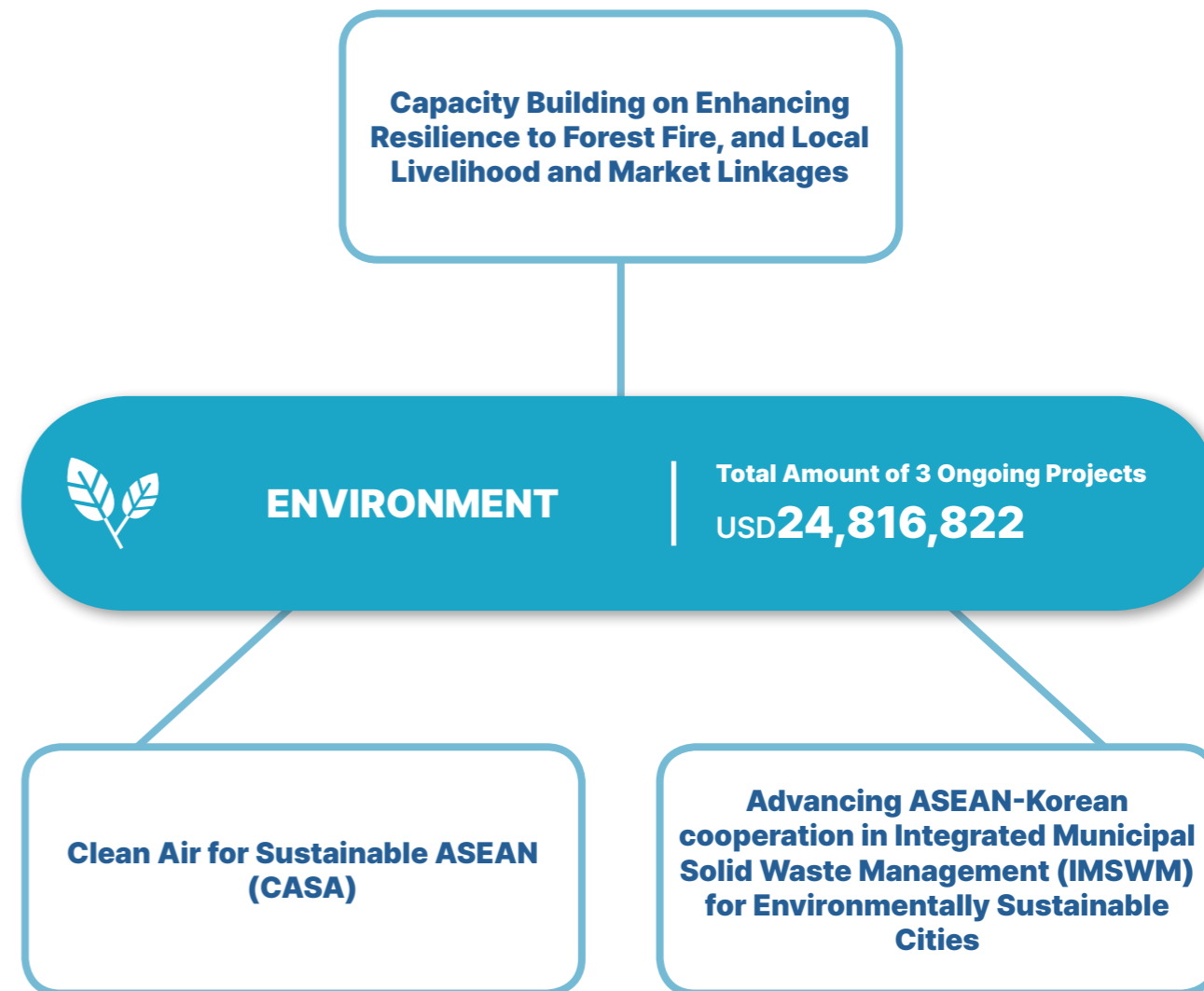
Viet Nam

Chair of ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC)

Deputy Director, Ministry of Environment, Government of Viet Nam

“The **‘Advancing ASEAN-Korean cooperation in Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Management (IMSWM) for Environmentally Sustainable Cities’ project** provides great platform to member states for building collaborations between environment and industry, accelerating investments and arrive at consensus on regional issues surrounding waste. We thank ROK for the support and extend our support to GGGI and consortium partners in implementing this important agenda.”

3 Projects



Highlights

ASEAN strives to promote and ensure balanced social development and a sustainable environment. In this regard, **Capacity Building on Enhancing Resilience to Forest Fire, and Local Livelihood and Market Linkages** project organized a workshop in February 2023 to discuss how to cooperate for sustainable forest fire management, and implemented Community Forestry Enterprise Training and Learning Exchange Visit for the communities to learn and improve their livelihood productivity, marketing, and financial management in 2023. **Clean Air for Sustainable ASEAN (CASA)** was officially kicked off in October 2023 and followed by the 1st technical meeting in December to discuss the plan for air quality monitoring stations in ASEAN Member States. **Advancing ASEAN-Korean cooperation in Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Management (IMSWM) for Environmentally Sustainable Cities** project was initiated in September 2023 to support ASEAN Member States in adopting more sustainable and coherent waste management through assessment, development of institutional strategy, supporting priority projects, and knowledge sharing from 2024 to 2026.

Capacity Building on Enhancing Resilience to Forest Fire, and Local Livelihood and Market Linkages



Overall Objective (Impact)

Establishing a robust integrated forest fire management system to reduce incidences of forest fire, deforestation, and degradation in the region, as well as enhancing forest-based livelihoods and forest enterprise activities through sustainable forest management



Outputs

- 1 Develop an integrated fire management system through early detection and monitoring systems and the provision of fire suppression equipment
- 2 Strengthen Community Forestry Livelihood (CFLs) and strengthen capacities and market linkages in Community Forestry MSMEs
- 3 Strengthen institutional and technical capacities for the integrated management of forest fire and management and marketing capacities of forest-based MSMEs by developing regional guidelines



Budget

USD6,502,562



Project Period

2022-2027



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO)

Implemented by Asian Forest Cooperation Organization (AFoCO) and Non-Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP) Asia

Main Activities in 2023

1 Feasibility Study Report

In March 2023, the feasibility study report on forest fire management of CLMV countries was issued. The report aimed to develop criteria and indicators for project site assessments, evaluate the sites' technology adaptability, and formulate recommendations to ensure project implementation and achievement of desired project outputs. The feasibility study report has served as a guide for the project implementation.

2 Workshop on the State of Forest Fire Management in South East Asia (27 February - 2 March 2023, Thailand)

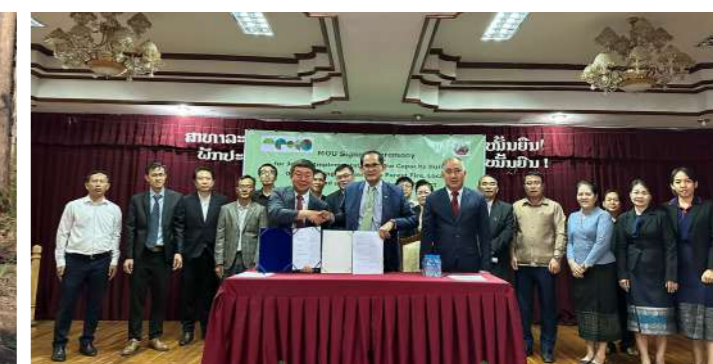
Attended by 24 participants from ASEAN Member States, the 1st regional workshop was held to come up with a general understanding of the current policies, institutional management and technologies in ASEAN Member States related to forest fire management. It served as a platform for recommendation and discussion on cooperating and coordinating for sustainable forest fire management.

3 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam

AFoCO and the relevant ministries in Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam signed the MOU to implement the country-level activities.

4 Community Forestry Enterprise (CFEs) Training and Learning Exchange Visit

Throughout 2023, NTFP-EP conducted community capacity assessment to develop future training programme. Based on the assessment, NTFP-EP conducted Community Forestry Enterprise Training for the communities to improve their livelihood appraisal, productivity, marketing, and financial management. Through Learning Exchange Visit, the communities exchanged and learned from others.



Clean Air for Sustainable ASEAN (CASA)



Overall Objective (Impact)

Supporting ASEAN Member States (AMS) to mitigate air pollution and its negative impact on ASEAN citizens' health through various political, scientific, and technical means



Outputs

- 1 Understand the scientific cause and health impact of air pollution in ASEAN
- 2 Construct air quality monitoring stations (AQMS) and develop an air quality online platform
- 3 Prepare ASEAN Member States to address air pollution issues in order to reduce the health impact
- 4 Develop the region-wide policy as well as national policy guidelines in addressing air pollution issues



Budget

USD11,000,000



Project Period

2022-2026



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by Seoul National University (SNU)

Implemented by SNU (acting as the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the project), National Institute of Environmental Research (NIER), Yonsei University (YU) and United Nations Economic & Social Commission for Asia & Pacific (UNESCAP)

Main Activities in 2023

1 Inception Workshop and 1st Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting (26-27 October 2023, Korea)

The project was officially kicked off in Seoul, with the aim of explaining and discussing its goals with participants from ASEAN and Korea and officially establishing the governing mechanism, the PSC.

2 1st Expert Panel Meeting (20 October 2023, Korea)

Internationally well-known experts on air pollution were invited to attend this meeting, where PMU introduced the project's objective, outcomes and outputs, and research methodology and goals, which were discussed extensively.

3 1st Technical Meeting (15 December 2023, Thailand)

The PMU organized the 1st Technical Meeting in Bangkok with researchers from Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Viet Nam to review the project's progress and discuss the plan for air quality monitoring stations and ongoing research on source apportionment.

4 Field visits to individual ASEAN Member States

In the second half of 2023, PMU conducted several field visits to individual ASEAN Member States, with the aim of holding research consultation meetings with local researchers and checking potential sites for samplers and air quality monitoring stations, which will be installed later.



Advancing ASEAN-Korean cooperation in Integrated Municipal Solid Waste Management (IMSWM) for Environmentally Sustainable Cities



Overall Objective (Impact)

Supporting ASEAN Member States in adopting a more sustainable and coherent waste management



Outputs

- 1 Develop a comprehensive assessment of IMSWM in ASEAN and 2030 Waste Strategy and IMSWM Guideline for ASEAN
- 2 Support the priority projects on IMSWM by developing project proposals and concept notes and seeking additional funds to implement the priority projects
- 3 Establish an ASEAN-Korea Integrated Green Technology Platform (AKIGTP) for knowledge sharing
- 4 Knowledge sharing and capacity building on IMSWM



Budget

USD7,314,260



Project Period

2022-2026



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by National Institute of Green Technology (NIGT), Republic of Korea

Implemented by Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), National Institute of Green Technology (NIGT), Nanyang Technology University (NTU), Korea Environment Corporation (K-Eco)

Expected Outcome

As the project was approved in 2023, the project commences with an inception workshop in January 2024. The inception workshop aims to launch and introduce the project objectives, project team and approaches/strategy/implementation arrangements at the national and regional levels, and moreover, seek to solicit feedback from the ASEAN Member States on overall approach to the various activities.

The project is expected to support ASEAN Member States in moving towards a model of resource-efficient, circular society with enhanced national and local capacity to implement integrated solid waste management practices and catalytic waste investment projects by 2026.

By sharing experiences and learning from the Republic of Korea in integrated municipal solid waste management at the national and local levels, the project will help ASEAN Member States and Korea jointly find appropriate solutions for the regional challenge of IMSWM.





VOICE ON THE GROUND



Mr. Vongkham Phanthanouvong

Lao PDR

Director-General of Social Welfare

Dept. Head of National Disaster Management Office (NDMO)

“D-CAB (Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building Project for ASEAN Member States) training is very important,

it is a platform for us to study and research together, learn both theory and practice from scientists, share lessons and experiences between the seminarians from ASEAN member countries on good lessons in reducing the risk and impact of disasters, good preparation, and coordination during the emergency response.”

2 Projects

Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building Project for ASEAN Member States (D-CAB)

 **SAFETY - DISASTER MANAGEMENT** | Total Amount of 2 Ongoing Projects
USD 7,564,772

ASEAN Standards and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND)

Highlights

“One ASEAN, One Response” is an ASEAN declaration responding to disasters as one in and outside the region to achieve faster response, mobilize greater resources, and establish stronger coordination to ensure ASEAN’s collective response to disasters. In order to support “One ASEAN, One Response”, **Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building Project for ASEAN Member States (D-CAB)** implemented three invitational trainings in April, June, and November in Korea to enable 62 working and senior-level officers from ASEAN Member States and Timor Leste to learn how to manage disaster and respond to the disaster using the ASEAN-tailored VR training simulator. In August, **ASEAN Standards and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND)** hosted training in the Philippines to capacitate the participants with the knowledge and expertise required as the ASCEND assessors and moreover organized the workshops to review ASCEND Competency Standard in August and ASCEND Framework and Development of ASCEND Sustainability Strategy in September in Viet Nam.

Disaster Risk Management Capacity Building Project for ASEAN Member States (D-CAB)



Overall Objective (Impact)

Strengthening disaster risk management and response governance of National Disaster Management Organizations (NDMOs) at the national and local level of ASEAN



Outputs

- 1 Develop a capacity building programme on disaster risk management of AMS NDMOs based on the AMS needs assessment
- 2 Disaster risk management training and exercise technique using VR training simulator



Budget

USD4,215,398



Project Period

2022-2027



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by National Civil Defense and Disaster Management Training Institute (NDTI), Republic of Korea

Main Activities in 2023

1 8th (4-8 April 2023), 9th (30 May - 8 June 2023) and 11th (21-30 November 2023) Invitational Training in Korea

A total of 62 working- and senior-level officers from ten ASEAN Member States and Timor Leste participated in three invitational trainings in Korea. The training contents were tailored corresponding to the officer's level, but contents were based on three modules: 1) Disaster Management System; 2) Natural Disaster Management System; and 3) National Disaster Response and Exercise.

2 10th In-Country Training in Lao PDR (5-8 September 2023)

20 working and senior officials in charge of disaster response and management attended the 10th In-Country Training in Lao PDR. It comprised lectures on disaster management, participants' presentations on the best practices of disaster management, and discussions with disaster management experts.

According to the 2023 satisfactory surveys, the overall satisfaction rate was 93.4% (8th batch: 96.3%, 9th batch: 94.9%, 10th batch: 91.5%, 11th batch: 91%). The survey results and the feedback from the trainees will be reflected in planning and operating the curriculum in the subsequent training.



ASEAN Standards and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND)



Overall Objective (Impact)

Establishing ASEAN standards for disaster management to promote the mobility of disaster management professionals in the region



Outputs

- 1 Enhance the capacity of the ASEAN countries in the implementation of ASCEND
- 2 Establish regionally recognized training and competency standards covering five professions in disaster management
- 3 Improve the capacity of the AHA Centre in order to serve as the ASCEND secretariat
- 4 Promote understanding of the ASCEND Framework among the ASEAN Member States and other sectors in ASEAN



Budget

USD3,349,374



Project Period

2020-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by AHA Centre

Main Activities in 2023

1 Training for ASCEND Master Assessors and Workshop on the Review of the ASCEND Competency Standard (14-18 August 2023, Philippines)

The training was attended by 27 participants from ASEAN Member States to capacitate the participants with knowledge, skills, and attitudes required as the ASCEND assessors. The event was also organized by reviewing the ASCEND competency standard to obtain feedback and insights from National Disaster Management Office to ensure that the competency standard remains relevant.

2 The 2nd ASCEND Benchmarking Visit to ROK (28-31 August 2023, Korea).

The event provided opportunity for ASEAN Member States to observe and learn the best practices on emergency and disaster response from ROK.

3 Workshop on the Review of the ASCEND Framework and Development of ASCEND Sustainability Strategy (14-15 September 2023, Viet Nam)

The workshop incorporated lessons learned from previous ASCEND activities and studies to address the evolving needs and challenges faced by the program then develop possible options for ASCEND sustainability and institutionalization.





SAFETY - CYBER SECURITY

VOICE ON THE GROUND



Mr. Trinh Thang Viet Anh

Viet Nam

1st Ranked Winner of ASEAN Cyber Shield (ACS) Hacking Contest Student Division

“This is the 1st competition in ASEAN sponsored by the Korean government, and I am very honored to be the representative of Viet Nam invited to participate in this competition. I was also very fortunate to be the winner. I am extremely happy and grateful.

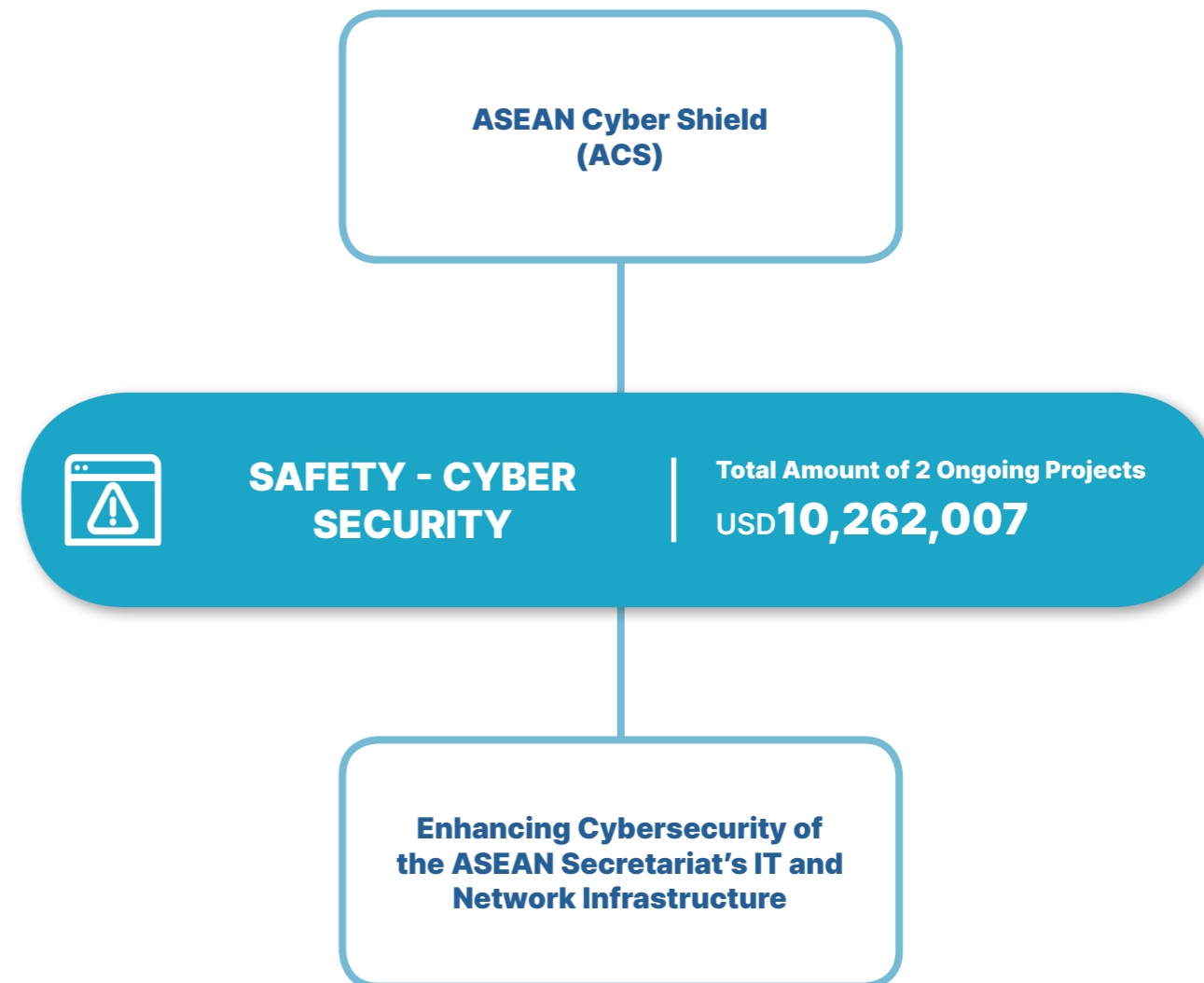
Thank you, ASEAN Cyber Shield (ACS), for creating this opportunity.

Participating in the ACS Hacking Contest had a profound impact on me.

I believe I learned a great deal of skills from the competition, and I pushed past my own limits. It challenged me to think creatively, collaborate effectively, and problem-solve under pressure.

The experience has not only enhanced my technical abilities but also boosted my confidence in tackling complex cybersecurity challenges.”

2 Projects



Highlights

Cybersecurity is a key enabler of economic progress and improving living standards. This became more evident during the COVID-19 pandemic when we were forced to adopt rapid digitalization and the migration of government, business, and social activities online. At the same time, cyber-attacks are evolving to have increasingly real-world, physical impacts. In order to support ASEAN Member States' continued security and stability of cyberspace, ASEAN Cyber Shield (ACS) project hosted the 1st ACS Hacking Contest on 21-24 November 2023 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Attended by 37 teams (147 participants) from all ASEAN Member States, six teams (three from student team, three from general team) from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam won the awards through preliminary contest (jeopardy format) to final contest (attack and defence format). **Enhancing Cybersecurity of the ASEAN Secretariat's IT and Network Infrastructure** was expected to develop IT and network infrastructure security management policies and a five-year roadmap to protect ASEAN's digital assets and enhance ASEC staff's capacities on cyber security.

ASEAN Cyber Shield (ACS)



Overall Objective (Impact)

Cultivating cybersecurity professionals with education and practical experience in response to cyber threats in ASEAN



Outputs

- 1 Develop and operate ASEAN Cyber Shield (ACS) Education Platform (<https://edu.aseancybershield.org/>)
- 2 Develop ASEAN Policy for Cyber Security Specialist Certificate
- 3 Host the Cybersecurity Defence Competition
- 4 Cybersecurity Exchange Student Program in Kangwon National University (KNU) and Gangneung-Wonju National University (GWNU)
- 5 Cybersecurity Master's Course Program in Universitas Teknologi Brunei (UTB)



Budget

USD9,899,997



Project Period

2022-2026



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA)

Implemented by Korea Internet & Security Agency (KISA), Kangwon National University (KNU), Gangneung-Wonju National University (GWNU), Universitas Teknologi Brunei (UTB)

Main Activities in 2023

1 ACS Education Platform Development

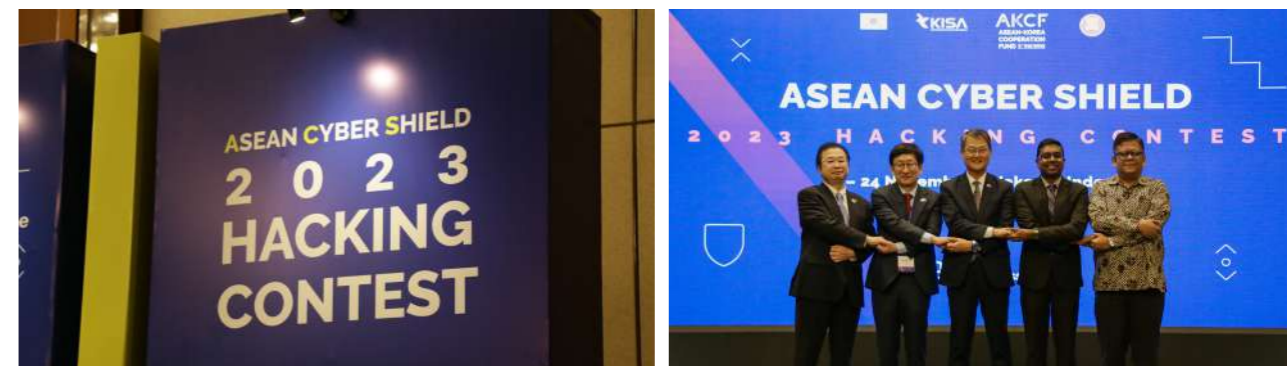
Based on the research and survey on the information security education status in ASEAN Member States, the education curriculum and contents were developed. The 1st online training is scheduled to commence in April 2024, comprising a 200-hour basic course and a 300-hour advanced course for five months.

2 ACS Hacking Contest (21-24 November 2023, Indonesia)

The ACS Hacking Contest was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, and was attended by 37 teams (147 participants) from ten ASEAN Member States. From the preliminary contest (jeopardy format) to the final contest (attack and defence format), six teams (three from the student team, three from the general team) from Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam won the awards.

3 Cybersecurity Exchange Student Program

ADGSOM (ASEAN Digital Senior Officials' Meeting) recommended 19 students from ASEAN Member States for the exchange student program. Exchange students will take the tailored curriculum and have a chance to intern at an ICT company in Korea for two semesters starting in March 2024.



Enhancing Cybersecurity of the ASEAN Secretariat's IT and Network Infrastructure



Overall Objective (Impact)

Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat's (ASEC) cybersecurity and network infrastructure to protect ASEAN's digital assets, and making those continuously available for the staff and authorized users of ASEAN Member States



Outputs

- 1 Provide technical assistance to set up comprehensive cyber security defense measure(s) for ASEC's current information technology (IT) and network infrastructure
- 2 Provide technical assistance to develop IT and network infrastructure security management policies and a five-year road-map
- 3 Provide technical assistance on strengthening ASEC staff's capacities in cybersecurity



Budget

USD362,010



Project Period

2023-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by Corporate Affairs Directorate, the ASEAN Secretariat

Main Activities in 2023

1 Pre-Bid Meeting

On 5 December 2023, ASEC convened an online preliminary meeting to introduce the project and its public tender procedures to interested firms/vendors. The official tender is to be completed by the end of January 2024.



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PEACE

VOICE ON THE GROUND



Mr. Somchit Chanthavong

Lao PDR

Participating Explosive Ordnance (EO) Survivor for Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States

“I am a disabled person who suffered from an EO accident and would like to request the participation of EO survivors in any processes related to victim assistance work as it encourages EO survivors and their families to be involved and contribute to society.

I am on behalf of the person with disability caused by an Explosive Ordnance (EO) accident from Lao PDR as one of ASEAN Countries would like to propose and participate on the promotion of victim assistance and another in-direct environment such as their families to gain the value profits as Slogan "Leaving No One Behind."

I would like to thank the host country and ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) for inviting and supporting me and a delegation from Lao PDR to attend this very useful workshop. I hope the victim assistance program in Lao PDR will extend more support to all provinces in the near future.”

2 Projects



Highlights

To support the foundation for a prosperous and peaceful ASEAN community, **Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States**, implemented by ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC), organized two trainings on psychosocial support to victims of explosive ordnance in March and June 2023, providing 50 nurses and doctors and 50 psychiatrists and psychologists with demonstrated therapy through relevant psychiatric topics. **ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR) Training & Capacity Building Programme** held a training on 'Ceasefires and Development for Local Communities in Peacebuilding' from 25-27 October 2023 in Indonesia. 56 junior to middle-level government officials from ASEAN Member States and Timor Leste shared information and experiences on conflict management, ceasefires, development, and community-based peacebuilding.

Enhance Victim Assistance Programme in the ASEAN Member States



Overall Objective (Impact)

Strengthening collaboration among ASEAN Member States, particularly countries affected by landmines to coordinate and synergize actions with an aim to manage and address landmines issues and provide better service for victims of landmines



Outputs

- 1 Promote the establishment of the regional Victim Assistance (VA) network as a regional platform for knowledge sharing, needs and resources assessment among various ASEAN stakeholders
- 2 Assess the needs of victims of Explosive Ordnance (EO) in affected ASEAN Member States for further assistance
- 3 Assist the ASEAN Member States in providing psychosocial support to victims of EO
- 4 Research 'Community Perspectives of Humanitarian Action in Lao PDR and Viet Nam', and 'Accessibility and Inclusive Services on EO Victim Assistance: The Case of Cambodia'



Budget

USD2,061,429



Project Period

2021-2024



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC)

Main Activities in 2023

1 Regional Workshop in ROK (24-26 October 2023, Korea)

The Regional Workshop on Victim Assistance was organized in collaboration with the Peace Sharing Association and Yonsei University. The workshop was successful in creating a platform for sharing knowledge of best practices and discussing challenges in victim assistance service, and 59 participants had the opportunity to learn from the ROK experience.

2. 3rd (27-31 March 2023, Cambodia) and 4th Training (26-30 June 2023, Cambodia) on Psychosocial Support to Victims of EO

In collaboration with SingHealth, the 3rd and 4th trainings on psychosocial support to victims of EO targeted 50 nurses and doctors and 50 psychiatrists and psychologists. The interactive trainings demonstrated therapy through relevant psychiatric topics and the impact of landmines on individuals and families.

3. Research on Accessibility and Inclusive Services on EO Victim Assistance

The report was to provide an updated and comprehensive understanding of the VA framework in the Cambodian context, assessing the implication of the accessibility and inclusiveness of services for EO victims.



ASEAN Institute for Peace and Reconciliation (ASEAN-IPR) Training & Capacity Building Programme



Overall Objective (Impact)

Creating a peaceful region by enhancing understanding and building the capacity of different stakeholders and peace advocates on various aspects of peace-making, peace-building, and conflict resolution



Project Objectives

- 1 Enhance knowledge and understanding of peace and conflict dynamics, peacebuilding, and post-conflict peacebuilding in the Southeast Asian context
- 2 Increase understanding of ceasefire processes and build knowledge and awareness of ceasefire experiences from within and outside Southeast Asia
- 3 Increase understanding and appreciation of peacebuilding and development processes in conflict-affected communities, highlighting the roles of local actors
- 4 Enhance creative and analytical skills in peacebuilding, development, and conflict management through problem-solving group activities



Budget

USD978,866



Project Duration

2021-2025



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and implemented by ASEAN-IPR Secretariat (Jakarta)

Main Activities in 2023

1 Leg 2: 'Ceasefires and Development for Local Communities in Peacebuilding' (25-27 October 2023, Bali-Indonesia)

Led by a team of regional experts from the Republic of Korea (ROK), the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (UN-DPPA), Myanmar, the ASEAN Women Peace Registry (AWPR), and the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (Philippines), the training was attended by 56 junior to middle-level government officials from ASEAN Member States and Timor Leste. The workshop successfully set a platform to share information and experiences on conflict management, ceasefires, development, and community-based peacebuilding.





CONNECTIVITY

VOICE ON THE GROUND



Mr. Bui Xuan Nguyen

Viet Nam

1st Batch of ASEAN Smart City Professional Programme (2024~2026)

Vice Director, Project Preparation & Investment Unit. Management Authority for Urban Railway (MAUR), Viet Nam

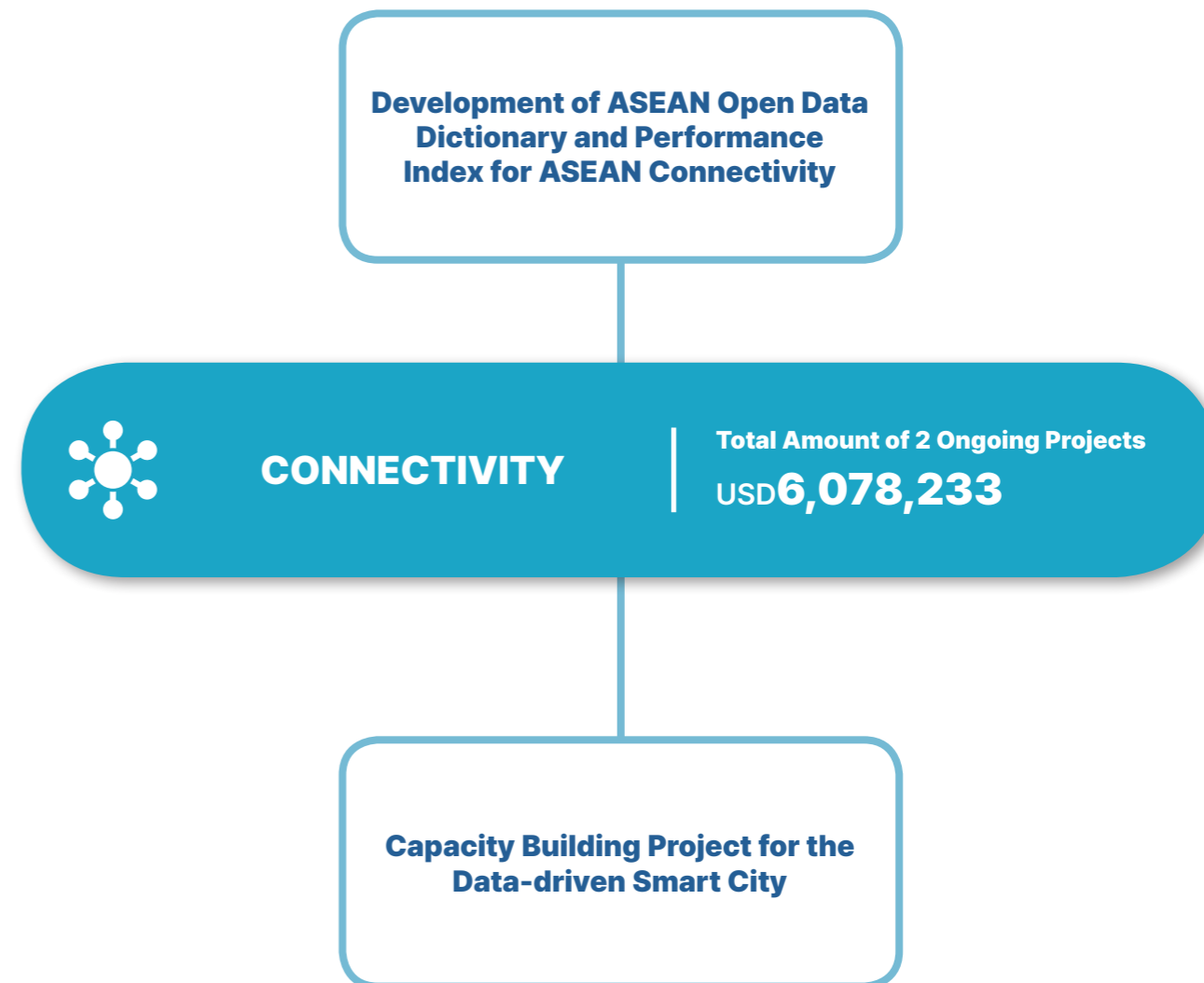
“I am pursuing a master’s degree at Seoul National University through the AKCF fund scholarship (ASEAN Smart City Professional Program, ASPP), focusing on Technology Management Economics and Policy (TEMEP) for smart city development.

The interdisciplinary program covers foundational subjects like microeconomics and statistics, as well as advanced fields such as the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Blockchain.

I am privileged to learn from world leading professors, industry leaders from renowned Korean firms, and prominent start-ups in such pioneering fields.

This program is transforming me, preparing me to contribute to my country's development and enhance cooperation between ASEAN and Korea. Together, we aim to build smart cities and create new societal values.”

2 Projects



Highlights

Home to more than 620 million people, ASEAN is committed to achieving a seamlessly and comprehensively connected and integrated ASEAN Community that will promote competitiveness and inclusiveness. **Development of ASEAN Open Data Dictionary and Performance Index for ASEAN Connectivity** convened a ‘Forum on Open Data Dictionary for Inclusive Prosperity in ASEAN’ on 15-16 June 2023 in Indonesia to present the key findings and major takeaways from the Project, such as ASEAN Open Data Development Framework. The project was completed as of September 2023 by providing a meaningful step in examining the open data preparedness from the regional perspectives, thereby providing a unified direction for open data development at the regional level. **Capacity Building Project for the Data-driven Smart City** invited 42 officials from nine ASEAN Member States to provide a two-week short-term training on data-driven smart city issues in August in Korea. 1st batch of eight students from five ASEAN Member States will start their master’s degree course for the spring semester in 2024.

Development of ASEAN Open Data Dictionary and Performance Index for ASEAN Connectivity



Overall Objective (Impact)

Improving the efficiency of government service delivery, supporting private sector innovation, and establishing the foundation for the open data network in ASEAN



Outputs

- 1 Develop a comprehensive report entitled 'Open Data Readiness in 10 ASEAN Member States' and a final report entitled 'ASEAN Open Data Development Framework'
- 2 Develop Online 'ASEAN Data Dictionary'
- 3 Organize two 'ASEAN Forums on Open Data' for discussion and capacity building



Budget

USD650,508



Project Period

2021-2023



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed and Implemented by National Information Society Agency (NIA), Republic of Korea

Main Activities in 2023

1 Development of ASEAN Open Data Development Framework

The framework was developed to introduce the situation of open data in each ASEAN Member States, as well as to present the activities required at the ASEAN Level for ASEAN Open Data development. It was endorsed by ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee (ACCC) in September 2023.

2 Forum on Open Data Dictionary for Inclusive Prosperity in ASEAN (15-16 June 2023)

The forum was convened in Jakarta, Indonesia, with over 88 participants from relevant ASEAN Sponsoring Bodies and open data-related agencies in ASEAN Member States. The forum presented the core findings and significant takeaways from the Project, serving as a venue for ASEAN Member States to share insights and opinions on possible future cooperation to strengthen the data ecosystem in ASEAN.

The project provided a meaningful step in examining open data preparedness from regional perspectives, thereby contributing to a unified direction for open data development at the regional level.

Based on the deliverables, the project proposes a next phase project intending to develop an integrated single platform covering public data and big data in the private sector. The next phase project is a subproject of the Korea-ASEAN Digital Innovation Flagship (KADIF) initiative, which is designed to support ASEAN's digital innovation by establishing tailored AI-related infrastructure and supporting the development of human resources based on an analysis of ASEAN's conditions for digital transformation.



Capacity Building Project for the Data-driven Smart City



Overall Objective (Impact)

Enhancing knowledge and understanding of ASEAN Member States (AMS) on data-driven Smart City by implementing capacity building courses for government officials and experts from AMS



Outputs

- 1 Conduct a two-week Short-Term Training Program to train AMS officials at GRC, SNU (5 batches)
- 2 Conduct a two-year Master's Degree Course to train AMS officials at SNU (2 batches)
- 3 Develop online Smart City knowledge sharing platforms



Budget

USD5,427,725



Proponent and Implementing Agency

Proposed by Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MOLIT), Republic of Korea

Implemented by Global R&DB Center (GRC), Seoul National University (SNU)

Main Activities in 2023

1 Short-Term Training Program of ASEAN Smart City Professional Program (ASPP) (25 August-8 September 2023, Korea)

This two-week program was held in Seoul, Korea. 42 officials from nine ASEAN Member States participated in the program, where they acquired the most up-to-date knowledge on data-driven Smart City issues.

2. Master's Degree Course of ASPP

Throughout the year, GRC, with the support from the ASEAN Secretariat, tried its best to promote this course to ASEAN Member States. By the end of 2023, the 1st batch of eight students from five ASEAN Member States were officially admitted for the spring semester in 2024.





Chapter 3

Note of Thanks

Note of Thanks

The 10th Meeting of the ASEAN-ROK Joint Cooperation Committee Working Group (JCCWG) in 2024 reviewing the milestones made by AKCF and AKPMT in 2023 highlighted the view that **"the AKCF, with its diversified and high-caliber projects, plays an increasingly important role in fostering ASEAN-ROK relations, and is also a key mechanism in the ROK's proposal to establish the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership with ASEAN"** Mr. Hoang Trang Hai, Deputy Chief of Viet Nam Mission to ASEAN & Co-Chair of the 10th ASEAN-ROK JCC WG meeting reported to the ambassadors at the JCC meeting.

Furthermore, in the reporting of the summary of the WG meeting to the 11th ASEAN-ROK JCC Meeting, AKPMT was commended **"for their hard work in reviewing 49 project proposals in 2023, in providing the valuable consultation and guidance for the potential project proponents, and in maintaining a high standard to guarantee that only quality proposals will be approved and receive funding from the AKCF."**

AKCF partners' support, dedication, and cooperation have enabled AKCF and AKPMT to continue our work to foster ASEAN-ROK relations.

Taking this opportunity, we highly appreciate the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of ROK, ROK Mission to ASEAN, Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN, Viet Nam Permanent Mission to ASEAN as Country Coordinator between ASEAN and ROK (until July 2024), and ASEAN Secretariat for their unwavering support, coordination, and guidance for the AKCF.

Furthermore, we thank the proponents and implementing agencies for their commitment and seamless implementation of the AKCF projects, which, we believe, contribute to stronger partnerships between ASEAN and ROK and positive impacts in the region.

In 2024, ASEAN and ROK will celebrate the 35th Anniversary of ASEAN-ROK Dialogue Relations. In conjunction with this remarkable milestone, ASEAN and ROK are working toward the establishment of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnerships (CSP), which is the highest level of partnership between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners.

At this juncture, AKCF and AKPMT remain key mechanisms in ensuring that the CSP will be meaningful, substantive, and mutually beneficial.

Please accept this note of thanks as a token of our gratitude. Thanks to your invaluable support and commitment, we have had a very productive year. We look forward to deepening and strengthening our partnerships as we work together to advance ASEAN-ROK cooperation under the CSP.

For AKCF Project Development and Consultation

For AKCF Project Development and Consultation

ASEAN-ROK Programme Management Team (AKPMT)

The ASEAN-ROK Programme Management Team (AKPMT) was established at the end of 2016 and settled in the ASEAN Secretariat in 2020. In close coordination with the ROK Mission to ASEAN and the ASEAN Secretariat, the AKPMT works to effectively utilize, manage, and execute the AKCF. The AKPMT manages the AKCF projects during the whole project cycle, including formulation, implementation, and completion of programmes.

As of 2023, the AKPMT consists of eight members: six Jakarta-based members (a Team Leader, three Programme Managers, a Programme Officer, and a Finance Officer) and two Seoul-based members (two Programme Consultants).

Jakarta-based AKPMT members are stationed at the ASEAN Secretariat to



- Consult with potential partners for the formulation of quality proposals
- Review project proposals and support the project appraisal and approval process
- Keep track of the project implementation progress and expenditure
- Monitor and evaluate the approved projects
- Promote the AKCF to relevant stakeholders and the public

Seoul-based AKPMT members are stationed at the ASEAN Cooperation Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of ROK to



- Consult with potential partners for the formulation of quality proposals
- Review project proposals and facilitate the ROK's preliminary and final approval process
- Monitor and evaluate the approved projects
- Promote the AKCF to relevant stakeholders and the public