Concept Note
ASEAN COMMUNITY-BASED CLIMATE ACTION

BACKGROUND

The tropics are considered more vulnerable to the devastating impacts of climate change than other parts of the world. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C asserts that the highest mean temperature increases are in land and ocean regions in the tropics[1]. This condition poses a challenging issue to the Southeast Asia countries. The Southeast Asia's mean temperature is estimated to rise by up to 2 degree Celsius by 2050. As stated by the report, a failure to limit a 1.5°C increase will result in five particular climate risks for Southeast Asia, namely (i) an increase in high heat-related mortality rates; (ii) increased risk of drought-related water and food shortages; (iii) exacerbated poverty, greater inequalities and urban-related vulnerabilities; (iv) increased risk of crop failure and lower crop production; and (v) water shortages in arid regions.

The ASEAN countries are considered among the world's most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change[2]. Cambodia and Vietnam should concern to the impacts as rice yield in the Mekong River Delta is projected to decline by 6% - 12% and yields of other crops by 3% - 26% until 2050[3]. The rice yields could decline due to climate change by up to 50% by 2100 than that in 1990 in Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam[4]. Furthermore, the impact of slow-onset events such as droughts are consistent and becoming predominant on the agriculture sector. The agricultural drought caused 60% of the total losses, arising mostly from the various natural disasters ($86.5 billion) in the region, while 22.5% and 14.3% are due to flood and cyclone respectively[5].

The impacts of climate change could affect human livelihood in the region by threatening traditional livelihoods, exacerbating existing intra-state security threats, transforming territorial disputes and bilateral tensions, and straining already limited resources[6]. This can in turn incentivise inter-state competition for scarce resources and trigger large-scale migration, exacerbating old political tensions, giving rise to new ones, and causing difficulties for integration and multilateral initiatives within ASEAN. Most populations in ASEAN are

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[1] IPCC, 2018: Global Warming of 1.5°C.An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty [Masson-Delmotte, V., P. Zhai, H.-O. Pörtner, D. Roberts, J. Skea, P.R. Shukla, A. Pirani, W. Moufouma-Okia, C. Péan, R. Pidcock, S. Connors, J.B.R. Matthews, Y. Chen, X. Zhou, M.I. Gomis, E. Lonnoy, T. Maycock, M. Tignor, and T. Waterfield (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, NY, USA, 616 pp. https://doi.org/ 10.1017/9781009157940.

[2] Asia Development Bank and Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research. (2017). Recent regional climate change projections have consequences for human systems, particularly for developing countries in Asia and the Pacific. Retrieved from http://dx.doi.org/10.22617/TCS178839-2

[3] Teng, PPS, Caballero-Anthony M, Tian G. Impact of Climate Change on Food Production: Options for Importing Countries. Policy Br. 2015. doi:10.13140/RG.2.1.3875.6567

[4] Redfern, S., Azzu, N., Binamira, J.S., Meybeck, A., Lankoski, J., Redfern, S., & Gitz, V. (2012). Rice in Southeast Asia: facing risks and vulnerabilities to respond to climate change.

[5] Rezaie, A.M., Rahman, M.F., Huq, S. (2021). ASEAN Development Outlook Report: Natural Disaster, Climate Change, Environment and Response. University of Cambridge

[6] Haakon Fossum Sagbakken, Indra Overland, Monika Merdekawati, Hoy-Yen Chan and Beni Suryadi. (2020). Climate Change, Security and Regional Cooperation in ASEAN. ASEANFocus, Retrieved from https://www.iseas.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/ASEANFocus-March-2020.pdf

concentrated along the seaboards and on flat fertile plains threatened by sea level rise. Loss of substantial territory due to sea level rise is a major threat for Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. Loss of livelihoods may incentivise migration, both from within and outside the region. The population of ASEAN is projected to reach 770 million in 2040, according to the World Population Review, and this may further exacerbate possible migration-related and other tensions caused by climate change. While internal migration might be possible in some cases, most ASEAN member countries do not have sufficient fertile land to accommodate large influxes of people on a long-term basis[7].

Concerning the impacts, the ASEAN State of Climate Change Report (ASCCR)[8] provides an overall outlook and prioritizes specific adaptation and mitigation-related actions by 2030 and up to 2050, and which serve as the basis for ASEAN's transition pathway to reach its climate goal. ASEAN's broader climate goal consists of more specific goals for development, adaptation, mitigation, and synergies between adaptation and mitigation. Together, they constitute ASEAN's climate vision toward 2050, and provide a pathway for its achievement by ASEAN Member States (AMS). The key actions to transform energy and land-use systems in line with the ASEAN climate vision 2050[9]:

- Raising ambition further after duly achieving the near-term milestone of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy; Cooperation (APAEC) 2016-2025 renewable energy (RE) target;
- Formulating a transition strategy toward achieving sustainable and net-zero systems of energy and land-use;
- Promoting multiple co-benefits through a clean energy transition;
- Tracking and fixing the inverse relationship between energy and emission intensity reductions; and
- Maximizing the synergies between mitigation and adaptation actions that involve land-use change.

Among the major multilateral environmental agreements, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement enjoy full participation of all ASEAN Member States. They have all ratified the Paris Agreement and submitted their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), moreover some ASEAN Member States are in the process of reviewing and enhancing their NDCs and even preparing their second NDCs. Related to actions by ASEAN countries, there is an increase in the number of climate-related laws and policies issued by ASEAN countries to support their international obligations.

In responses to the climate change issues and needs, the AWGCC Action Plan (2021-2025) raises the needs for implementing climate change adaptation. The action plan already indicated a list of activities in the core them (1) climate change adaptation. One of the proposed activities that should be implemented is "*Exchange experience and lesson learn on local community based climate action. For example: Climate Village Program/Proklim in Indonesia*". This concept note focuses to endorse the proposed activity entitled "**ASEAN Community-Based Climate Action**". This activity requires a multi-stakeholder' engagement of party and non-party stakeholders[10]. The non-party stakeholders, which includes businesses, civil society

[7] ibid

[8] ASCCR (2021). *ASEAN State of Climate Change Report: Current status and outlook of the ASEAN Region Toward the ASEAN climate vision 2050*. Retrieved from https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/ASCCR-e-publication

[9] ibid

[10] unfccc.intl. (2023). What Are Parties and Non-Parties Stakeholders?. Retrieved from https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/what-are-parties-non-party- stake holder

organizations, and local communities, are playing an important role in the region's efforts to address climate change through community-based climate actions. Engagement with the non-party stakeholders is also essential for building broader support for climate action and ensuring that the benefits of climate action are shared across society. By working together, governments, businesses, and civil society organizations can accelerate progress towards a low-greenhouse gas emissions and resilient future for Southeast Asia. Effective engagement of non-party stakeholders in climate action is crucial for creating a more inclusive, effective, and sustainable response to the impacts of climate change in the region. To effectively engage these stakeholders, it will be important for ASEAN to develop clear and inclusive strategies for collaboration and action, especially through community-based climate actions initiatives.

This concept note mainly aimed to develop a document of compilation of community based actions on climate change across ASEAN countries. The document will contain: 1) Lesson learned, 2) Criteria of best practice, 3) Knowledge-based Management, and 4) Potential collaboration. The document is designed to promote community based action across ASEAN countries, disseminating best practices of community based action across ASEAN countries, adopting or connecting community based action conducted across ASEAN countries and finally accelerating community based action across ASEAN countries by involving roles or contributions of parties and non-parties.

THE STRATEGIES FOR ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY-BASED CLIMATE ACTION

The Community-Based Climate Action requires a number of strategies to encourage the involvement of multi-stakeholders in conducting actions at the local sites. Learning from the Indonesian experience, there is an initiative of community-based action on Climate Village Program named in bahasa Program Kampung Iklim (PROKLIM), managed by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Republic Indonesia[11]. The PROKLIM has been launched in 2012 and transformed into a national programme since 2016 to encourage and facilitate the active participation of multi-stakeholders, collaboration and partnerships among governments, local communities, local businesses, NGOs, private companies, academia, and financial institutions. The PROKLIM is an instrument to encourage climate change adaptation and mitigation actions at the site level, which are focused on strengthening local activities. The program is designed to increase community involvement and other stakeholders to strengthen adaptation capacity to climate change impacts and reduce GHG emissions.

The implementation of a community-based climate action approaches based on the partnership principle. The ASEAN countries should consider the following implementation strategy to endorse the adoption of the community-based climate actions in the region. The potential strategies are:

1. Strengthen local government capacity in supporting climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.
2. Strengthen community capacity in implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.
3. Establish partnerships with relevant ministries/institutions, local governments, the business world, and non-governmental organizations.

[11] Ministry of Environment in Indonesia. (2017). Roadmap of Climate Village Program (PROKLIM). A National Movement for Community-Based Climate Change Control. Ministry of Environment and Forestry for Directorate General of Climate Change Control.

4. Encourage the creation of leadership at the community level to ensure the continuity of the implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation activities as well as community economic activities.
5. Encourage the commitment of policy makers at the national and regional levels to support the implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts as well as community economic activities.
6. Disseminate the success of climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts at the local level.
7. Increase the development and application of appropriate technology that supports climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts at the local level as well as community economic activities.

OBJECTIVES

As pointed in the background, this concept note is proposed to develop a document of compilation of community based actions on climate change across ASEAN countries. The main goal is to promote the adoption of the community based actions in ASEAN countries. To achieve this goal, the objectives are to:

1. Develop knowledge management systems to share experiences, build capacity and promote best practices for implementing community-based climate actions in ASEAN countries.
2. Promote participation of non-party stakeholders in building strong and mutually beneficial partnerships between governments, businesses, civil society organizations, and local communities to implement climate actions in ASEAN countries.

INTENDED ACTIVITIES

The tasks and deliverables that must be carried out in the development of the document of community based actions on climate change across ASEAN countries include:

Task 1. Literature review and data collection of existing community based action in ASEAN. This task is directed to deliver: a report on the reviews and database of community based action for climate change in ASEAN

Task 2. Analysis of existing community based action in ASEAN. This task is directed to deliver: a report on aassessment and analysis for (i) community based action for climate change; (ii) legislative and policy review; and (iii) status of vulnerability and risk, including adaptation efforts.

Task 3. Facilitation, Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement. The task is to gather insight and input from key stakeholders for the co-development of community based action for climate change across ASEAN countries. The following workshops will cover the topics as laid out below:

Topic 1. Discussions on existing community based action for climate change
Topic 2. Discussions on the implementation and adoption of community-based climate action
Topic 3. Discussion on Research, Science, and Innovation needs
Topic 4. Development of the Implementation Plan
Topic 5. Communication, Training and Capacity Building
Topic 6. Development of Monitoring and Evaluations Measures

Task 4. Development of action and strategic plans for adaptation on climate change in ASEAN. This task is directed to deliver: a final report of the community based action for climate change in ASEAN. The report contains 1) Lesson learned, 2) Criteria of best practice, 3) Knowledge-based Management, and 4) Potential collaboration.

BENEFICIARIES

The implementation of the community-based climate action will increase the ASEAN capacity in addressing the impacts of climate change. The beneficiaries of this community-based action program consisted of:

- ASEAN organization and partners (e.g: environmental organization in ASEAN);
- State actors within countries (eg: National and sub-national governments);
- Non state actors within country and across the ASEAN member states; and
- Other potential beneficiaries, include: policy makers, children and youth, civil societies, non-governmental organizations, private sectors, and small enterprises.

TIMELINE

Below is the proposed timeline for the implementation of the initiative:

Phase	Task	Deliverable	Period
Inception Phase	Task 1. Literature review and data collection of existing community based action in ASEAN	Report on database of community based action for climate change in ASEAN	July (W1) – November (W3)
	Task 2. Analysis of existing community based action in ASEAN	Assessment and analysis report for community based action for climate change	
		Report on legislative and policy review	
		Report status of risk and vulnerability	
Interim Phase	Task 3. Facilitation, Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement	Facilitation of 6 topic workshops	July (W3) – October (W3)
		6 reports of stakeholder consultation including comment tracking matrix	
Reporting Phase	Task 4. Development of action and strategic plans for adaptation on climate change in ASEAN	Final concept note of community based action for climate change in ASEAN	October (W3) – November (W3)

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