

ASEAN Cooling: Energy Efficiency and Climate Mitigation in Sectors with High Cooling Demand

Objective	The project aims to improve the political, regulatory, and entrepreneurial conditions for enhancing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in sectors with high cooling demand across ASEAN Member States, aligning with the goals of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) Phase II.
Countries	ASEAN region with pilot measures in Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam
Sectors	Cooling-intensive sectors, e.g. food and beverage, and data centres
Budget	5 million euros
Donor	Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany
Tentative project start and duration	Marh 2025 – February 2029

The ASEAN region represents around 650 million people and an economic region with an annual growth rate of 5%. This is accompanied by a continuous increase in GHG emissions, mainly due to the high consumption of electricity that is growing by 6% annually. More than 50% of the growth in electricity demand is due to the increasing use of cooling technology. The large, fast-growing member states Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia are particularly significant here. Industries and companies with high cooling demand offer great potential for the implementation of energy efficiency measures and the use of climate-friendly cooling technologies and renewable energies.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the German International Cooperation Enterprise for Sustainable Development, is developing a project concept with the objective of mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in sectors with high cooling demand in the ASEAN Member States (AMS). These include food and beverage, and data centres.

The project will support public and private actors, including the Energy and Minerals Division (EMD) of the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) and the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE), in activities related to the following areas:

- Development of regional strategies and knowledge exchange among public institutions on measures for improving the framework conditions to foster investments in energy efficiency, climate-friendly cooling technology and photovoltaic systems that (partially) cover their electricity consumption.
- Support to national institutions for improving the framework conditions for GHG mitigation measures in sectors with high cooling demand in selected member states.
- Support to the private sector for the implementation of GHG mitigation measures in sectors with high cooling demand in selected member states.
- Regional exchange and knowledge dissemination of GHG mitigation measures in sectors with high cooling demand for the private sector.

To this end, the project supports the ASEAN member states in implementing selected measures of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC), the ASEAN strategy for carbon neutrality, and national energy policy strategies and national climate targets (Nationally Determined Contributions, NDCs).