



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Workshop report

Making climate finance work for agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific

25-27 March 2024
Phnom Penh, Cambodia



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Making climate finance work for agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific

25-27 March 2024 | Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Workshop report

Prepared by: Agrifood Sharm-El Sheikh Support Programme partners (CGIAR, the International Fund for Agricultural Development [IFAD] and the World Bank), ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN CRN), Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA), Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), COP 28 UAE Presidency, Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Partnership, Green Climate Fund (GCF), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), RECOFTC, Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP).

FAO and partners would like to thank Kimleng Saing for contributing to this report, Rathany Thany for photographs and Eisen Bernardo for illustrations.

This workshop report documents the results of a regional event [Making climate finance work for agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific](#) organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), with funding support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), in the context of the Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Partnership and with the partners of the Agrifood Sharm-El Sheikh Support Program (CGIAR, the International Fund for Agricultural Development [IFAD] and the World Bank), as well as the Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture through NDCs and NAPs (SCALA) programme, Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA), Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), COP28 UAE Presidency, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), RECOFTC and the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP).

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Executive summary

Despite the importance of agrifood systems in the fight against climate change, small-scale farmers have received a tiny share of available climate finance, and their share is declining. In 2021, [climate-related finance contributions towards agrifood systems declined by USD 19 billion](#), or 12 percent compared to 2020, and Asia was the region affected most by this decline, dropping by 44 percent compared to 2020. According to the Climate Policy Initiative, [climate finance for small-scale agrifood systems was only USD 5.53 billion in 2019/20](#), decreasing by 12 percent in 2021. To address these issues, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and its partners organised a regional event called [Making climate finance work for agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific](#) to strengthen a network of regional stakeholders and to discuss the strategies and investment vehicles required to make climate finance work for agrifood systems. The event took place in Phnom Penh at Hotel Cambodiana from 25 to 27 March 2024.

The three-day workshop gathered over 100 participants from Asia-Pacific, including government representatives from 14 countries, 34 partner organization representatives, farmer organization representatives, development partners and private actors. [Key takeaway messages](#) based on the participants' presentations, panel discussions, and interactive exercises are presented below:

- The trend of **declining financial support for smallholder farmers in the agrifood systems in the Asia-Pacific region** stood out as particularly worrying and needs to be reversed to make climate finance work for the agrifood systems. However, **various initiatives and pledges to mobilize finance for the agrifood sector came out during COP28**. These will be crucial to address the climate finance gap for agrifood systems.
- Some of the **technical challenges and needs** that countries in the region face include the **capacity gap between the government and stakeholders to access existing finance, data and information deficiencies, weak policies and regulations and competing governments' climate action priorities**. Despite these challenges, there were also investment opportunities and existing good practices across the region. For instance, the existing partnerships and cooperation through FAO, ASEAN-CRN and other networks, and government policy development and support for sustainable financing and carbon trading can be the means to scale up climate action, particularly in the agrifood systems.
- **Various investment strategies can help target climate action in the agrifood systems**. Access to climate finance, for example, through **compliance and voluntary markets, sovereign green bonds, risk insurance, blended financing and incentivizing private sector investment and mechanisms for locally-led adaptation** came across strongly in this session. **Methane calculation of rice, investment in research and development and value chain development** with a focus on climate-responsible products were specific topics presented during the session.

- **Regional network strengthening and partnerships to act on climate finance present strong opportunities.** Countries and development partners, including the private sector, networked and discussed in detail the countries' priority actions and needs, existing financial schemes that could support addressing the countries' needs, as well as identified ways forward so that development partners could technically and financially support scaling up the countries' priority climate targets.
- **In light of the new Green Climate Fund's (GCF) Readiness strategy 2024-2027, countries can better access climate finance.** Country participants engaged in a discussion and gained insight into a recent change in the GCF Readiness Programme and the overarching updated GCF Strategic Plan; this will allow country participants to prepare better to access available funding opportunities to support the countries' identified priority sectors.

The event was a testament to the power of collaboration, organized by FAO, with funding support from the GCF, in the context of the Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Partnership and with the partners of the Agrifood Sharm-El Sheikh Support Program (CGIAR, the International Fund for Agricultural Development [IFAD] and the World Bank), as well as the Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture through NDCs and NAPs (SCALA) programme, Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA), Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), COP28 UAE Presidency, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), RECOFTC and the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP).

This three-day event also allowed the members of the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), who serve as the focal points for the [regional Southeast Asia Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in the Southeast Asia](#) project, to advance the project's direction, and to contribute to the realisation of countries' nationally determined contributions (NDCs). The event demonstrated cooperation among countries to accelerate agrifood systems transformation amidst climate change and to drive the implementation of the COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action at the regional level.

The second Project Steering Committee meeting of the Southeast Asia Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture Priorities in Southeast Asia project was conducted to provide an update and progress of project activities, such as the DAE assessment and regional Risk Facility, validate the 2024 work plan at the regional and national level and conduct a stakeholder mapping exercise.

Acronyms and abbreviations

ACF	The Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation
ANGA	The ASEAN Negotiating Group for Agriculture
APRACA	Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association
ASEAN-CRN	ASEAN Climate Resilience Network
CCAC	Climate and Clean Air Coalition
CGIAR	Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research
COP	Conference of the Parties
DAEs	direct access entities
EWS	early warning system
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAST	Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation Partnership
FFF	Forest and Farm Facility
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GHG	greenhouse gas
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGES	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
IRRI	International Rice Research Institute
LDC	least developed country
MAFF	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
MoA	memorandum of agreement
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoU	memorandum of understanding
MRV	monitoring, reporting and verification
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NBC	National Bank of Cambodia
NDA	National Designated Authority
NDCs	nationally determined contributions
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SRP	Sustainable Rice Platform
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VCM	voluntary carbon market
WB	The World Bank
WEF	World Economic Forum

Table of contents

Executive summary	ii
Acronyms and abbreviations	iv
Table of contents.....	v
Background.....	1
Workshop objectives.....	2
Partners	2
Participant information	3
Workshop format	3
Workshop proceedings	4
Welcome and opening session	4
Introduction of participants and partner organisations.....	10
Section 1: A call to action: Making climate finance work for agrifood systems	11
Session 1.A: Review of outcomes of COP28 for agrifood systems.....	11
Session 1.B: Panel discussion on the outcomes of the COP28 for agriculture, nature landscapes, and agrifood systems	13
Session 1.C: Recent findings and opportunities on the current state of climate finance for the agrifood systems.	17
Section 2: Technical needs and challenges for scaling investment in climate action for agrifood systems.....	18
Session 2.A: Country perspectives on investment needs and challenges	18
Session 2.B and 2.C: Open and session planning: deep dives on strategies for scaling climate investments in the agrifood systems.....	19
Session 3: Investment strategies targeting climate action in agrifood systems.....	20
Session 3.A: Deep dive pitches	20
Session 3.B: Deep dive pitches: Round 1.....	20
Session 3.C: Deep dive pitches: Round 2.....	23
Session 3.D: Deep dive pitches: Round 3.....	24
Session 4: Strengthening the regional networks and partnerships to act on climate finance for the agrifood systems.....	26
Session 4.A: Sharing experience from regional and global networks:	26
Session 4.B: Building a regional network and work plan:.....	35
Session 5: Way forward.....	41
Session 5.A: Harnessing opportunities to move forward with GCF Readiness.....	41
Session 5.B: Closing session:	42
Project Steering Committee meeting	43
Session 1.A: Opening, workplan and progress:	43
Session 2: Thematic discussions	44
Session 2.A: Evaluating current and potential DAEs	44
Session 2.B: Risk Finance Facility: A case study.....	45
Session 3: Knowledge management and stakeholder communications	45
Session 3.A: Stakeholder mapping exercise	45
Evaluation.....	47
Conclusion	49
Annex 1: Participant information.....	50
Annex 2: Communications and visibility	57
Annex 3: Programme agenda.....	61

Background

Record temperatures and new climate anomalies emphasized the need for urgency in the fight against climate change. Agrifood systems, including smallholder farmers, are particularly vulnerable to changing growing season conditions and potential increased climate hazards. These systems are also a significant source of emissions. At the 2023 UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP), 159 countries, including 31 from Asia and the Pacific, signed the COP 28 Emirates Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action. Despite the importance of agrifood systems in the fight against climate change, small-scale farmers receive a small and decreasing share of climate finance.

Against this backdrop, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and partners organized a three-day regional workshop [Making Climate Finance Work for Agrifood Systems in Asia and the Pacific](#) from 25 to 27 March 2024 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to discuss strategies and investment vehicles for making climate finance work for agrifood systems.



The event also served as a dialogue to allow the members of the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), who serve as the focal points for the regional Southeast Asia Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in the Southeast Asia project, to discuss the direction of the project and its implementation and pass decisions to advance the project, contributing to the realization of countries' nationally determined contributions (NDCs). This initiative illustrates countries working together to accelerate the transformation of agrifood systems amidst climate change.

This workshop's report is summarized and produced as part of the event, which emphasizes the event proceeding and topics covered. Therefore, it is presented in the following sections: background, workshop objectives, workshop partners and participants, workshop format, workshop proceedings, workshop evaluation, and workshop conclusion followed by annexes.

Workshop objectives

This regional workshop on making climate finance work for agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific aimed to:

- identify climate finance challenges for agriculture, particularly for smallholder farmers, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and women in the Asia-Pacific region and
- discuss investment strategies and vehicles required to make climate finance work for agrifood systems.

The workshop aimed to achieve the following specific outcomes:

- Improved awareness of the decline of climate finance for agrifood systems in Asia-Pacific, particularly smallholder farmers, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, youth and women;
- Shared experiences of inclusive investment strategies to scale up climate finance for agrifood systems and smallholder farmers; and
- Strengthened regional networks of public, private, and civil society stakeholders across the agrifood systems, and fostered innovative partnerships aimed at improving investments for smallholder farmers.

Partners

This regional event was organized with the following partner institutions:

- ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN CRN);
- Asia-Pacific Rural and Agricultural Credit Association (APRACA);
- Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC);
- COP 28 UAE Presidency;
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)
- Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation (FAST) Partnership;
- Green Climate Fund (GCF);
- Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES);
- International Rice Research Institute (IRRI);
- Partners of the Agrifood Sharm-El Sheikh Support Programme [CGIAR], the International Fund for Agricultural Development [IFAD] and the World Bank);
- RECOFTC;
- Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP).

Participant information

The three-day event brought together over 100 participants across the Asia and Pacific regions, comprising practitioners in agriculture, climate finance specialists, development partners, private sectors, and relevant government officials to come together to discuss the emerging issue of climate finance for agrifood systems. The participant list can be found in Annex 1.

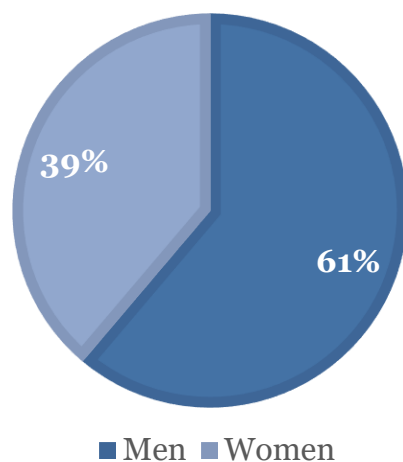


Figure 1: Participant information

Workshop format

The three-day workshop employed a participatory approach through presentations, group discussions, networking, and sharing lessons learned and best practices in terms of investment strategies, particularly in the agrifood systems.

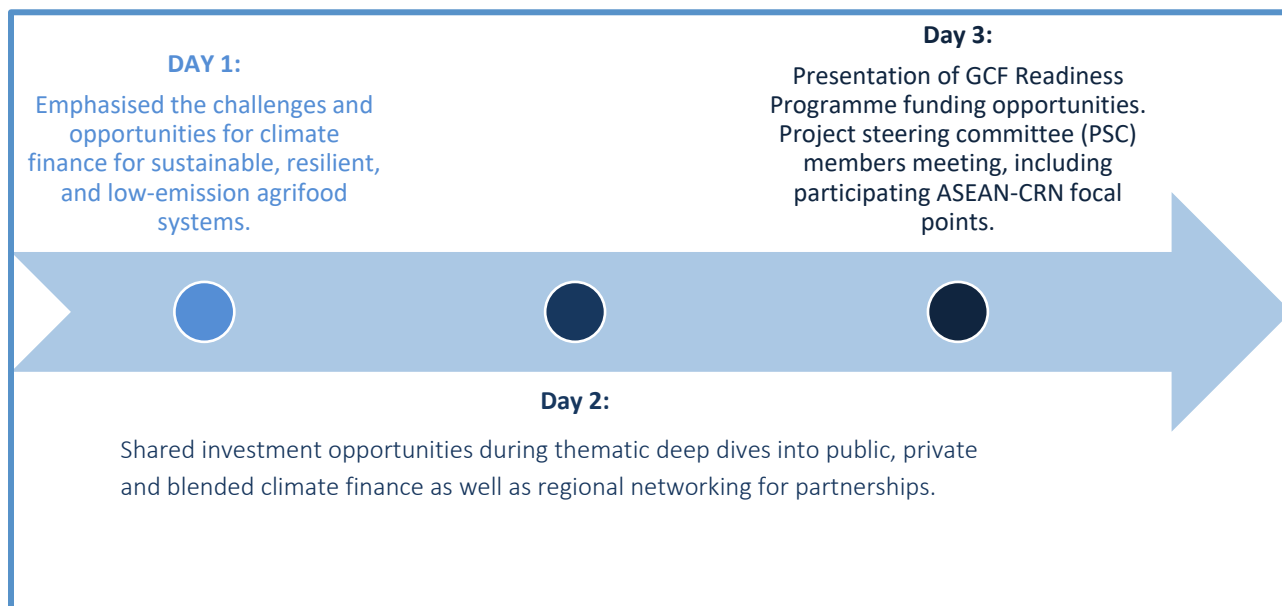


Figure 2: Workshop flow

Workshop proceedings

Welcome and opening session

Ms Rebekah Bell, FAO Representative in Cambodia



Ms Rebekah Bell expressed the pivotal role of smallholder farmers in the agrifood systems as well as their role in combating climate change. Yet they receive a tiny share of global climate finance, which continues to decline. To address this issue, Ms Rebekah Bell stated that collective collaboration among public-private stakeholders is required, and this effort is strongly aligned with the [FAO Strategic Objectives](#) and the four Betters. She believes that this event would extend and deepen partnerships and serve as a regional platform for stakeholders to discuss strategies and explore investment vehicles for effective flows of climate finance in agrifood systems.

She extended her gratitude to the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, specifically the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF) and the Ministry of Environment (MoE), and all partners, including APRACA, CCAC, CGIAR, COP28 UAE Presidency, IFAD, IGES, IRRI, RECOFTC, SRP, and the World Bank for their tremendous efforts in making this regional workshop possible. Lastly, she thanked all delegates for participating in the event.

Mr Azizi Ahmad Azmin, ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN)



On behalf of ASEAN-CRN, Mr Azizi Ahmad Azmin started by welcoming participants to this important workshop and expressed his appreciation to FAO and partners for co-organizing this event. He emphasized the strong leadership of Thailand as a chair of ASEAN-CRN and mentioned the contributions of Dr Margaret Yoovatana for making ASEAN-CRN a strong and active network, which has allowed finding sound solutions to the challenges faced by climate change impact.

He commented that since Malaysia became a member of ASEAN-CRN, the country has had the opportunity to utilize the knowledge of the Network, technical experts, scientists, and the private sector. Such a model of networking and cooperation also allows for better access to climate finance, including through the GCF.



To start, Ms Imelda Bacudo pointed out that Cambodia stands as one of the prime examples of a country that has signed the groundbreaking COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action, become a member of the Agriculture Breakthrough Agenda, and is a founding member of the Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation (ACF).

This illustrates that COP28 was not only convened to address global climate change challenges through policy discourse but also to elevate food and agriculture to the highest level of policy and political transformation of the agrifood systems. In conclusion, she highlighted how ASEAN-CRN and the ASEAN Negotiating Group for Agriculture (ANGA) have pioneered and directed inclusive policy formulation as well as better access to financing to support the agrifood systems transformation.

Mr Heng Bomakara, First Deputy Director General of Banking Supervision, National Bank of Cambodia (NBC)



Mr Heng Bomakara stated that this regional event served as a pivotal movement indicator and milestone for all key stakeholders and experts to discuss and explore strategies and policies that can make climate finance work for the agrifood systems. At the same time, it also helped to find ways forward for pooling resources, fostering regional and national partnerships, and developing innovative solutions for sustainable and inclusive future agriculture and food production.

He continued to elaborate that agriculture is not just about farming; it is also about feeding nations, fuelling economic growth, and nurturing vibrant communities. Particularly in 2023, the agriculture sector contributed almost 22 percent of Cambodia's gross domestic product (GDP).

He emphasized investing in solutions to reduce greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions, enhance resilience, and promote sustainable development to build more resilient and just agrifood systems. Given all these urgent and essential needs, NBC has been viewed as an important stakeholder and actor to support various initiatives.

H.E. Chan Phaloeun, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF)



H.E. Chan Phaloeun said that the unprecedented challenges posed by the political crisis, geopolitical tensions, COVID-19 pandemic and climate impacts were some of the factors that can negatively affect the progress of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while the financing gap to accelerate the implementation was another significant concern.

Like other developing countries, Cambodia has various development priorities; yet budget constraints are a major barrier for the nation to move forward. Thus, source diversification and financing models are required to bridge the financing shortfall. In her closing remarks, she expressed that this regional event was one of the mechanisms to gather expertise, development partners, the private sector, and government stakeholders to discuss further and share the best practices and current state of climate finance, as well as challenges and opportunities to scale up climate financing for the agrifood systems and smallholder farmers.

H.E. Chuop Paris, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment (MoE)



On behalf of the Nationally Designated Authority (NDA) of the Royal Government of Cambodia – Ministry of Environment, – H.E. Chuop Paris expressed his appreciation to FAO and its concerned partners for their efforts in organizing this important event on enhancing climate finance for agrifood systems in the region. He then emphasized that Cambodia has made strong commitments internationally, regionally, and nationally to reduce GHG emissions through its national policies and strategy development, including the updated NDC and Long-Term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality, in addition to government’s endorsement of relevant declarations during COP28.

He hoped that the workshop would shed light on the current state of climate finance for agrifood systems and facilitate the sharing of inclusive investment strategies. Lastly, he emphasized the importance of access to finance and technology in the fight against climate change. He stressed the need for effective, inclusive, and multilateral actions to support smallholder farmers in the agrifood systems.

Introduction of participants and partner organisations

Before the official discussion commenced, introductions of partner organizations and participants and an overview of the programme format and procedures were presented. Mr Beau Damen, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and Ms Imelda Bacudo, COP28 UAE Presidency moderated the introduction of partner organizations.



This engagement allowed participants to become aware of and prepare themselves for the three-day event, including the event objectives, expectations for stakeholder participation, discussions and networking opportunities. It also allowed to engage with partner organizations so that they could briefly introduce their institutions' work and how they can support country participants during potential future collaborations.

Section 1: A call to action: Making climate finance work for agrifood systems

Key takeaway messages from session 1: **A call to action: Making climate finance work for agrifood systems** are presented below:

- COP28 demonstrated significant global commitment to addressing climate change in the agrifood sectors, with major financial pledges and widespread adoption of the **UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food System and Climate Action** signaling a growing recognition of agrifood systems' crucial role in climate action.
- The complex, multifaceted nature of climate action in agrifood systems emphasizes the need for **integrated approaches across sectors and inclusive strategies that involve all stakeholders, from policymakers to smallholder farmers to youth.**
- Despite progress, challenges persist in climate finance for agrifood systems, particularly **declining support for small-scale farmers in the Asia-Pacific region, highlighting the urgent need to improve access to funding and reframe smallholder farmers as key partners in climate action and food transformation.**

Session 1.A: Review of outcomes of COP28 for agrifood systems



Figure 3: Farmers at COP28. Source: Presenter

Ms Imelda Bacudo provided an overview of the key achievements in the agrifood systems sector, including the funding agreements and operationalisation for the Loss and Damage Mechanism, the first-ever Global Stocktake agreement, as well as the successful adoption of relevant declarations, such as the signing of the COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food System and Climate Action by 159 countries.

Heat map: COP28 UAE Declaration & NSA CtA

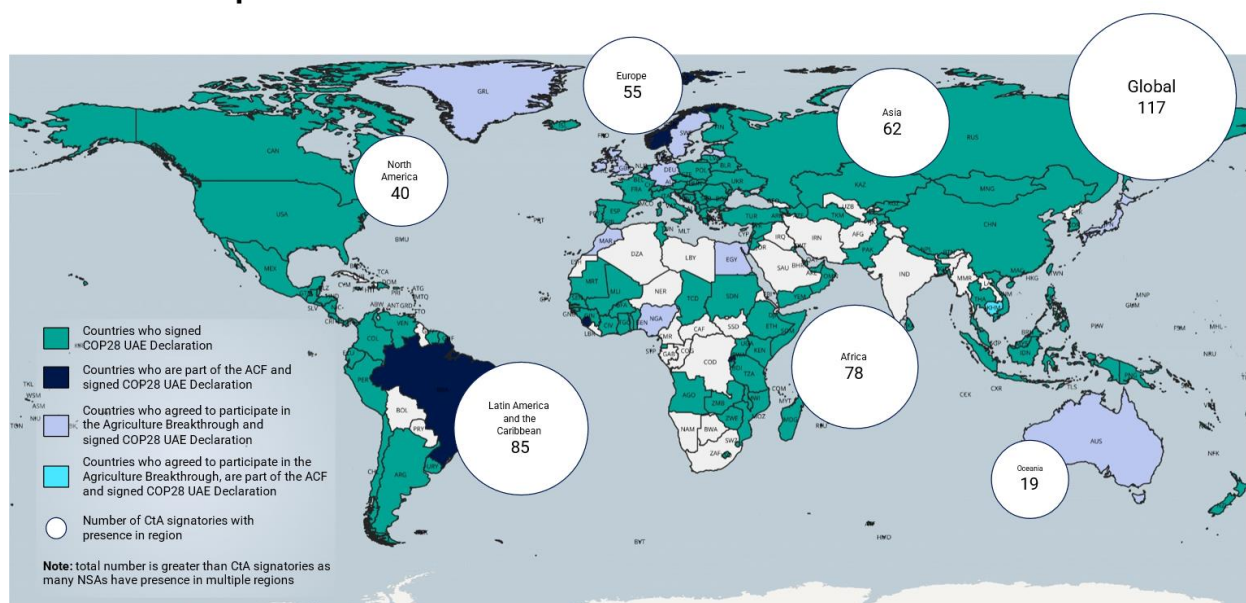


Figure 4: Signatory countries to COP28 UAE Declaration and NSA CtA. Source: Presenter

Additionally, the Alliance of Champions for Food Systems Transformation (ACF) was launched by the governments of Brazil, Cambodia, Norway, Rwanda and Sierra Leone, committing to systematic change and taking a 'whole of government' approach to delivering better outcomes for people, nature and climate.



Furthermore, one of the most significant resource mobilisation initiatives, among others, was the USD 200 million pledged by the government of the UAE and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate innovations supporting smallholder farmers to build resilience and adapt to climate change.

Ms Imelda also reported that the World Economic Forum’s (WEF) First Movers Coalition for Food (FMC4Food) and 20 food companies committed to mobilising around USD 10-20 billion by 2030, along with the Methane Action Alliance and Environmental Defend Fund (EDF) pledging about USD 200 million. Out of USD 57 million pledged at COP28 to agrifood system transformation, the Bezos Earth Fund is providing the Global Methane Hub alone with USD 30 million for innovative solutions aimed at curtailing methane emissions from livestock by up to 30 percent. Many other drafted documents and frameworks were also discussed.

Session 1.B: Panel discussion on the outcomes of the COP28 for agriculture, nature landscapes, and agrifood systems



Ms Imelda Bacudo moderated the first panel discussion to enhance an understanding of how the global financial pledges at COP28 benefit smallholder farmers. The discussion aimed to delve deeper into the challenges and the utilization of funding within the context of agriculture, nature landscapes and agrifood systems.

Question	Panellists' answers
<p>1) The first question was directed to <i>Mr Passang Tshering from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Bhutan from Bhutan</i> to share what inspired Bhutan to sign the UAE Declaration, and what were Bhutan's expectations after signing it.</p>	<p><i>Mr Passang Tshering</i> responded that climate action is aligned with Bhutan's beliefs and guiding principles. The country is committed to becoming a carbon-neutral society, which inspired Bhutan to sign the Declaration. The country will now have significant opportunities to access better climate finance, technical support, and capacity building to strengthen and enhance climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts.</p>



<p>2) The following question was then addressed to <i>Ms Regan Pairojahakij from RECOFTC</i>. Agriculture and forestry are often seen as not compatible sectors.</p>	<p><i>Ms Regan Pairojahakij</i> explained that it is increasingly apparent that we need to move beyond the dichotomy between sectors, as we have already recognized that a quarter of global emissions come from the land-use sector. Ms Regan demonstrated that the forestry sector</p>
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<p>What was your impression of the outcomes of COP28 associated with the agrifood systems? How can we move towards integrated financing?</p>	<p>seemed to have less prominence in COP28. However, data from the Global Stocktake has shown that there are many actions that need to be taken to uphold the 1.5-degree commitment. Regarding public finance, only 30 percent has been delivered in terms of climate expenditure. Article 6, on the one hand, is a key factor for the forestry sector; on the other hand, there was also disappointment for other sectors due to Article 6.4 requiring adherence to the UN carbon credit trading mechanism, which has yet to materialize. To some extent, Article 6.2 has been in place as a bilateral collaboration that countries in the region have adopted, for example, between Thailand and Switzerland).</p>
<p>3) Moving to the ASEAN Negotiating Group for Agriculture (ANGA), Dr Pham Dinh Hien from Viet Nam was asked to share about the Sharm-El Sheikh joint work programme on agriculture.</p>	<p><i>Dr Pham Dinh Hien</i> explained that the Sharm-El Sheikh joint work programme was a landmark initiative aimed at advancing discussions and enhancing countries' capacity for implementing climate change action in the agriculture sector. However, one of the key challenges faced by the joint programme was reaching a consensus and achieving transformative implementation at the ground level.</p>
<p>4) To address the above-mentioned issues, Mr Ioannis Vasileiou from the World Bank was asked to share his perspectives and discuss the Sharm-El Sheikh Support Programme, which was launched at COP28.</p>	<p><i>Mr Ioannis Vasileiou</i> emphasized the challenges and difficulties inherent in climate negotiations, particularly regarding the agrifood systems. However, the adoption of the Sharm-El Sheikh Support Programme has helped facilitate knowledge sharing and dialogue with relevant stakeholders. It has also supported countries in better accessing technical and financial support for local communities on the ground, including food producers, farmers and small agribusinesses. The Programme has also facilitated the introduction of concepts and best practices in climate finance for climate-smart agriculture and agrifood systems, as well as the alignment of countries' NDC implementation efforts.</p>



<p>5) Addressing the issue of the challenges in climate negotiations, <i>Ms Alicia Ilaga from the Philippines</i> was asked to share how ANGA has been one of the initiatives for stakeholders to work together in shaping policies for agriculture during COP28.</p>	<p><i>Ms Alicia Ilaga</i>, representing ANGA, commended the Group for its significant role both regionally and globally in addressing emerging global issues, emphasizing the strength found in unity. She further expressed that at the regional level, ANGA plays a central role in strengthening and enhancing the capacity of its Members through technical support, dialogue and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. This is alongside efforts to improve negotiation skills and facilitate better access to climate finance.</p>
<p>6) COP28 was organized to engage all relevant actors, including youth representatives. <i>Mr Muhammad Azeem Aslam from YOUNGO</i> was asked to explain how youth is involved at the intersection of climate finance and the agrifood systems.</p>	<p><i>Mr Muhammad Azeem Aslam</i> elaborated that youth organizations are at the core and have been working on initiatives and campaigns to promote food sustainability, consumption, and production during COP28. In his conclusion, he emphasized that investing in the future includes prioritizing youth as they are a significant part of it.</p>
<p>7) Many farmers remain sceptical of climate finance as a far-</p>	<p><i>Ms Irish Baquilat</i> indicated that the AFA has been actively working to support smallholder farmers in recognizing</p>

<p>removed concept. <i>Ms Irish Baquilat from the Asia Farmers Association (AFA) was therefore asked to share how the Association supports smallholder farmers.</i></p>	<p>their role in climate action and food transformation. For example, with support from various donors including FAO's Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) and IFAD, they have mobilized 5,000 subnational farmer federations in ASEAN for national and regional consultation workshops and forums. These serve as platforms for discussing dialogue on climate finance and its impact on the most at-risk and vulnerable communities, as well as small-scale farmers. When it comes to mobilizing climate financing, Ms Baquilat concluded that smallholder farmers should be seen and recognized as key partners rather than mere beneficiaries.</p>
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Session 1.C: Recent findings and opportunities on the current state of climate finance for the agrifood systems.

To conclude the panel discussion and session, Mr Beau Damen provided an overview of the current state of the global climate finance architecture that exists to support countries, particularly for the agrifood systems transformation.

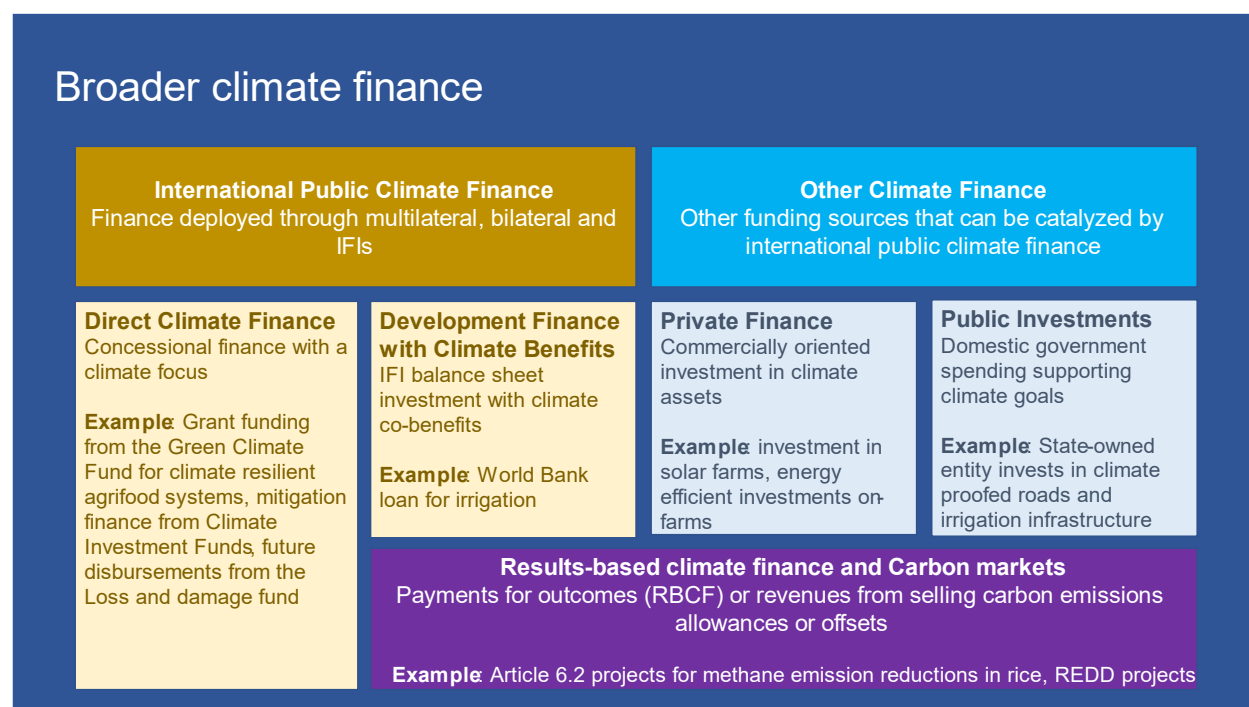


Figure 5: Broader sources of climate finance. Source: The World Bank.

He also elaborated on the current trends of financial decline to support small-scale farmers in the agrifood systems, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region. Therefore, broader climate finance sources are essential for the region. In addition to the declining trends in climate finance for the agrifood systems, smallholder farmers in the region also face poor and inadequate access to the existing financing channels.

Section 2: Technical needs and challenges for scaling investment in climate action for agrifood systems

Session 2.A: Country perspectives on investment needs and challenges

The session was facilitated by Mr Alejandro Moreno. The presentation provided an opportunity for each country to share best practices, lessons learnt and challenges encountered in the context of climate finance investment in agrifood systems.

It also highlighted existing national policies and strategies to support investment infrastructure as well as the technical support required to enhance their capacity to better access financial support. Although each country prioritizes specific climate action and corresponding investments in their agrifood systems, common investment opportunities and challenges were identified. These can serve as a basis for further development of a comprehensive action plan and project proposals.

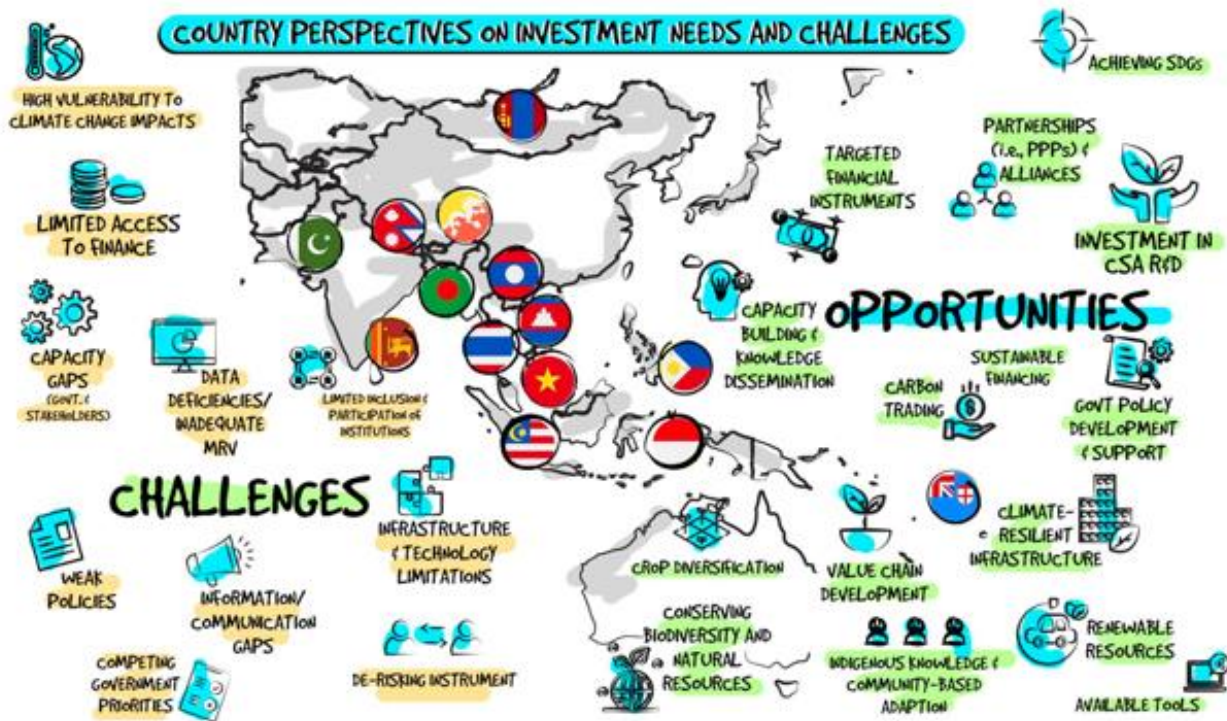
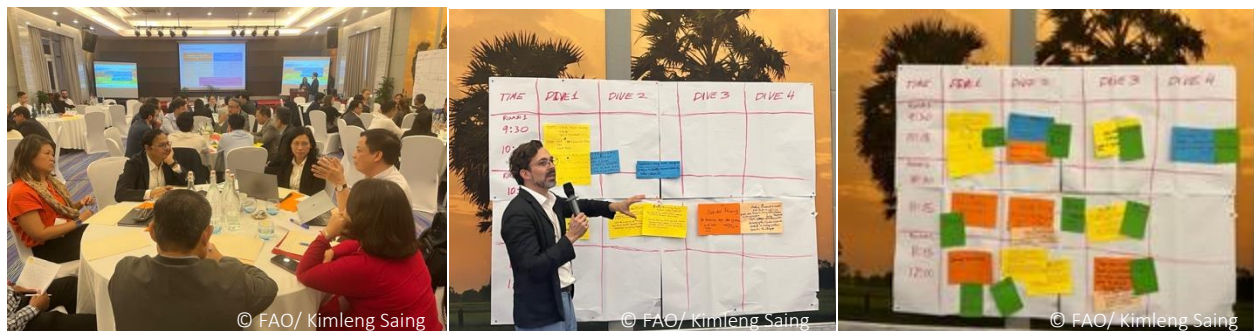


Figure 6: Country perspectives on investment needs and challenges. © IRRI/ Mr Eisen Bernardo

Session 2.B and 2.C: Open and session planning: deep dives on strategies for scaling climate investments in the agrifood systems

Mr Beau Damen coordinated the opening session on deep dive strategies for scaling up climate investments in the agri-food systems. During the session, he provided guidance to participants on how the discussion could be structured and organized. The main objective of the session was to co-develop a programme of engaging deep dives on making climate finance work for agrifood systems for the workshop programme on the second day.



By the end of these two sessions, participants had identified 10 deep dives. For each deep dive session, there was a session leader as well as resource persons to coordinate the discussion.

Session 3: Investment strategies targeting climate action in agrifood systems

Session 3.A: Deep dive pitches

To kick off the second day of the event, a brief recap of the results and activities from the first day was presented to the participants, focusing particularly on the countries' perspectives on investment needs and challenges. Mr Georgii Nikolaenko introduced a quiz relevant to the first day of the programme. Following this, based on the identified deep dive sessions, Mr Beau Damen reminded the participants of how the sessions should be followed and conducted. The resource persons and session leaders then provided a 2-minute presentation about their session lead to the group and encouraged participants to join their respective deep dive sessions.

Session 3.B: Deep dive pitches: Round 1





	Dive 1	Dive 2	Dive 3	Dive 4
DEEP DIVE SESSIONS ROUND 1 9:30-10:15	 ACCESSING CLIMATE FINANCE/ SYSTEM FOR REGIONAL FINANCING	 MECHANISMS FOR LocALLY-LED ADAPTATION FINANCING	 COMPLIANCE CARBON MARKET	 INVESTMENT ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (CLIMATE-RESILIENT CROPS & BREEDING)
ROUND 2 10:30-11:15	 RISK INSURANCE/ LOSS AND DAMAGE	 BLENDED FINANCING/ INCENTIVIZING PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS	 RICE (BENEFIT SHARING, MRV ETC.)	
ROUND 3 11:15-12:00	 SOVEREIGN GREEN BONDS	 VOLUNTARY CARBON MARKETS	 INCENTIVIZING VALUE CHAIN ACTORS/DEMAND FOR CLIMATE RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTS	

Figure 7: The 10 identified deep dive sessions. © IRRI/ Mr Eisen Bernardo



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DEEP DIVE TOPIC	SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION
<p>Accessing climate finance</p>	<p>Participants discussed a variety of financial instruments to better access climate finance, including bilateral and multilateral funding sources, as well as how to utilize public financing to leverage private investment. Barriers to engaging the private sector were also discussed and identified, including the high perception of risk and low return on investment, low liquidity, lack of capacity, high interest rates of climate finance and national debt.</p>
<p>Mechanisms for locally-led adaptation financing</p>	<p>This session touched upon the importance of risk assessment and information, especially considering that available risk information varies from one community to another based on a specific context and access to data at a local level. Hence, locally-led planning and adaptation are crucial, including such mechanisms as early warning systems (EWS), climate risk management as well as climate risk vulnerability assessment.</p>
<p>Compliance carbon market</p>	<p>This session provided an overview of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which allows countries to voluntarily cooperate to</p>

	<p>achieve emission reduction targets set out in their NDCs. It provided guidance on Article 6.2, which creates the basis for trading in GHG emission reductions across countries; Article 6.4, which is expected to be similar to the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol; and Article 6.8, which recognizes non-market approaches to promote mitigation and adaptation. The session also facilitated discussion on country-specific opportunities to leverage Article 6 to mobilize finance for sustainable agriculture and smallholder farmers, linkages with voluntary carbon markets, and adoption of Article 6 frameworks and operation manuals for ASEAN countries.</p>
<p>Investment in research and development</p>	<p>Participants discussed potential investments in climate resilience, particularly focusing on livestock breeding and crop resilience. The critical role of research and development in addressing vulnerability, identifying opportunities and understanding the impact of climate change was emphasized. Discussions also revolved around the need for data on vulnerability, frequency and intensity of extreme hazards. An adaptation action plan and possible recommendations were developed to explore investment opportunities for the agriculture sector and climate-smart agriculture.</p>



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Session 3 C: Deep dive pitches: Round 2

DEEP DIVE TOPIC	SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION
Risk insurance/ Loss and Damage	The available information and statistics on loss and damage in the agrifood systems were reviewed, with topics including risk management finance, risk finance, and curative finance discussed. To link these ideas, country-specific examples were included, such as the national frameworks on climate-induced loss and damage in Nepal and Fiji.
Blended Financing/ incentivizing private sector investment	The group discussed different existing instruments for blended financing. The deep dive session also aimed to address the challenge of unlocking private financing and contributions for the agriculture sector. Public-private partnerships were mentioned during the discussion on how to organize dialogue between these two actors to find solutions, specifically to achieve the ambition of 1 million hectares of rice in Viet Nam. The flow of climate finance for climate change adaptation and mitigation was also discussed. Lastly, crop insurance and the complementary policies to incentivize the transition were examined.
Rice (methane calculation)	Three core elements were covered, including the monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system, benefit sharing and mitigation options. The benefit sharing of carbon credits with farmers remains one of the major challenges due to a lack of existing information, while the adoption of price guarantees for farmers is yet to be implemented. The costs of MRV were explained, for instance, the USD 4 million project in Viet Nam. Additionally, available tools and cost-effective mitigation options were explored and shared. These resources can be found on IRRI, CCAC and FAO websites.



Session 3 D: Deep dive pitches: Round 3

DEEP DIVE TOPIC	SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION
Sovereign Green Bonds	<p>The session demonstrated the potential for sovereign green bonds to mobilize finance for sustainable agriculture, smallholder farmers and agri-SMEs. It shared best practices from Thailand’s Bank of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) in issuing a green bond in 2020, and from Fiji in developing a sovereign bond framework for green and blue bonds. It also featured insights from APRACA in supporting banks and countries to develop green bonds. Further, it facilitated a discussion of country interests in developing green bonds to deliver finance and support smallholder farmers. The farmers supplying local markets may not directly benefit from carbon markets or sustainable sourcing investments channelled through multi-national corporate value chains.</p>
Voluntary carbon markets	<p>The session provided an overview of voluntary carbon markets and opportunities to mobilize finance for sustainable agriculture and smallholder farmers. It facilitated a discussion of country experiences and interests related to connections between voluntary carbon</p>

	credits and country NDCs, entry points for smallholder farmers and NGOs and methodologies and costs associated with carbon validation and verification procedures. Tools and mechanisms for engaging in voluntary carbon markets were explored, as well as linkages with compliance markets associated with Article 6 of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement.
Incentivizing value chain actors/demand for climate-responsible products	The session deep-dived and explored different approaches and existing tools. Some takeaways from the discussion include: (i) the need to evolve the way premiums are perceived, (ii) the complexity of measuring the value chain due to the lack of methodologies and baselines, (iii) the significant role traditional mechanisms in the food sector play, such as labelling premiums, which are typically costly and lack sufficient evidence for customers who are willing to pay extra for low-emission food, and (iv) combining approaches that allow for sharing benefits such as gender benefits, health benefits, and multiple sustainability criteria.

Key takeaway messages from session 3: **Investment strategies targeting climate action in agrifood systems** are presented below:

- **Access to climate finance.** The discussions highlighted the importance of accessing climate finance through various instruments, **including bilateral and multilateral funding sources.** Participants explored ways to **leverage public financing to attract private investment** in agrifood systems while acknowledging barriers such as **high perceived risk and low returns.** **Locally-led adaptation financing** was emphasized, stressing the need for **context-specific risk assessments and adaptation strategies.** **Research and development** to address climate vulnerabilities and identify opportunities in agriculture is crucial, particularly for sustainable livestock management and crop resilience.
- **Carbon markets and green bonds.** Both compliance and voluntary carbon markets were discussed as potential sources of climate finance. Article 6 of the Paris Agreement was explored, detailing how countries can cooperate to achieve emission reduction targets. The session on voluntary carbon markets provided insights into mobilizing finance for sustainable agriculture and smallholder farmers, discussing methodologies, costs, and linkages with compliance markets. Sovereign green bonds were presented as another promising avenue for financing sustainable agriculture, with examples from Thailand and Fiji demonstrating their potential to support smallholder farmers and agri-SMEs.

- Value chain and private sector engagement. The discussions touched on various approaches to incentivize private sector investment and promote climate-responsible products in value chains. Blended financing was explored as a means to unlock private contributions to the agriculture sector. The complexities of measuring value chain impacts and the lack of standardized methodologies were noted as challenges. The need to evolve perceptions of premiums and combine approaches that share multiple benefits (such as gender, health, and sustainability) was emphasized.

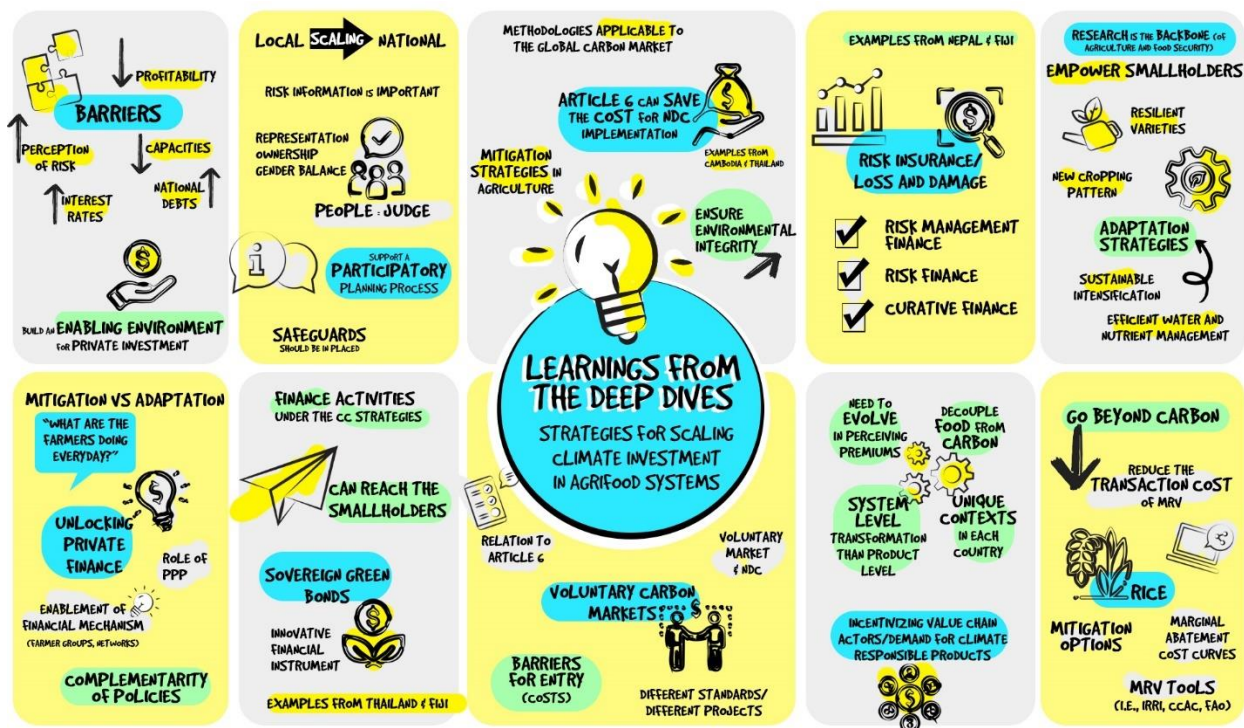


Figure 8: A summary of lessons learnt from the deep dive session. © IIRRI/ Mr Eisen Bernardo

Session 4: Strengthening the regional networks and partnerships to act on climate finance for the agrifood systems.

Session 4.A: Sharing experience from regional and global networks:

The panel discussion was coordinated by Ms Imelda Bacudo, aiming to engage panel members and participants in a discussion and share experiences about the role and benefits of networks in supporting countries and farmer groups to access climate finance. Participants' testimonies below are followed by a key takeaway section.



Dr Tran Dai Nghia, a representative from Viet Nam:

“Fighting climate change necessitates extensive information and broader collaboration. Yesterday, my management requested that I submit the benefit-sharing mechanism by the end of the week. Given that this regional event brought together experts, practitioners, researchers, and more, I feel privileged to leverage the network I have here to seek further information and best practices for the benefit-sharing mechanism.”



Dr Pham Quang Minh, ASEAN Secretariat:

“The network will enable relevant stakeholders to better prioritize their action plans for climate actions and ambition. It will also facilitate active and improved dialogue with public-private partnerships to scale up solutions and climate finance for decarbonization and climate resilience.”



Dr Suriyan Vichitlekarn, Mekong Institute:

“Network building and utilization are essential for promoting regional and global cooperation and partnerships among nations. This facilitates alignment with emerging transformative changes in the region that contribute to climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture.”



Dr Wyn Ellis, Sustainable Rice Platform:

“Credibility and legitimacy are crucial for building networks, partnerships, and multi-stakeholder collaborations. From a private sector perspective, representation also plays a significant role, requiring a role model to actively engage with relevant actors.”



Dr Azizi Ahmad Azmin, from Malaysia, representing ASEAN-CRN:

“Through collaboration with FAO, ASEAN-CRN submitted a proposal and secured funding for the ASEAN Readiness Project to implement climate action. A comprehensive investment strategy supporting smallholder farmers to implement and scale up climate action is a key model for receiving financial support. The availability of technology for climate change mitigation and adaptation, along with existing network platforms, were crucial considerations.”



Dr Prasun Kumar Das, APRACA:

“APRACA has been utilizing its network to enhance the understanding of climate finance regionally and globally by partnering with stakeholders through capacity development support, policy coordination with central banks, and other frameworks and strategic formulation and development initiatives.”



Mr Georgii Nikolaenko, FAO:

“FAST [Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation] Partnership was developed to implement activities and achieve the objectives of the FAST Initiative, launched by the COP27 Presidency. FAST Partnership aims to address the quantity and quality of climate finance. FAST consists of 26 members and operates across three pillars: access to finance, knowledge and capacity building, and policy support and dialogue.”



Ms Irish Baquilat, AFA:

“Through our partnership with IFAD, AFA leveraged its network to better understand the regional and global context, particularly for the formulation of a network of Agricultural Cooperative Alliances in the region.”

Key takeaway messages from session 4.A: [Sharing experience from regional and global networks](#):

- Networks play a crucial role in facilitating access to climate finance for countries and farmer groups by fostering collaboration, knowledge sharing, and capacity building.
- They enable stakeholders to prioritize climate actions, improve public-private partnerships, and scale up solutions for decarbonization and climate resilience.
- By leveraging diverse expertise and resources, networks contribute to the development of comprehensive investment strategies, technology adoption, and policy coordination, ultimately supporting the implementation and scaling of climate action in agriculture.

Session 4 B: Building a regional network and work plan

During the previous sessions, participants actively engaged in discussions and identified existing challenges and opportunities, financial instruments and how to leverage networks to scale up climate action.

This session provided a platform for participants to elaborate on and plan future initiatives that can support countries in addressing identified challenges and building a region-wide network of networks to scale up investment in climate action for the agrifood systems. Ms Imelda Bacudo moderated the session to map out the current state of climate finance in the region, with the aim of identifying ways in which development partners and the private sector can support countries in further developing and implementing projects.



The table below outlines countries' priority actions and needs, as well as potential partner organizations and their solutions that could provide support to address countries' needs:

Country	Priority actions and needs
Bhutan and Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing and strengthening climate risk transfer mechanisms • Implementing climate-smart agriculture (CSA) initiatives for smallholder farmers, including designing and implementing research and development (R&D) knowledge transfer in CSA • Developing mechanisms to access markets for low-carbon agricultural products • Developing green bond frameworks and piloting VCM initiatives • Increasing the role of the private sector in climate finance
Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing farm mechanisation and modernization initiatives • Strengthening early warning systems • Improving value chains and market linkages • Enhancing resilience by promoting more diversified and high-value crops
Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing unsecured lending mechanisms for agribusiness • Providing financing support through the Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (ARDB) • Enhancing agriculture sector readiness for improving climate finance work • Building capacity for policymakers and planners to mobilize investment for climate financing • Providing capacity training on data and information management systems related to climate issues • Establishing climate financing networks at all levels
Fiji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building and improving accessibility to technologies in the agrifood, fishery, forestry and energy sectors • Enhancing research and development capabilities • Implementing carbon trading and market mechanisms • Providing technical and financial assistance for mitigation, adaptation, and insurance efforts
Lao PDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing clear guidelines and mechanisms to access funding from GEF, the GCF as well as the Loss and Damage Fund

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing technical assistance to support the development of project proposals • Fostering collaboration between government and private sector entities to become DAEs
Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building climate-resilience through community-based adaptation and mitigation action • Developing framework and instrument for M&E of climate change adaptation
The Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing green loans for smallholder farmers • Establishing a regional risk insurance facility and accessing GCF financing • Implementing parametric thresholds and premium subsidies • Providing capacity building, advocacy, communication, and improving data accessibility for the loss and damage mechanism • Climate-resilient field schools • Community resilience building • Localized climate services to more sites • Research on climate information and applications • Technical assistance on participatory climate change action planning and GHG accounting for agriculture • Direct implementation of climate change plans for agrifood systems
Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing climate-smart agriculture technologies • Developing and adopting modern post-harvest technologies for the agrifood value chain • Providing capacity building and farmer training for CSA • Establishing databases and data streams • Investing in research and development and simplifying access to finance from the GCF
Sri Lanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting early warning systems for climate hazards • Implementing crop insurance systems and diversifying farming practices to enhance climate resilience
Thailand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a project development facility to streamline access, reduce processing time, provide technical assistance and offer capacity-building support

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating mechanisms to access markets for low-carbon agricultural products
Viet Nam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation and financing of the one million hectares of high-quality and low-emission rice project
Cross-country needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a Climate Adaptation Challenge Fund within existing mechanisms for producers' organizations • Implementing financial mechanisms for farmers to access green credit for climate adaptation and mitigation • Investing in infrastructure and strengthening the capacity of cooperatives • Developing clear guidelines and standards to meet different climate finance opportunities • Providing financing to support countries in developing legal and regulatory frameworks for participating in compliance markets • Developing tools to support targeting interventions in mission hotspots with high transformative potential, including baseline development, MRV, and training for policymakers and auditing bodies



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Agencies/ Partners	Existing schemes/initiatives/tools/support	Potential collaboration countries
ADB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia Pacific Project Preparation Facility • Venture Equity Fund • ADB Frontier Facility • ADB ACLIFF Financial Risk Management Support • ASEAN Capacity Green Finance Facility • Energy Transition Mechanism • Innovative Finance Facility for Climate in Asia and the Pacific (IF-CAP) – facility for guaranteed sovereign loans 	Bangladesh, Fiji, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam
AFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting national farmers organisations • Agri-workshop implementation, climate-resilient agriculture and agroecology 	Pakistan
APRACA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional initiative to increase climate finance through financial products in six countries • Collaboration with the Stockholm Environment Institute and ADA, Luxembourgish NGO 	Cambodia, Malaysia and Viet Nam
CCAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology and Economic Assessment Panel (TEAP) • Environmental Assessment Tools for Agri-Food Systems • Mapping methane emissions from agriculture (Cambodia, Viet Nam and other countries) 	ASEAN Secretariat, Bhutan, Cambodia, Nepal, the Philippines and Thailand
ecosecurities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to mobilize finance through VCM • Peatland conservation for sustainable fisheries and agroforestry • Feasibility studies to meet T-VER and international carbon standard 	Cambodia
FAO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhancing climate finance and implementation of KJWA priorities in Southeast Asia • Assessing existing and potential DAEs in agriculture for accessing GCF funds 	AFA, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal,

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAST Partnership • Mapping smoke from agricultural burning (in Lao PDR and regionally) • Sovereign Green Bonds to finance smallholder farmers and agri-SMEs 	Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
IGES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities to mobilize finance through Article 6 of the Paris Agreement • Regional collaboration centre (RCC) providing support on Article 6, climate finance, climate adaptation and stakeholder engagement 	AFA, Bhutan and Fiji
IRRI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Mover’s Coalition – led by the private sector • Regional agriculture mitigation facilities (GEF, GCF, World Bank) • One million hectares of high-quality and low-emission rice (food system transformation) 	Malaysia
Mekong Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mekong – Korean Cooperation Fund: 8th call (up to USD 1 million per project) • Mekong – Australia Fund on CSA value chain 	ASEAN Secretariat, Cambodia, Thailand and Viet Nam
NBC and IFC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxonomy reporting templates and disclosure requirements 	Cambodia
Rice Watch Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate and community-resiliency field school and building • Localized climate services to vulnerable sites and research on climate information & applications • Technical assistance to more local government units (provinces and independent cities, component cities and municipalities, and barangays) on participatory climate change action, planning, and GHG accounting • Climate finance for agriculture 	Sri Lanka and Pakistan
SRP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assurance for low-carbon rice • ASEAN engagement on sustainable rice 	ASEAN Secretariat and the Philippines

SEADRIF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster Risk Finance – parametric/index insurance for livelihood support to subsistence farmers 	Bhutan, Indonesia, Pakistan and the Philippines
GCF, WB, IFAD, UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate finance for agriculture UNDP’s Climate Finance Network and SDG Finance Academy 	AFA, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam

Session 5: Way forward

Session 5 A: Harnessing opportunities to move forward with GCF Readiness

To kick off, a recap of the activities from day 2 was presented, along with a quiz. Following this, Mr Alejandro Moreno provided a brief overview of the GCF Readiness Programme Phase II. Additionally, he highlighted the updates to the GCF Strategic Plan 2024-2027.



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The revised Readiness Strategy includes country and direct access entities (DAE) modalities. Under the country modality, countries can apply for up to USD 4 million per country for four years, and they remain eligible for USD 3 million to support the implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAP). In addition, least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS) can receive an extra USD 320,000 per country. At the same time, candidate and prospective DAEs can also receive funding up to USD 1 million.

A group discussion followed aimed at developing project concepts based on countries' priority sectors, with the goal of enhancing their capacities to access climate finance resources. Some of the project ideas discussed included water management, EWS and climate-resilient initiatives.

Session 5 B: Closing session

Moderated by Mr Beau Damen, he provided an overview of how the three-day event was organised. Session 1 focused on making climate finance work for the agrifood systems, followed by session 2, which shared lessons learned from each country regarding technical needs and challenges for scaling up climate investments. Session 3 included investment strategies targeting climate action in the agrifood systems, while session 4 demonstrated regional network strengthening and partnerships. The final session emphasized the way forward on how countries can better access climate finance.



Project Steering Committee meeting

Session 1 A: Opening, workplan and progress

On behalf of the GCF National Designated Authority of Cambodia, H.E. Sum Thy, Acting Director of the General Directorate of Policy and Strategy, delivered welcome remarks for the second Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting of the Southeast Asia Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia.



He also expressed appreciation to relevant partners for organizing this regional event, which enabled participating countries to discuss climate investment for climate action in the agrifood systems and to produce tangible outcomes for Cambodia and the region.

After the opening remarks, Mr Alejandro Moreno elaborated further on the objectives of the second PSC meeting, which included updating project progress, introducing new team members, and validating the 2024 workplan at the regional and national levels. Detailed activities at the country level and the workplan were presented to the PSC members, along with discussions on upcoming national workshops that would require engagement with stakeholders.

Session 2: Thematic discussions

Session 2 A: Evaluating current and potential DAEs

Ms Mikell O’Mealy from FAO presented an update on the ongoing assessment of Direct Access Entities (DAEs) in Southeast Asia being conducted under the ASEAN GCF readiness project. She highlighted that to enhance country ownership and alignment with national priorities, the GCF aims to increase the share of DAEs in its Accredited Entities network and double the number of DAEs with approved funding proposals. To achieve these objectives, more national and regional entities must be supported in applying for GCF accreditation and their readiness to design and implement GCF projects must be strengthened. For the agriculture sector, increasing the number of agriculture-related DAEs will enhance country access to climate finance and support national agriculture and climate change investment plans to guide GCF and other sources of funding.

Toward addressing this need, Ms Mikell O’Mealy discussed the objectives of the DAE assessment and shared initial findings, including challenges and opportunities identified by existing and potential DAEs in the region. She highlighted needs related to capacity strengthening for developing GCF concept notes and implementing GCF projects in the agriculture sector, as well as innovative investment options and finance models that could be used to engage DAEs in agriculture and climate change investment plans.



Following the presentation, country focal points discussed opportunities for identifying and supporting additional organizations that could potentially serve as DAEs in the agriculture sector, as well as DAE capacity-strengthening support that could be accessed through GCF Readiness funds.

Session 2 B: Risk Finance Facility: A case study

To commence, Mr Janek Toepper provided an overview of the GCF-ARECF project concerning the Southeast Asia Agricultural Risk Finance Facility, focusing on project output 4.1.2: Multi-country GCF concept note on a Southeast Asia Agricultural Risk Finance Facility. He proceeded to present the initial needs assessment on agricultural risk finance, introducing some globally and regionally supported programmes and financial initiatives. He then delved into how climate and disaster risk management and finance significantly contribute to reducing disaster impacts, covering risk prevention, preparedness, coping with disaster impacts, financial protection, risk transfer, and resilient recovery. These foundational concepts were pivotal in formulating the project design for the Southeast Agriculture Risk Finance Facility.



To conclude his presentation, Mr Janek Toepper elaborated on the next stage of proposal formulation and development, which includes the consultation phase on the understanding of risk finance in its narrow, extreme weather event-related sense or in its broader preparedness to and recovery from such event. Consequently, a pre-feasibility assessment, concept note development, and group discussions on the project outcomes will follow. He also addressed how to link financial protection and risk transfer to meet the needs of the agrifood sector.

Session 3: Knowledge management and stakeholder communications

Session 3 A: Stakeholder mapping exercise

In the final event session moderated by Mr Georgii Nikolaenko, knowledge management and communication took centre stage. Georgii began by highlighting how stakeholder mapping can be employed to shape the project's knowledge management and communication strategy. This mapping aimed to cultivate sustainable learning and sharing while enhancing the visibility of project activities. Participants were then allotted five minutes to discuss relevant stakeholders who should be engaged in project events, familiarize themselves with project reports and publications, or become informed about project communications.

In conclusion, Mr Georgii Nikolaenko underscored that the outcomes of this stakeholder mapping exercise would inform the target audience about the forthcoming knowledge management and communication strategy to be developed.



The stakeholder mapping exercise has shown that PSC members believe that government partners, financial institutions, including agricultural domestic banks, local authorities, international organizations, and civil society partners need to be managed closely during the preparation and dissemination of knowledge products. They are the most interested and influential on the project’s communications and knowledge management.

At the same time, research organizations, human rights groups, civil society organizations and some sectoral government ministries were identified as organizations to keep informed of the project’s communications and knowledge management activities, with high interest in these activities.

Evaluation

The workshop greeted 108 participants, including representatives from the ministries of agriculture and NDAs from 14 countries and representatives from 34 partner organizations and invited development partners, including from the private sector. Overall, according to the workshop survey, 57.1 percent of the respondents rated the workshop as “good” and 42.9 percent of the respondents deemed it to be “excellent.”

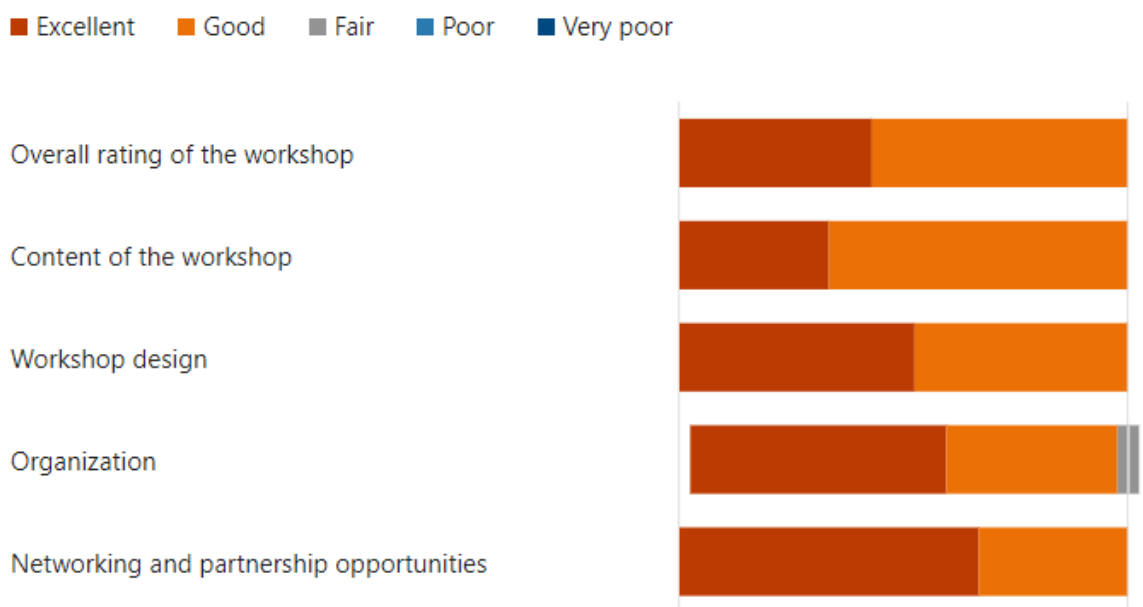


Figure 18: Rating of the workshop by the participants.

With 66.7 percent of the respondents rating it as “excellent” and 33.3 percent of the respondents rating it as “good,” networking and partnership opportunities were identified as the best part of the workshop. Workshop design and organization also were rated as “excellent” by over 50 percent of the participants, with one participant marking it as “fair” and the rest of the respondents indicating that the workshop design and organization were “good.” Last but not least, the content of the workshop, according to the respondents, was mostly good – 66.7 percent of the responses – as well as excellent.

The workshop has achieved all of its stated objectives. To begin with, 70 percent of the respondents indicated that the workshop allowed them to share the experiences of inclusive, investment strategies to scale up climate finance investment for agrifood systems and smallholder farmers in particular. In addition, 50 percent of the respondents also noted that the workshop strengthened regional networks of public, private and civil society stakeholders across the agrifood systems and fostered innovative partnerships aimed at improved investments for smallholder farmers. Importantly, 40 percent of the respondents mentioned that the workshop improved awareness of the decline of climate finance for agrifood systems in Asia-Pacific,

particularly smallholder farmers, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, youth and women. Overall, 55 percent of the respondents felt that all of the objectives above were achieved.

Preparations for future regional workshops should start 4 months before the event to allow sufficient time for procurement of venue and organization of accommodation (to start 4 months before the event and to be finalized 1 month before the event), for outreach and nominations (letters of invitations should go out 2 months before the workshop) and preparation of session plans and presentations (to start 1 month before the event and to be finalized 1 week before the event). Outreach to potential partners should start as early as possible. Some of the participants expressed the need for more networking opportunities, with the matchmaking session potentially taking up more time of the workshop. A field visit, as well as more representation from farmers, Indigenous Peoples and funders, would also be useful, according to the feedback collected from workshop participants.



Conclusion

The three-day regional event [Making climate finance work for agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific](#) organized by FAO and partners highlighted the urgent need to address the declining climate finance for small-scale agrifood systems in the region. Despite the crucial role of these systems in combating climate change, their share of available climate finance has been dwindling, with Asia being the most affected region.

The event brought together various stakeholders, including government representatives, partner organizations, farmer organizations, development partners, and private actors, to discuss strategies and investment vehicles to tackle this pressing issue. Through expert presentations, panel discussions, and interactive exercises, participants explored challenges, investment opportunities, and good practices across the region.

Key discussions focused on addressing the capacity gaps, data deficiencies, weak policies, and competing climate action priorities that hinder access to existing finance. Investment strategies such as compliance and voluntary markets, sovereign green bonds, risk insurance, blended financing, and incentivizing private sector investment were proposed as potential solutions.

The event also emphasized the importance of regional network strengthening and partnerships, with countries and development partners networking to identify priority actions, existing financial schemes, and ways to scale up climate targets. Furthermore, participants gained insights into the GCF's new Readiness strategy 2024-2027, which could help them better access available funding opportunities.

The event served as a testament to the power of collaboration, bringing together diverse stakeholders to address the critical issue of declining climate finance for small-scale agrifood systems in Asia and the Pacific. By fostering partnerships, sharing knowledge, and exploring innovative investment strategies, the event paved the way for accelerating the transformation of agrifood systems and driving the implementation of sustainable agriculture practices in the face of climate change.

Last but not least, the event allowed holding of the second PSC meeting of the Southeast Asia Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture Priorities in Southeast Asia project. The PSC meeting invited ASEAN-CRN focal points who serve as PSC members to learn about the progress of project activities, such as the DAE assessment and regional Risk Facility, validate the 2024 work plan at the regional and national level, and conduct a stakeholder mapping exercise.

Annex 1: Participant information

COUNTRY PARTICIPANTS		
Bangladesh		
Zohra Khatoon	Female	Joint Secretary, PPB Branch, Ministry of Agriculture
Bhutan		
Choney Zangmo	Female	Sr. Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
Passang Tshering	Male	Program Director, Agriculture Research Development Center, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
Cambodia		
H.E. Chuop Paris	Male	Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment
H.E. Chan Phaloeun	Female	Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
H.E. Sum Thy	Male	Acting Director General, Ministry of Environment
Chheng Vibolrith	Male	Deputy Director, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
So Srey Mom	Female	Deputy Director, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
Mak Soeun	Male	General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
Leng Lang Dy	Male	Official, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
Meng Monyrak	Male	Deputy Director General, Ministry of Environment
Markus Bürli	Male	Director of Cooperation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Nov Sarath	Male	Advisor, GIZ
Alexandra Mandelbaum	Female	Country Director, SNV
Pierre-Antoine Vernet	Male	Climate Finance Expert, Swisscontact
Heang Sreynang	Female	System Approach Coordinator, Swisscontact

Ream Soveth	Male	Intervention Approach Coordinator, Swisscontact
Heng Bomakara	Male	First Deputy Director General Finance Department, National Bank of Cambodia
Ngov Mengtaing	Male	Deputy Division Chief, National Bank of Cambodia
Sokha Penhbormey	Female	Officer, National Bank of Cambodia
Seng Youraden	Male	Director of Supervision Department II, National Bank of Cambodia
Lanh Dalong	Male	Section Chief of Supervision Department II, National Bank of Cambodia
Thay Jeudi	Male	Director of the Green Finance Department, Agricultural and Rural Development Bank
Truong Thi Phuong Thao	Female	Deputy Manager of FI Department, Agribank
Seng Thuy	Male	PSR Manager, USAID
Mark Selby	Male	Director, Head of Climate Finance, Mekong Strategic Capital
Kob Math	Male	Finance and Investment Director, Harvest Cambodia
Hing Sophaekinda	Female	Officer, GDICOM
Sola Heng	Female	Project Manager, SNV
Kong Sreyneth	Female	Managing Director, Kiri Bambo
Sorn Channvethey	Female	Owner, V Furniture Cambodia
Victor Van Spengler	Male	Cultivation-Advisor
Jenny Scharrer	Female	Director, KfW
Mark Doyle	Male	Agricultural Officer, USAID
Chuon Moniroth	Female	Finance & Investment Advisor, USAID Morodok Baitang
Chum Socheat	Male	Deputy Director, NCDD-S
Nhek Sophany	Female	Manager, Etiqa Cambodia

Hem Sovannarith	Male	Programme Manager, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Fiji		
Jemesa Davetanivalu	Male	Principal Policy Officer, Office of Prime Minister
Indonesia		
Pham Quang Minh	Male	Assistant Director Food, Agriculture and Forestry Division Sectoral Development Directorate ASEAN Economic Community Department (AECD)
Kardono	Male	Sub-division of ecological vulnerability assessment Directorate of Climate Change Adaptation, Directorate General of Climate Change
Lao PDR		
Sisaath Neumasa	Male	Deputy Director, Agricultural Promotion Bank
Soulaphone Inthavong	Male	Deputy Director General Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Bounpakone Phongphichit	Male	Director of Planning and Cooperation Division, Department of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Malaysia		
Mohd Fahmi Bin Mokhy	Male	Business Development and Investments Divisions (BDI), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industries (MAFI)
Azizi Ahmad Azmin	Male	Research Officer, Climate Change Programme (BE01), Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI)
Mongolia		
Otgonjargal Tumenjargal	Male	Head of Finance and Investment Department, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry
Nepal		

Sanjeev Karn	Male	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
Pakistan		
Najeeb Akram	Male	Deputy-Secretary, Ministry of National Food Security & Research
Muhammad Azeem Aslam	Male	Research Officer, YOUNGO
Philippines		
Annalyn R. Garay	Female	Agricultural Credit Policy Council, Department of Agriculture
Ma. Filipinas D. Gerardo	Female	Agricultural Credit Policy Council, Department of Agriculture
Norman William Kraft	Male	Agricultural Credit Policy Council, Department of Agriculture
Alicia Ilaga	Female	Director of the Climate Resilient Agriculture Office, Department of Agriculture
Jose Joaquin Alcaraz	Male	Climate Finance Policy Group, Department of Finance
Hazel Tanchuling	Female	Executive Director, Rice Watch Action Network
Monica Petri	Female	Senior Natural Resources and Agriculture Specialist, ADB
Irish Baguilat	Female	Coordinator, Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development
Helen Magata	Female	Communications Officer, Tebtebba
Singapore		
Ellen Yong	Female	Chief Operating and Financial Officer, SEADRIF
Sri Lanka		
Shiromani Edirimanna	Female	Additional Secretary (Agri-Tech), Ministry of Agriculture
Switzerland		

Alexis Massot	Male	Carbon Policy and Markets Associate, ecosecurities
Thailand		
Wannika Wutthi	Female	Plan and Policy Analyst, MUAC
Sairak Chailanggar	Female	Economist, MOAC
Wissarut Muangpluem	Male	Environmental, DCCE
Pongthai Thaiyotin	Male	Deputy Director-General of the Department of Agriculture
Charuwat Taekul	Male	Senior Entomology Specialist, Plant Protection Research and Development Office,
Theerawut Chutinanthakun	Male	Agricultural Research Specialist, Horticulture Research Institute
Vivek Misra	Male	Regional Climate Finance Specialist, UNDP
Wichai Paksa	Male	Director of the Office of Foreign Affairs, BAAC
Suriyan Vichitlekarn	Male	Executive Director, Mekong Institute
Viet Nam		
Dinh Pham Hien	Male	Official, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Bui My Binh	Female	Food Systems Focal Point, Senior Officer of the International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Nguyen Van Vuong	Male	Official of the Department of Crop Production, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Tran Dai Nghia	Male	Director of the Department of Natural Resource and Environmental Economics Studies, Institute for Policy and Strategy in Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural
Pham Rang Minh	Male	

Partners institutions

Prasun Kumar Das	Male	Secretary General, APRACA
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Ing Chhay Por	Male	National Coordinator, CCAC
Gregory Kohler	Male	Agriculture Expert, CCAC
Imelda Bacudo	Female	Senior Advisor on Food Systems, COP28 UAE Presidency
Ariel Yuqing	Female	Programme Manager, IGES
Chatthep Chanyam	Male	Climate Change Technical Officer, IGES
Nurmi Puri Dwi Pangesti	Female	Country Representative, IRRI
Eisen Bernardo	Male	Senior Communications Specialist, IRRI
Katherine Nelson	Female	Climate Change Specialist, IRRI
Regan Pairojmahakij	Female	Senior Programme Officer, RECOFTC
Wyn Ellis	Male	Executive Director, SRP
Lyden Kong	Female	Operations, the World Bank
Mudita Chamroeun	Female	Senior Rural Development, the World Bank

FAO Cambodia and FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific		
Rebekah Bell	Female	Representative, FAO Cambodia
Ann Chansopheak	Female	Programme Advisor, FAO Cambodia
Luca Gondolini	Male	PEARL Coordinator, FAO Cambodia
Nhak Siveun	Male	Technical Specialist, FAO Cambodia
Seng Soy	Male	Programme Assistant, FAO Cambodia
Michael Gaimk	Male	Consultant, Cambodia
ChanArun Phoeurn	Female	Technical Specialist (Climate Finance), FAO Cambodia
Reasmey Neou	Female	Programme Associate, FAO Cambodia
Leap Romam	Female	Programme Assistant, FAO Cambodia
Beau Damen	Male	Natural Resources Management Officer, FAO RAP

Alejandro Moreno	Male	Regional Coordinator and International Agriculture and Climate Change Specialist, FAO RAP
Mikell O'Mealy	Female	Climate Finance Expert, FAO RAP
Georgii Nikolaenko	Male	Knowledge Management Specialist - Agriculture and Climate Change, FAO RAP
Janek Toepper	Male	Climate Change and Disaster Risk Finance Specialist, FAO RAP

Annex 2: Communications and visibility

The workshop received extensive coverage through, including different FAO and partners' channels.

[Professional photographs](#) were taken over the three days, providing an opportunity to increase the visibility of the workshop by the partners as well as participants themselves in their personal communications, for example, on LinkedIn. High-quality professional photography has also allowed for a more visual and therefore detailed workshop report.

Three short interviews with Ms Irish Bangui, Coordinator at AFA, Dr Prasun Kumar Das, Secretary-General of APRACA and Mr Jemesa Davetanivalu, Principle Economist at the Office of the Prime Minister of Fiji has allowed to audio visually capture and illustrate with concrete examples the importance and need for increased climate finance for agriculture in Asia-Pacific.

Ms Bangui [highlighted](#) the critical need to increase climate finance for smallholders, pastoralists and fisherfolk across the region, illustrating the impact the lack of resources is having on the communities in the Philippines as they recover from extreme weather events.




Dr Kumar Das [emphasized](#) the urgency of engaging financial institutions in climate-resilient and low-emission agriculture, incentivizing them with the opportunities greening the financial sector brings for financial institutions themselves.

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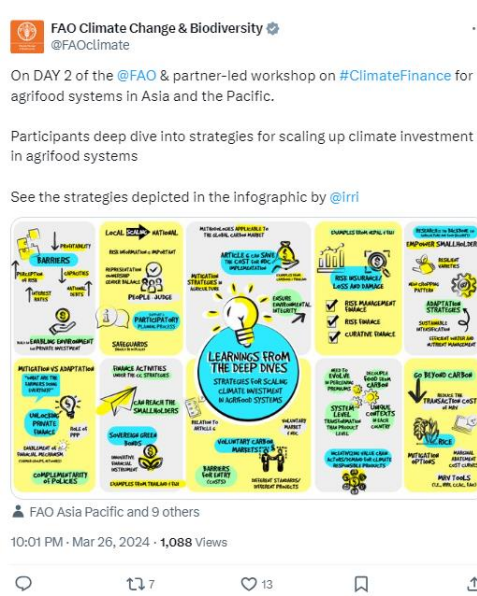
6:13 PM · Apr 23, 2024 · 1,405 Views

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Mr Davetanivalu [explained](#) that Fiji’s geography, exposed to cyclones and storms, creates the conditions for increased vulnerability of its smallholders, necessitating increased finance to adapt to changing climate, utilizing traditional knowledge.



Two infographics created during the workshop by Mr Eisen Bernardo have also appeared on FAO Climate Change and Biodiversity X in posts on [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#).



ASEAN-CRN wrote about the workshop on its webpage in a dedicated article [Making Climate Finance Work for Agrifood Systems in Asia and the Pacific](#), and SEADRIF allocated a section in its [April newsletter](#) to the workshop, highlighting that national and local governments or non-state actors can play a pivotal role in providing a safety net and livelihood protection to subsistence farmers against catastrophic events through insurance-backed programmes. RECOFTC published a [LinkedIn post](#) emphasizing the need for unified efforts and backing for rural communities, and, in their [LinkedIn post](#), ecosecurities highlighted that carbon markets can play a crucial role in delivering transformative finance to agriculture

RECOFTC also published a joint RECOFTC-FAO op-ed [Effective climate change policies in agriculture and forestry need an integrated, landscape approach](#) about the need for climate finance to apply a landscape approach to projects and programmes, connecting agriculture and forest conservation, with a variety of solutions to mainstreaming agroecology in national climate plans in a comprehensive manner. The op-ed explicitly refers to the workshop as an example of multistakeholder convenings to develop more balanced NDC plans, supporting both agricultural development and environmental degradation. The op-ed appeared on LinkedIn in promotional posts [1](#) and [2](#) from the co-authors, as well as in the [Climate Change Professionals Group](#) on LinkedIn.

The op-ed [has also appeared](#) in the Jakarta Post in the academia section. It then appeared in the Bangkok Post under the title [Green push needs united approach](#).

Annex 3: Programme agenda

Time	Session
	DAY 1: Monday 25 March 2024
	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION
8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:40	<p>Salute the National Anthem of the Kingdom of Cambodia</p> <p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Chuop Paris, Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment - H.E. Chan Phaloeun, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Chairperson of the Climate Change Technical Working Group - Heng Bomakara, First Deputy Director General of Banking Supervision, National Bank of Cambodia - Rebekah Bell, FAO Representative in Cambodia - Azizi Ahmad Azmin, Malaysia, ASEAN Climate Resilience Network - Imelda Bacudo, UAE COP28 Presidency <p>Introduction to partner organisations</p>
9:40-9:50	Workshop objectives and structure
9:50-10:10	Introduction of participants
10:10-10:30	Photo and Coffee Break
	SESSION 1: A call to action: Making climate finance work for agrifood systems
10:30-12:00	<p>Session 1</p> <p>Review of outcomes of COP28 relevant to the agrifood sector including Loss and Damage, the first Global Stocktake, GGA, and the COP28 Leader-led Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food System and Climate Action</p> <p>Present recent findings and opportunities on the current state of climate finance for the agrifood sector.</p> <p>Format: Panel discussion with ASEAN Negotiating Group for Agriculture (ANGA), country and development partner experts engaged in UNFCCC COP28 preparation</p>

Time	Session
	<p>and implementation on the key outcomes of the COP for agriculture, landscapes and agrifood systems.</p> <p>Moderator: Imelda Bacudo, COP28 Presidency</p> <p>Panel Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alicia Ilaga, Philippines - Pham Dinh Hien, Viet Nam - Passang Tshering, Bhutan - Ioannis Vasileiou, World Bank - Irish Baquilat, AFA - Muhammad Azeem Aslam, YOUNGO - Regan Pairojamahakij, RECOFTC - Beau Damen, FAO
12:00-13:30	Working Lunch
	SESSION 2: Technical needs and challenges for scaling investment in climate action for agrifood systems
13:30-15:00	<p>Session 2.A</p> <p>Country perspectives on investment needs and challenges</p> <p>Format:</p> <p>Participants from each country group will be asked to coordinate and make a short, 5-minute presentation on investment needs and challenges in the agrifood systems. A template for the presentation has been provided to each country group. The presentation should aim to follow the template and highlight key examples only.</p> <p>Alejandro Moreno, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, sums up the information and provides insights into opportunities.</p>
15:00-15:30	Coffee Break
15:30-16:30	<p>Session 2.B</p> <p>Open planning session: Deep dives on strategies for scaling climate investment in agrifood systems</p> <p>Format: Participants will be engaged in an open planning session to structure the workshop program on the morning of Day 2. Participants will be asked to suggest or volunteer 45-minute-deep dive sessions to be organized during the morning of Day</p>

Time	Session
	<p>2. The sessions can be organized on any topic related to matching country technical needs to inclusive climate finance investment for agrifood systems including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk-based financing options - Public models - Private and blended finance structures - Carbon markets Compliance, VCM and Corporate (Scope 3) <p>Each session will be assigned session leaders who will be responsible for creating a pitch to attract participants to join their session and for organizing the session including discussion materials and speakers.</p>
16:30-17:15	<p>Session 2.C</p> <p>Session planning and pitch preparation</p> <p>Format: Participants and resource persons will be provided with focused time to prepare their pitches and sessions for the Day 2 program.</p>
17:15-17:30	Quiz and closing of Day 1
DAY 2: Tuesday 26 March 2024	
9:00-09:15	Day 1 - Recap
SESSION 3: Investment strategies targeting climate action in agrifood systems	
09:15-09:30	<p>Session 3.A</p> <p>Deep dive pitches</p> <p>Format: Session leaders and resource persons will be provided with 2 minutes each to pitch their sessions to the group and encourage participation in their deep dive sessions.</p>
09:30-10:15	<p>Session 3.B</p> <p>Round 1: Deep dives on strategies for scaling climate investment in agrifood systems</p> <p>Format:</p> <p>Session leaders and resource persons for Round 1 will run their 45-minute sessions on their chosen topic related to strategies for scaling climate investment in agrifood systems.</p>
10:15-10:30	Coffee Break

Time	Session
10:30 - 11:15	<p>Session 3.C</p> <p>Round 2: Deep dives on strategies for scaling climate investment in agrifood systems</p> <p>Format: Session leaders and resource persons for Round 2 will run their 45-minute sessions on their chosen topic related to strategies for scaling climate investment in agrifood systems.</p>
11:15-12:00	<p>Session 3.D</p> <p>Round 3: Deep dives on strategies for scaling climate investment in agrifood systems</p> <p>Format: Session leaders and resource persons for Round 3 will run their 45-minute sessions on their chosen topic related to strategies for scaling climate investment in agrifood systems.</p>
12:00-13:30	Lunch
13:30– 14:30	<p>Session 3.E</p> <p>Learning from the deep dives</p> <p>Format: The session leaders will provide a short summary of the discussion during their sessions. All participants will be asked to engage in an interactive exercise to reflect on what they learned during the deep dives and identify areas for further learning and collaboration.</p> <p>Visual summary by Eisen Bernardo</p>
	SESSION 4: Strengthening the regional networks and partnerships to act on climate finance for agrifood systems
14:30-15:15	<p>Session 4.A</p> <p>Sharing of experience from regional and global networks promoting climate finance for agrifood systems</p> <p>Format:</p> <p>Panel discussion on networks active in the region and globally to support member countries' access and scale-up climate finance for agrifood systems. The moderator will then engage the panel members and the participants in a discussion about the role and benefits of networks in working to support countries' and farmers groups access to climate finance.</p> <p>Moderator: Imelda Bacudo, COP28 Presidency</p>

Time	Session
	<p>Panel Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pham Quang Minh, ASEAN Secretariat - Azizi Amin, ASEAN Climate Resilience Network - Suriyan Vichitlekarn, Mekong Institute - Tran Dai Nghia, Viet Nam - Wyn Ellis, Sustainable Rice Platform - Prasun Kumar Das, APRACA - Irish Baquilat, Asian Farmers Association - Georgii Nikolaenko, FAO
15:15-15:45	Coffee Break
15:45-17:00	<p>Session 4.B</p> <p>Building a regional network and work plan</p> <p>Format: Organizing partner organizations and participants will be encouraged to discuss ongoing, planned and future initiatives that could support countries to address some of the challenges and opportunities identified during the earlier sessions and build a region-wide network of networks to advance the broader agenda of scaling up investment in climate action for agrifood systems in the region.</p> <p>An interactive discussion will be organized to identify specific collaborations and future engagements and events that will bring the workshop participants together to advocate for more support for climate action and investment in agrifood systems.</p>
17:00-17:30	Feedback, Summary and Reminders
18:00 onwards	Dinner Reception and Social Event
	END DAY 2
	DAY 3: Wednesday 27 March 2024
	SESSION 5: Way forward
8:30-08:45	Day 2: Recap

Time	Session
08:45-10:00	<p>Session 5.A</p> <p>Harnessing opportunities to move forward with GCF Readiness</p> <p>Format: Given that the second phase of the GCF Readiness Programme is going to launch in 2024, this session will be organized to allow participants to strategize on how they can use this opportunity and other complimentary funding windows to advance some of the key action items identified to support further scaling up investment in climate action for agrifood systems.</p> <p>An interactive discussion will be organized by country groups to develop work packages and project concepts that will strengthen their capacities to access climate finance resources and enhance engagement with partners including civil society, farmers groups, the private sector and financial institutions that could act as direct access entities for climate finance.</p>
10:00-10:30	<p>Session 5.B</p> <p>Closing session</p> <p>Format: The organizing partners of the event will offer a short closing word and vision for the next steps for the group.</p>
	<p>END OF MAIN WORKSHOP</p> <p>Program continues for participants from countries participating in the Southeast Asia Regional GCF Readiness Project</p>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
	<p>PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE</p> <p>Southeast Asia Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia</p>
	SESSION 1: Opening, workplan and progress
11:00-11:20	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome by H.E. Sum Thy, Acting Director General, Ministry of Environment (MoE) - Introduction and meeting objectives and structure by Alejandro Moreno, Regional Coordinator and International Agriculture and Climate Change Specialist

Time	Session
11:20-12:30	<p>Session 1.A</p> <p>Project workplan and progress</p> <p>Format: Alejandro Moreno will present the comprehensive workplan of the project, detailing upcoming activities, expected outcomes, and how participants can contribute moving forward. This session aims to ensure everyone leaves with a clear understanding of the next steps and their role in the project's success.</p>
12:30-13:30	Lunch
	SESSION 2: Thematic discussions
13:30-14:30	<p>Session 2.A</p> <p>Evaluating Current and Potential DAEs</p> <p>Format: During this session, participants will discuss the progress with the regional DAE assessment report on existing and potential agriculture related DAEs in Southeast Asia including summaries of consultations with NDAs, agriculture stakeholders and potential DAEs.</p> <p>Mikell O’Mealy, Climate Finance Specialist, will present the initial findings from the assessment. The presentation will be followed by a group discussion. Country focal points will be given 5 minutes to briefly present the situation of DAEs or potential DAEs in their countries.</p>
14:30-15:30	<p>Session 2.B</p> <p>Risk Finance Facility: A case study</p> <p>Format: During this session, participants will discuss initial scoping work prepared by the project team to define the regional risk facility concept note.</p> <p>Janek Toepper, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Financing Specialist, will present the initial idea note. The presentation will be followed by an interactive group discussion moderated by Alejandro Moreno. Discussion to focus on the relevance and impact of risk finance initiatives in participating countries.</p>
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break
	SESSION 3: Knowledge management and communications

Time	Session
16:00-16:45	<p>Session 3.A</p> <p>Strategies for Effective Communication and Knowledge Sharing</p> <p>Format: During this session, participants will discuss the knowledge management and communications strategy of the project.</p> <p>Georgii Nikolaenko, Knowledge Management Specialist – Agriculture and Climate Change, will lead an interactive exercise to gain views from participants on the types of knowledge management and communication activities that will increase the visibility and ownership of the project and its outputs.</p>
16:45-17:00	Closing
	END OF PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

