



Workshop report

# Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia

21-24 January 2025  
Chiang Mai, Thailand

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## Workshop report

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This workshop report documents the results of a regional event **Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia** organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and Thailand’s Department of Agriculture (DOA) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC), Mekong Institute, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Winrock International, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN). The event also celebrated the 10th anniversary of ASEAN-CRN, which enabled the creation of the project through regular knowledge exchanges and project development support.

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## Executive summary

The regional workshop **Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia** addressed the need for a sustainable transformation of agrifood systems in the region against the impacts of climate change on the sector. The workshop focused on enhancing climate finance access and policy implementation for the agriculture sector.

The overall event combined the regional masterclass of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) supported *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project, followed by a technical and knowledge exchange led by country participants and development partners. The rest of the event was dedicated to the tenth anniversary of the ASEAN-Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), which reinforced partners' commitment to continue supporting enhanced regional cooperation.

The workshop strengthened capacity for implementing and financing climate-smart agriculture and shared project development approaches for climate investments. The third Project Steering Committee meeting of the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project reviewed implementation progress and approved the 2025 workplan.

The technical programme delivered training on developing robust GCF proposals, emphasizing Theories of Change that demonstrate linkages between project activities and outcomes.

Six country-specific project ideas were presented and refined during working sessions:

1. SAMBO TREI Programme: Toward resilient ecosystems and inland fisheries in **Cambodia**
2. MARCO-PH: Mangrove and fisheries resilience for coastal communities in the **Philippines**
3. Application of innovative technologies to increase the productivity and income of rice farmers towards climate resilience and sustainable farming systems in **Malaysia**
4. Enhancing high-value, low-emission rice production through climate-smart agriculture and sustainable water management in **Viet Nam's** Mekong River Delta
5. Climate-smart initiatives for resilient crop value chain systems in **Thailand**
6. Sustainable agriculture adapted to climate change in the Uplands (SAACCU) in the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**

These proposals were developed through climate foresight planning processes. The Southeast Asia Agricultural Risk Finance Facility (SEA ARFF) was presented as a regional initiative to strengthen financial resilience against climate shocks for farmers across Southeast Asia.

The event concluded with a renewed commitment to regional collaboration, strengthened partnerships, and continued support for the ASEAN-CRN as a vital platform for advancing climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation across Southeast Asia.

## Background

Agrifood systems in Southeast Asia are central to national economies and support the livelihoods of millions of small-scale farmers. These systems require a sustainable, resilient, low-emission, and inclusive transformation to combat climate change effects while ensuring food security in the growing region.

Prioritizing investments in specific agrifood systems for climate action can improve access to climate finance. Project development is key to accessing both public and private finance and implementing policy. With the updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0), robust climate finance projects can support new policies and targets. Climate baselines, agricultural standards, and innovations in climate-resilient agriculture help countries achieve national targets, while climate-smart agriculture investment plans, green growth investments, and innovative insurance products are essential for financing implementation.



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The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Thailand's Department of Agriculture (DOA), along with the Mekong Institute, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Winrock International, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), with the financial support from the Green Climate Fund (GCF), organized a regional workshop **Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia**. The event showcased project ideas from the GCF Readiness project [\*Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia\*](#), allowed Project Steering Committee members to review progress, and facilitated knowledge exchange on the outcomes from the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (COP29). The workshop also celebrated ASEAN-CRN's 10th anniversary, highlighting its role in enabling the project through knowledge exchanges and development support.

## Workshop objectives

The workshop aimed to exchange knowledge about the implementation of national climate plans and highlight opportunities for financing these plans through climate-smart agriculture solutions for agrifood systems in Southeast Asia, particularly those benefiting smallholder farmers and women, host the third Project Steering Committee of the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project and celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-CRN.

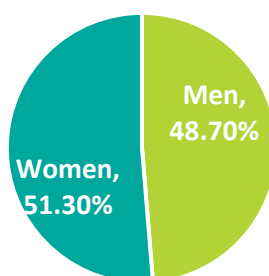
The workshop aimed to achieve the following specific outcomes:

- Southeast Asian countries' capacity to implement and finance climate-smart agricultural initiatives by aligning national policies, securing investments, and sharing practical solutions for sustainable food systems is strengthened;
- Shared knowledge of project ideas for climate investments in agrifood systems in Southeast Asia and further elaboration of the project ideas for GCF Concept Notes;
- Regional networks of public, private and civil society stakeholders across the agrifood systems are strengthened leading to improved investments in support of NDC 3.0 planning and implementation;
- Project Steering Committee members of the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project are informed of project activities and updates.

## Participant information

The three-day event brought together 119 participants from across Southeast Asia, comprising practitioners in agriculture and climate change, including government officials, climate finance specialists, development partners and private sector and civil society representatives to discuss climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation. Women constituted 51.30 percent of all the participants as reflected in Figure 1 below. The full participant list is in Annex 1.

Figure 1. Participant information.

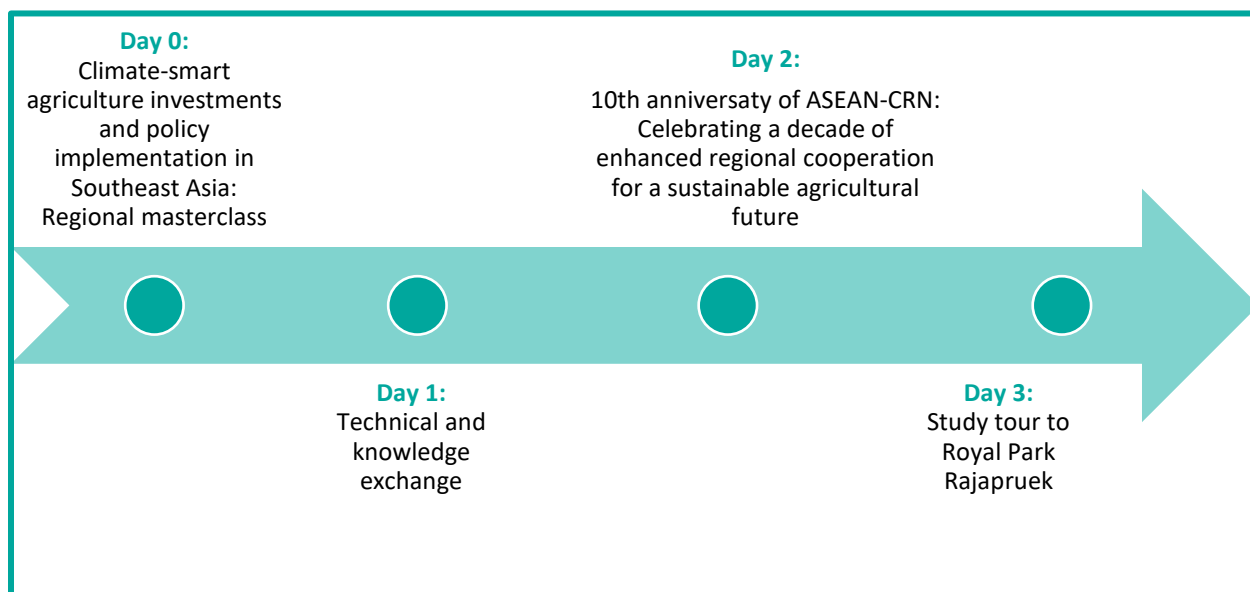


## Workshop flow

The overall event combined the regional masterclass of the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project on Day 0, followed by a technical and knowledge exchange by country participants and development partners on Day 1. Day 2 saw a celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-CRN and partners' commitment to continue supporting enhanced regional cooperation for a sustainable agricultural future through ASEAN-CRN. On Day 3, an optional study tour to Royal Park Rajapruek was organized for the workshop participants.

Holding the masterclass jointly with the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-CRN allowed the Project to efficiently utilize financial resources and participants' time, as many Project Steering Committee members and Project focal points are also ASEAN-CRN members.

Figure 2. Workshop flow.



## Workshop proceedings

### Regional project masterclass

Ms Imelda Bacudo, Climate Finance and Engagement Specialist, FAO and Mr Alejandro Moreno, Regional Coordinator and International Agriculture and Climate Change Specialist, FAO opened the masterclass of the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project, which was held on Day 0. It aimed to workshop and improve the six project ideas for GCF developed during the implementation of the Project and support country stakeholders in accessing the knowledge and information necessary to prepare robust projects.

Ms Bacudo began by setting the scene and presenting an overview of the ASEAN-CRN and its contributions. Her presentation highlighted ASEAN-CRN's involvement in the formation of the ASEAN Negotiating Group for Agriculture (ANGA) to better support ASEAN Member States (AMS) on climate-smart agriculture issues across Southeast Asia. In particular, Ms Bacudo explained how the ASEAN-CRN and ANGA have helped AMS outline concrete, regional common positions to advance climate action in agriculture under the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture.

The presentation highlighted several knowledge exchange events, including sessions on maize seeds village exchanges between the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand, training on using climate information for rice farming decision-making, and discussions on effective policies for promoting agricultural climate insurance to increase resilience in ASEAN.

Ms Bacudo identified key barriers to climate action in the region:

- The geographical scale of the sector and risks to farmers in adopting new technologies;
- Insufficient public climate finance compared to technical and infrastructure needs;
- Finance mechanisms failing to address the specific needs of smallholders;
- Fragmentation of initiatives across multiple agencies;
- Poor systems for measuring progress in policy implementation.

She then explained the advantages of an ASEAN approach, citing the region's substantial global presence in agriculture, shared barriers to action, ability to exchange experiences and tools, capacity to define regionally applicable standards, and collective influence on the global climate investment agenda for agriculture.

Mr Moreno next presented the workshop objectives and agenda, highlighting that the workshop aims to exchange knowledge about the implementation of national climate plans and highlight opportunities for financing national plans as well as solutions for agrifood systems in Southeast Asia, particularly those benefiting smallholder farmers and women.

## **Session 1: Preparing a GCF Concept Note and developing Theory of Change**

In the first session of the masterclass, Mr Moreno introduced the key steps to developing a GCF proposal with a particular emphasis on developing an effective Theory of Change. He began with a brief refresher on what GCF supports, showcasing the eight result areas, which cover both mitigation and adaptation.

Mr Moreno walked the participants through a ten-step process for developing GCF proposals, highlighting that a Theory of Change is a critical early component that should be drafted at the onset of project development. He presented the Theory of Change as informing the overall framework for developing the goal statement and the project idea, which both articulate the project rationale and provide the foundation for its logical framework.

Figure 3. GCF's thematic areas and results framework.



Source: The Green Climate Fund, 2025.

Mr Moreno emphasized that projects must align with the GCF mission to create transformative change leading to a paradigm shift catalyzing immediate project’s impact for long-term, sustainable and scalable transformation. Mr Moreno reiterated that a Theory of Change should focus on what will change, not which activities will be done.

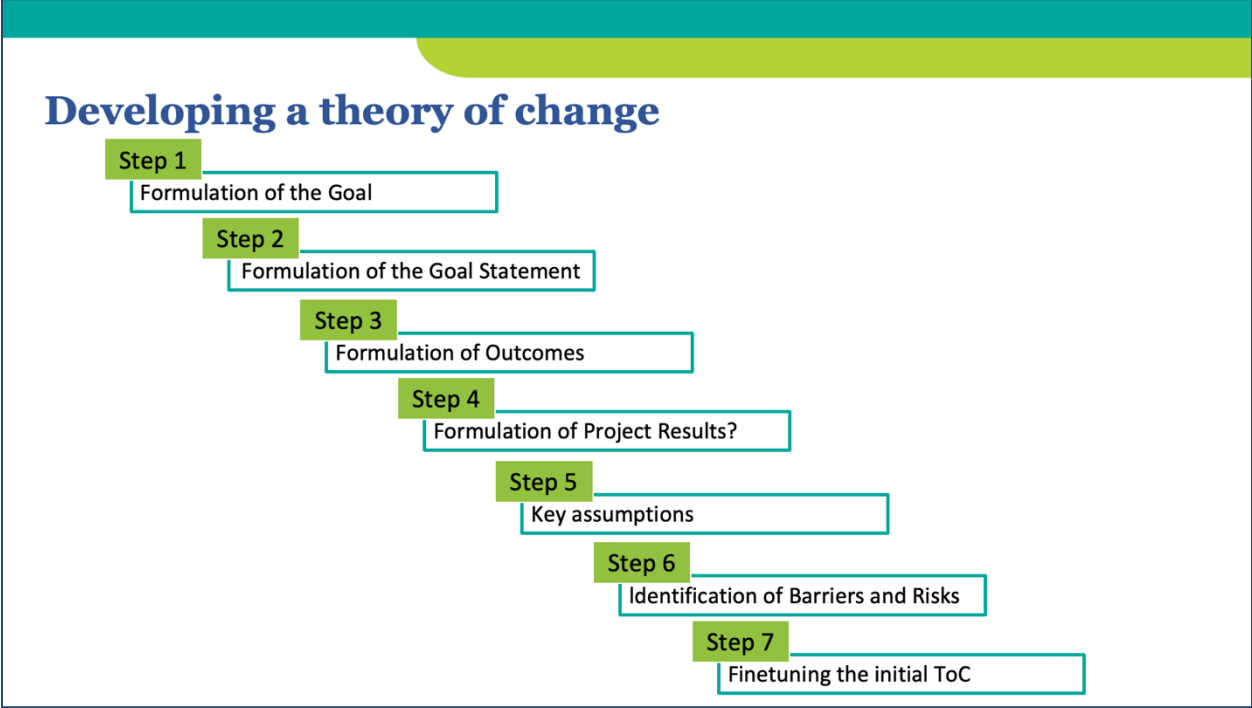
Figure 4. Steps to develop a project proposal.



Source: Adapted from the Green Climate Fund, 2025.

Key elements of the Theory of Change include a goal statement, the impact/paradigm shift, outcomes, co-benefits, outputs, activities, interlinkages, or how the activities, outputs, and outcomes are interrelated, assumptions, risks, and barriers.

Figure 5. Developing a theory of change.



Source: Author’s elaboration.

Mr Moreno presented the seven steps as outlined above. To prevent a common issue with the Theory of Change, Mr Moreno emphasized that outcomes are differentiated from outputs, defining outcomes as changes in conditions that occur between the completion of outputs and the achievement of impacts, while outputs are changes delivered because of project activities.

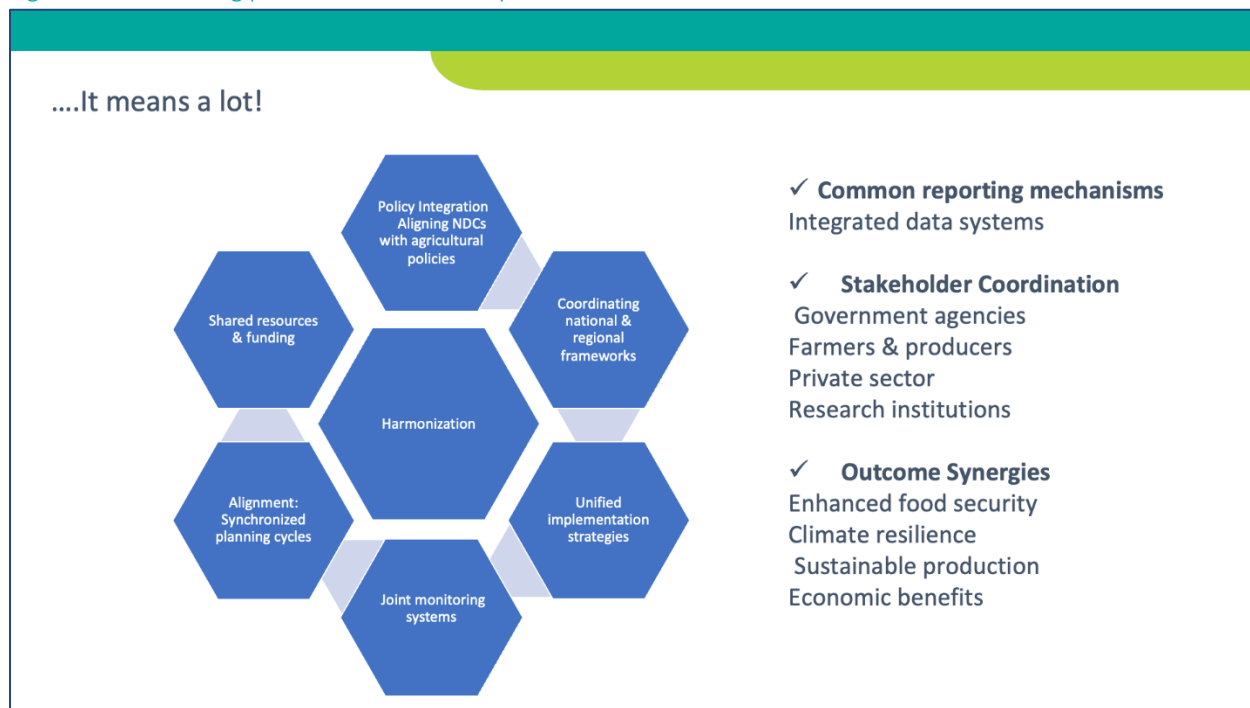
In addition, another common challenge highlighted was "leaps in logic," where proposals fail to show all necessary steps between outputs and goals. Moreno stressed the importance of context-specific assumptions rather than generic ones and explained the difference between barriers – obstacles preventing transformative change – and risks – potential events affecting implementation.

The session concluded with guidance on developing a Theory of Change narrative to accompany the diagram, limited to about 1,000 words. Key takeaways included starting with the goal statement, working downward to identify outcomes before determining activities, and ensuring no logical leaps.

## Session 2: Harmonizing horizons: Catalyzing climate action and agrifood system transformation

Dr Rathana Peou Norbert-Munns, Senior Agrifood System Policy Expert and Climate Foresight Planning Specialist, FAO presented the intersection of climate policies and agrifood systems in Asia-Pacific, focusing on NDCs, Long-Term Strategies for Climate Neutrality (LTS4CN) and food systems pathways.

Figure 6. Harmonizing policies on food security and climate resilience.



Source: Author's elaboration.

She explained harmonization between these policies along multiple dimensions: policy integration – aligning NDCs with agricultural policies, – coordinating frameworks, unified implementation strategies, joint monitoring, synchronized planning cycles, shared resources, common reporting mechanisms, integrated data systems, and stakeholder coordination—all working toward outcome synergies in food security, climate resilience, sustainable production, and economic benefits.

Dr Norbert-Munns outlined the time horizons for transformation: short-term (2025-2030), focusing on NDC implementation and initial agricultural modernization; medium-term (2031-2040), targeting major emission reductions with specific country goals; and long-term (2041-2050), aiming for carbon neutrality and complete food system transformation.

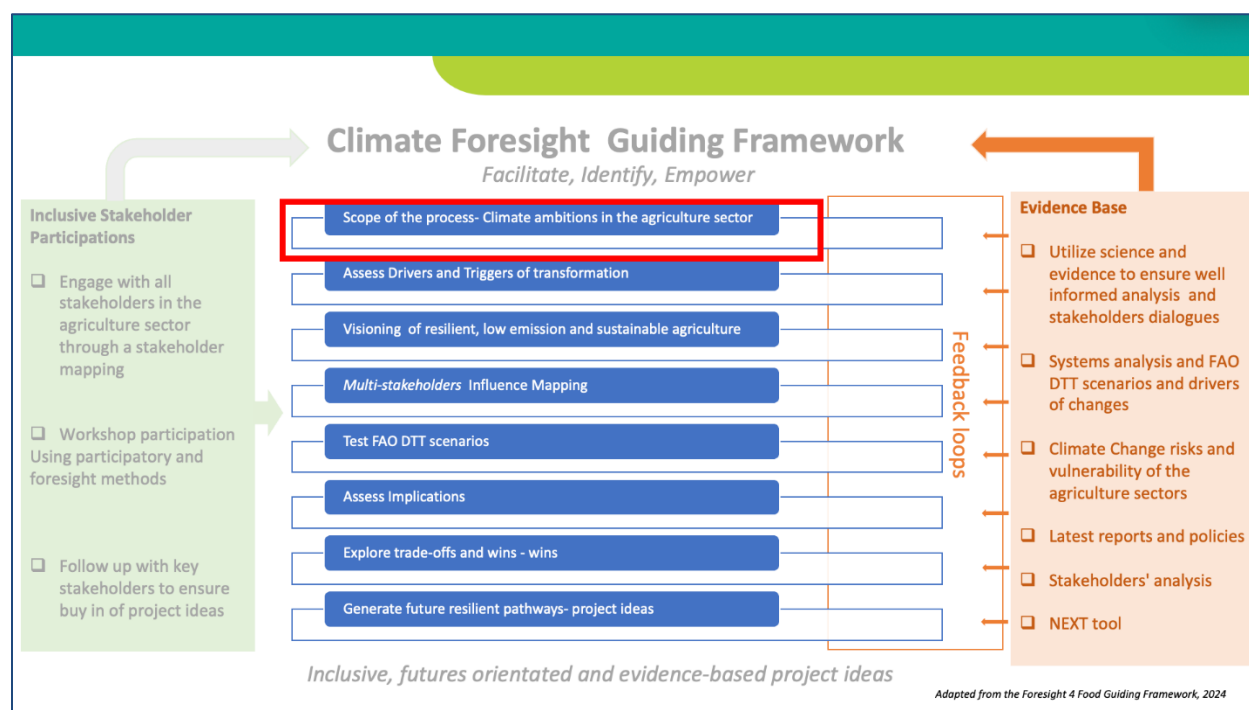
She emphasized the urgent need for convergence, citing statements from high-level officials, including UN Secretary-General António Guterres, who described climate and food crises as two

sides of the same coin, and referenced key declarations such as the COP28 UAE Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems and Climate Action.

The presentation highlighted concerning data on the progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Asia-Pacific, noting little advancement on hunger and food insecurity indicators, with 402 million people undernourished, or 56 percent of all undernourished people globally, and 44 percent unable to afford healthy diets. Simultaneously, she detailed the environmental crisis in regional food systems, including that agriculture accounts for 24 percent of Asia's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and 91 percent of freshwater use in South Asia.

Dr Norbert-Munns introduced the climate foresight planning process, which was implemented in all countries participating in the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project across Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam designed to facilitate inclusive stakeholder participation and evidence-based approaches to transformative change. She stressed that the first step of the climate foresight process is creating stakeholder alignment and momentum around intersecting climate policies and agrifood systems.

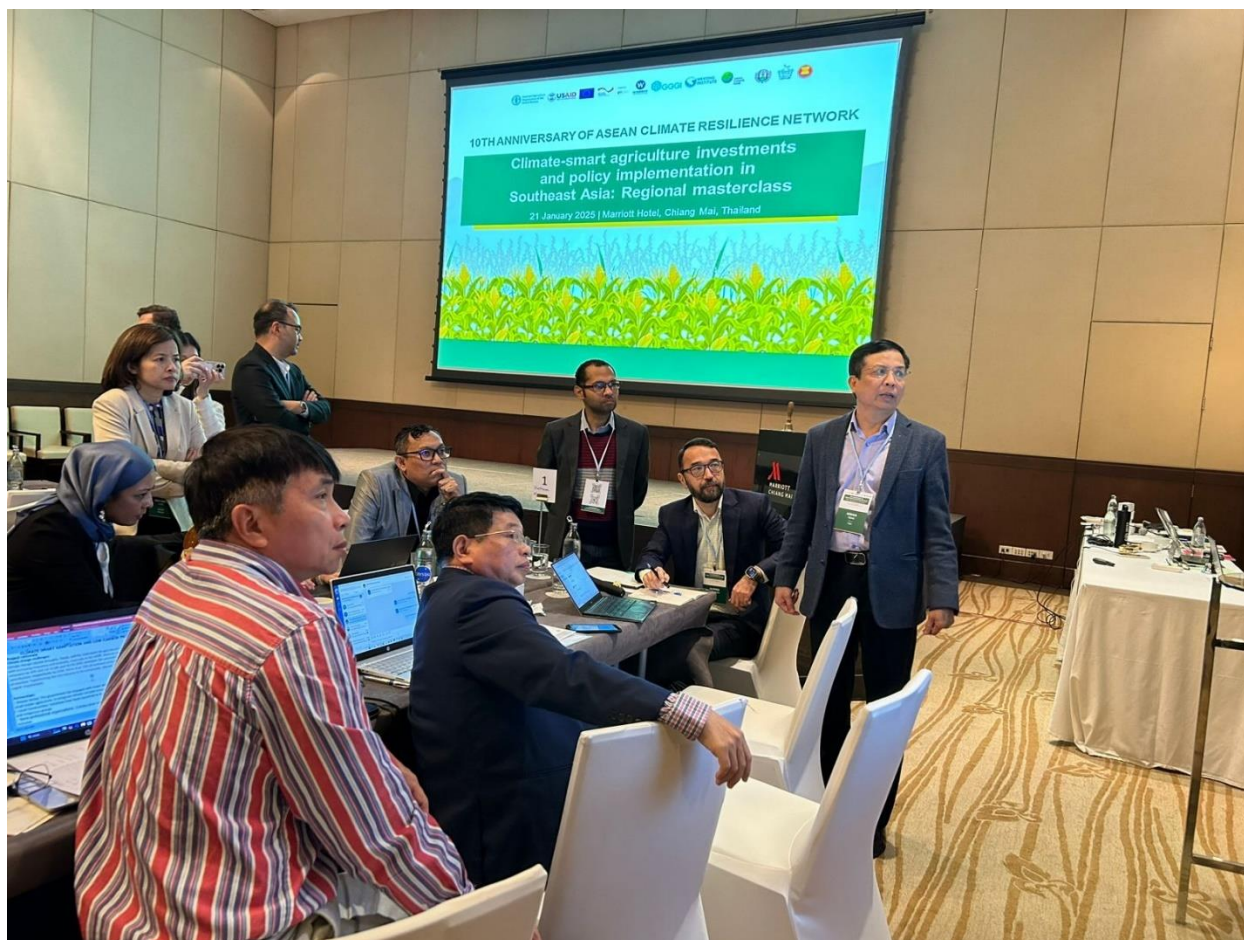
Figure 7. Climate foresight framework.



Dr. Norbert-Munns concluded the presentation by highlighting a critical financing gap, noting that smallholder farmers, who produce a third of the world's food, receive only 0.8 percent of climate finance despite their vulnerability to climate change. Agriculture and forestry currently receive nearly 80 percent of AFOLU climate finance, while fisheries, food waste reduction, and dietary changes remain significantly underfunded despite their potential for climate impact.

## Session 3: Climate finance projects in Southeast Asia for the agriculture sectors I

Session 3 was a three-round working session designed to provide each country with the opportunity to further develop their GCF project proposals with the support of both subject matter experts and the FAO team.



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To facilitate peer-to-peer learning between countries, country participants were divided into three groups based on the focus of their project ideas:

- Cambodia and the Philippines: aquaculture and fisheries group
- Lao PDR and Thailand: climate-smart agriculture group
- Malaysia and Viet Nam: rice group

Ninety minutes were dedicated to this three-part session. The three rounds of the session are briefly described below. Each round had a lead facilitator and/or expert support, along with support from the FAO team for guidance and feedback.

<p><b>Session 3.A: Country presentations in parallel groups</b></p>
<p>Country participants, including representatives from agriculture ministries and departments and from Nationally Designated Authorities (NDA), in collaboration with the Project National Coordinators, were provided with 15 minutes to present their project to the other members of their group. Following a country presentation, there were five minutes for Q&amp;A and feedback.</p> <p>Facilitators: Georgii Nikolaenko</p>
<p><b>Session 3.B: Parallel group sessions on project advice and feedback on aquaculture and fisheries, climate-smart agriculture and rice</b></p>
<p>Technical experts provided project advice and feedback to the groups of their expertise, aligning the climate rationale of the projects with project components.</p> <p>Facilitators: Angela Lentisco; Alejandro Moreno; Alisher Mirzabaev, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)</p>
<p><b>Session 3.C: Plenary session on incorporating smallholder farmer-focused project development</b></p>
<p>Country participants received advice on incorporating smallholder farmer-focused project development in climate finance projects for the agriculture sectors based on AFA's and its members' experience.</p> <p>Facilitators: Ms. Lany Rebagay, Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), Deputy Secretary-General</p>

### Smallholder farmer-focused project development in climate finance projects for agricultural sectors

The presentation was led by Ms Lany Rebagay, Deputy Secretary-General, AFA. She focused on the importance of engaging farmer organizations in co-designing climate-resilient projects. She provided a brief overview of AFA and explained why farmer organizations are crucial partners.

Ms Rebagay began by introducing AFA as a regional network comprising 22 national farmers' associations across 17 countries in Asia, representing 14.8 million farmers. The organization spans three sub-regions: Southeast Asia (7 countries), South Asia (3 countries), and East and Central Asia (7 countries). She then explained the structure of farmer organizations, from local ones primarily serving individual farmers to sub-national and national networks, and finally to

regional farmer organization networks. This structure enables effective transfers of knowledge between the grassroots and global levels.

She showcased the Soro-soro Ibaba Development Cooperative from the Philippines as an example of successful value chain integration, where the cooperative supports members by financing corn farming through processing, feed milling, livestock production, and organic fertilizer production. Ms Rebagay emphasized the centrality of farmer organizations in building resilient food systems. She illustrated how they contribute at every stage - from food production as family farmers produce 70-80 percent of the world's food to processing, marketing, preparation, consumption, and resource and waste recovery.

She concluded by underlining that farmer organizations are key partners, not a beneficiary group or target recipient. They can provide greater scope, scale, speed, and sustainability as service providers to farmers. This includes strengthening farming systems, providing collective marketing, integrating value chains, and providing access to finance.

#### Session 4: Regional risk finance facility

Mr Janek Toepper, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Specialist, FAO presented the Southeast Asia Agricultural Risk Finance Facility (SEA ARFF), which is being developed under the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project as a regional project idea determined by the participating governments during the submission of the Readiness Proposal to GCF.



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Mr Toepper explained that the need for this facility emerged from earlier analyses, including the ASEAN Guideline on Agricultural Insurance Implementation, which recommended investment in catastrophe insurance products for smallholder farmers. He defined agricultural risk finance as a set of financial instruments employed by farmers, value chain actors, or public sector entities, integrated with broader risk management strategies.

Mr Toepper provided an overview of the landscape of agricultural risk finance across ASEAN countries, noting that most have tested or scaled agricultural insurance programmes, primarily through public schemes or public-private partnerships. Emerging trends include shifts from indemnity to parametric products and insurance for risk aggregators like banks and value chain actors. Mr Topper concluded with the next steps for ARFF, which include completing a pre-feasibility assessment, followed by a GCF Concept Note at the end of 2025.

Ms Hien Anh Than, Board Director, Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF) Insurance Company, presented the Facility as an ASEAN+3 initiative established by the ministries of finance from eight countries, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, and Viet Nam. SEADRIF’s mandate is to provide ASEAN countries with insurance and technical solutions to strengthen financial resilience against disaster and climate shocks.



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Ms Than outlined SEADRIF's strategic vision as a regional centre of expertise, a provider of affordable insurance solutions, and a regional risk pool. Ms Than highlighted SEADRIF's successful implementation of the Lao Parametric Flood Insurance Product, which has delivered

two rapid payouts since 2021: USD 1.5 million in 2023 and USD 3 million in 2024, both disbursed within days of triggering.

Ms Than presented how ARFF could address diverse challenges across ASEAN countries, such as expanding coverage cost-effectively to underserved populations; access to data, models, and specialised insurance expertise; high transaction costs, and premium affordability issues. The facility would consolidate three key functions under one roof:

1. Knowledge exchange among member countries
2. A regional platform for data, tools, and technical services
3. Joint financial solutions through risk pooling

Ms Than illustrated how regional risk pooling creates financial efficiencies through cost reduction thanks to risk diversification and economies of scale, simplified market access for governments, centralized technical expertise, and joint technology implementation.

She concluded by proposing the next steps: continued exploratory discussions, a technical pre-feasibility study, and collaboration with FAO to develop the facility further.

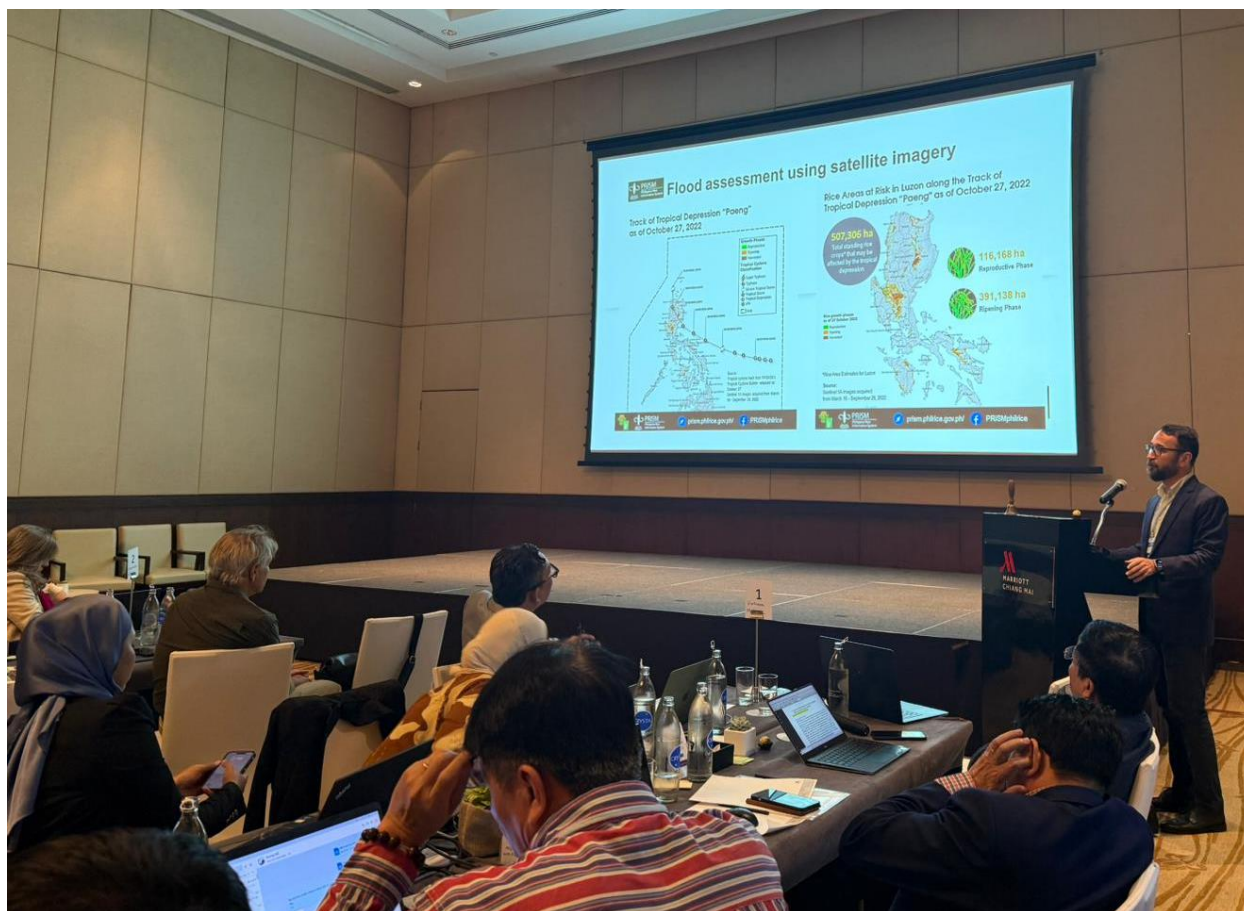
## **Session 5: Climate finance projects in Southeast Asia for the agriculture sectors II**

Session 5 started with a presentation on climate change mitigation in the rice sector and was followed by a two-round working session where representatives from each country could consolidate learnings and insights from previous sessions to refine their presentations and receive peer-to-peer feedback. The country presentations could benefit from revisions before they were going to be presented during the technical and knowledge exchange in the second half of Day 1.

### **Supporting climate change mitigation in the rice sector**

Dr Alisher Mirzabaev, Senior Scientist, Policy Analysis/Climate Change, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), highlighted the global significance of rice, which is the staple food for four billion people and provides over 16 percent of global calorie intake. He emphasized that rice is not just a food source but a critical economic lifeline for over 20 percent of the world's population.

Dr Mirzabaev addressed the environmental challenges, noting that rice cultivation contributes 6-8 percent of food system emissions, with significant methane release from traditional paddy farming. However, he presented promising mitigation strategies that could reduce GHG emissions by up to 65 percent, including alternate wetting and drying techniques, efficient fertilizer use, and planting short-duration rice varieties.



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The presentation showcased innovative tools developed by IRRI, such as MapAWD and SECTOR, which help farmers and policymakers assess and reduce carbon emissions in rice production. Dr Mirzabaev highlighted the importance of aggregating satellite data gathered with remote sensing technologies, crop modelling, and smartphone-based surveys, which help provide detailed insights into rice cultivation.

Dr Mirzabaev concluded with the key message that economic incentives are needed for farmers to adopt sustainable practices that reduce GHG emissions. By establishing structured methodologies and reliable monitoring tools, rice carbon mitigation can contribute to broader goals of climate change resilience and supporting rural economies.

## Country working session



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Similar to the previous working session, participants received support from the FAO team and partners.



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**Session 5.A: Country working session reviewing individual project ideas and presentations following insights gained during earlier sessions.**

Participants worked in groups based on their country and project ideas to incorporate feedback in Project Idea Notes and presentations.

Facilitators: Alejandro Moreno, Imelda Bacudo, Georgii Nikolaenko, Daniel Riveong, Dr. Rathana Peou Norbert-Munns



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**Session 5.B: Country participants engaged in the final rounds of presentations sharing project summary in line with the GCF Project Idea Note, including climate rationale, project summary, implementation arrangements and financial instruments.**

For the final presentations, the country participants were provided with 15 minutes after incorporating new information following the earlier sessions. They presented in groups based on their country and project ideas, incorporating feedback from other members of their group, with 10 minutes for comments and feedback.

Facilitators: Alejandro Moreno, Akihito Kono, Imelda Bacudo



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## Session 6: Project Steering Committee meeting

### Session 6.A: Workplan update

At the end of the first day, participants reviewed the project workplan as part of the third Project Steering Committee meeting. Mr Moreno presented the proposed 2025 workplan, structured across six participating countries with parallel implementation schedules. Key deliverables at the country level included multi-stakeholder climate-smart agriculture investment planning and GCF concept note development workshops scheduled between July and August 2025.

The work on Concept Notes will be informed by stakeholder consultations scheduled for the second half of 2025 and pre-feasibility assessments in October-November, to develop full GCF concept notes by December 2025-January 2026.

At the regional level, several critical deliverables were presented, including the publication of a report on existing and potential agriculture-related Direct Access Entities (DAEs) in Southeast Asia and plans for the report on climate change risks and opportunities in the region's agriculture sectors. Further regional activities included a report on mobilizing finance for climate-smart agriculture investments, a report on prioritizing and structuring climate finance to implement the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia, a report on developing and structuring transformative and innovative investments to support implementation of agriculture sector climate change strategies and policies in Southeast Asia, and a pre-feasibility assessment for a Southeast Asia Agricultural Risk Finance Facility.

With no objections, the Project Steering Committee members approved the 2025 workplan, prepared in accordance with the Readiness Proposal and adjusted for effective and realistic implementation.

### Session 6.B: Increasing direct access to GCF funding for agriculture in Southeast Asia

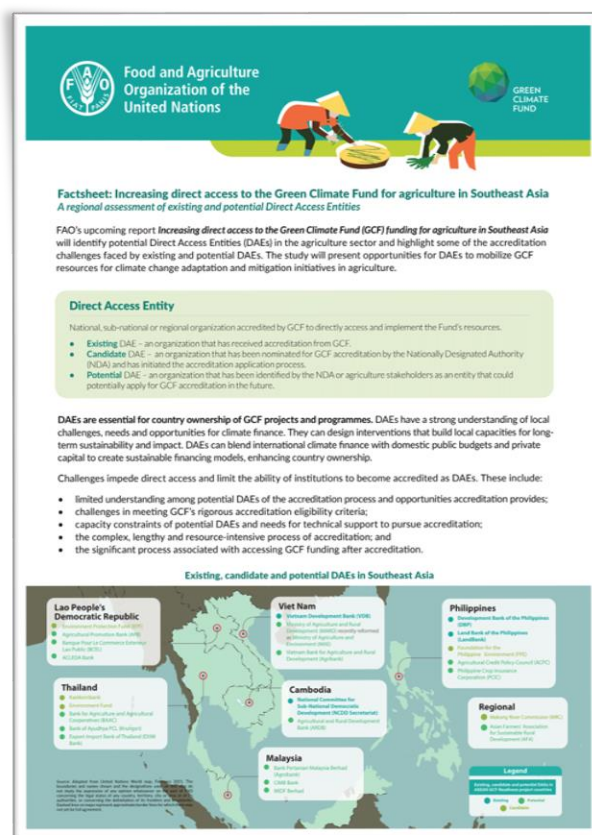
The session focused on strategies to enhance direct access to GCF resources for agriculture across Southeast Asia. Mr Nikolaenko presented background information on GCF, highlighting NDAs and DAEs as key actors interacting with GCF.

Participants learned that NDAs serve as a country's interface with GCF, providing strategic oversight and direction for GCF activities and nominating candidate DAEs for accreditation. DAEs must be capable of meeting GCF fiduciary standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender policies. Once accredited, DAEs can directly access GCF funding to prepare proposals and oversee, manage, and monitor GCF projects and programs. They can be sub-national, national, or regional organizations nominated by an NDA.

The session highlighted that GCF accreditation is open to private, public, non-governmental, sub-national, national, regional, or international bodies with legal status. Accredited entities must demonstrate projects that advance climate change mitigation, adaptation, or both, and meet GCF's fiduciary standards, environmental and social safeguards, and gender policies.

A comprehensive assessment of the DAE landscape in Southeast Asia was presented, featuring a map of existing, candidate, and potential DAEs across the region. Country-specific information highlighted institutions from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam that could potentially channel GCF resources to agricultural initiatives.

Key findings from the assessment, available as a [factsheet](#), revealed several opportunities to increase agriculture-focused DAEs in the region. These included simplifying the accreditation process, providing technical support on GCF procedures, utilizing GCF Readiness funds for pre-accreditation capacity strengthening, and promoting knowledge sharing between candidate DAEs and International Accredited Entities (IAEs).



The session concluded with recommendations for country-specific action plans to support potential agriculture-focused DAEs through the accreditation process and develop funding proposals aligned with national climate priorities. Participants agreed that increasing the number of agriculture-focused DAEs would be critical for implementing NDCs and achieving climate-resilient, low-emission agricultural systems across Southeast Asia.

## Technical and knowledge exchange

### Opening session

Day 1 began with opening remarks from Dr. Pongthai Thaiyotin, Deputy Director General of DOA, who emphasized the importance of understanding farmers' challenges in implementing climate adaptation strategies. He noted that in Thailand, many farmers face financial constraints that limit their ability to adopt new technologies. Dr. Thaiyotin suggested that subsidized loans could support farmers to better adapt to climate change impacts.



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Mr. Beau Damen, Natural Resources Officer – Climate Change and Climate Finance, FAO, reflected on the evolution of the ASEAN-CRN over the past decade. He highlighted how the network has facilitated numerous knowledge exchanges and helped channel hundreds of millions of dollars in climate finance to ASEAN Member States. Mr. Damen expressed pride in

being part of the founding members of the network and acknowledged the continued leadership of the DOA in supporting the network's activities.

### Session 1: Policy frameworks alignment

The session featured a panel discussion with representatives from GIZ, FAO, and ANGA highlighting key outcomes from COP29. Ms. Bacudo moderated the discussion, which covered the commitment to provide USD 300 billion in climate finance to developing countries annually by 2035, progress on the Global Goal on Adaptation and Baku Adaptation Roadmap, and the Sharm el-Sheikh Joint Work on Agriculture. The panel also discussed the finalization of negotiations on Article 6 governing carbon markets and the Baku Harmoniya Climate Initiative for Farmers focusing on smallholder farmers.



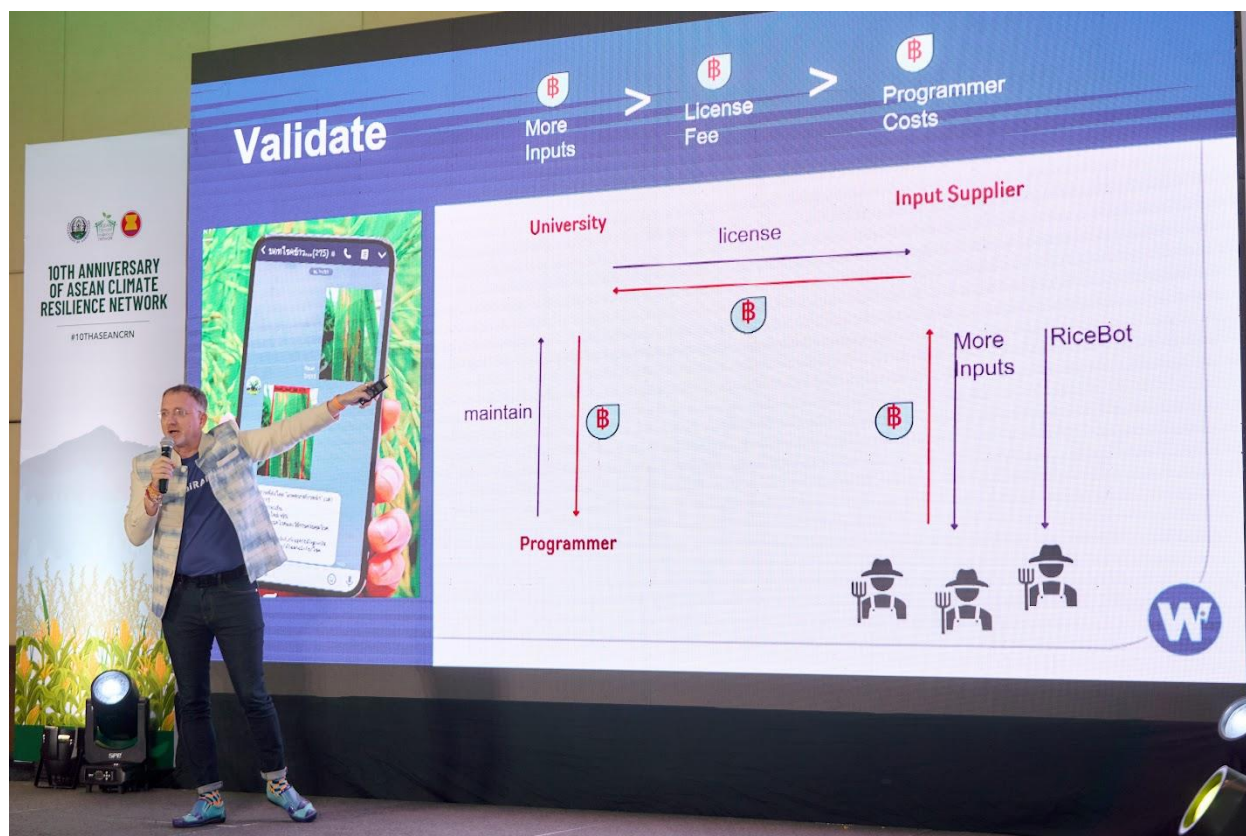
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Dr. Alicia Ilaga from the Philippines, representing ANGA, emphasized the importance of the UNFCCC portal as a "matchmaker" for those seeking partners and financing for agricultural initiatives. She highlighted upcoming opportunities for engagement, including the 2025 Forum of the Standing Committee on Finance on accelerating climate action for sustainable food systems.

Mr. Damen discussed the importance of NDCs in providing a blueprint for climate action. He noted that 2025 is a crucial year for the third iteration of NDCs, with many countries already working on developing them. Mr. Damen stressed that agriculture should be a focal point, as it accounts for a significant portion of regional emissions but receives a disproportionately small share of climate finance. He outlined how the FAO would be supporting countries in the coming year to enhance their NDCs and improve transparency systems.

## Session 2: Thematic exchange on sustainable agriculture and climate action

Mr. William Sparks, Country Director, Winrock International, presented the Regional Agriculture Innovation Network (RAIN) approach to scaling innovations to smallholder farmers. He emphasized the importance of market-based solutions where all stakeholders profit and presented a 5S framework: Source innovations, Support business model development, Scale them, ensure Sustainable offtake, and Share approaches.



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Mr. Sparks explained the difference between early adopters who respond to "number logic" and the early majority who are more convinced by "neighbour logic" when it comes to adopting new technologies. He illustrated these points with examples of innovations like microbial solutions to address rice straw burning, which reduces methane emissions and saves farmers ploughing costs.

Ms. Jennifer Braun, Advisor, GIZ and Ms. Leanne Zeppenfeldt, Collaboration and Learning Architect, Clim-Eat presented integrating nutrition considerations into climate policy. They noted that currently only 2 percent of NDCs include tangible steps toward addressing nutrition, while only 13 percent of national nutrition plans integrate climate action.



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Ms. Zeppenfeldt highlighted key interconnections between climate and nutrition, including rising CO<sub>2</sub> levels reducing nutrient content in crops, climate shocks affecting food availability and affordability, and dietary choices influencing emissions and land use. The presenters engaged the audience in a quiz to reinforce these concepts and raise awareness about integrating nutrition and climate planning.

There are four key areas for connecting climate and nutrition: incorporating nutrition into climate policies and vice versa, public-private cooperation and accountability, diversifying agricultural production and addressing food loss, and building resilience for vulnerable groups. Ms. Braun concluded by highlighting several upcoming opportunities in 2025 to integrate nutrition considerations into climate policy, including the Nutrition for Growth Summit, the UN Food Systems Summit, and COP30 in Brazil.

### Session 3: Financing national adaptation plans

Mr. Moreno and Mr. Riveong discussed approaches to developing investment plans that utilize climate foresight to better prepare for future climate conditions. They presented the climate foresight planning process that has been implemented across Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam. The speakers emphasized that this approach is designed to facilitate inclusive stakeholder participation and evidence-based approaches to transformative change in agricultural systems.

Mr. Marcel Silvius, Country Representative for the Philippines and Deputy Regional Director Asia, GGGI presented investments for green growth in the agricultural sector. He highlighted innovative approaches like biochar production from rice waste, which creates an inert form of carbon that can remain in soil for centuries while generating carbon credits worth up to USD130 per ton of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent. Mr. Silvius showcased examples from the Philippines, where GGGI has supported farmers affected by climate impacts like typhoons and droughts by building typhoon-proof processing facilities and improving capacity in farmer associations. These interventions have enabled farmers to obtain Food and Drug Administration (FDA) licenses for international trade, enhancing market access and eliminating middlemen while improving climate resilience.

### New initiatives to invest in climate change priorities

The afternoon featured 15-minute presentations by country stakeholders of country-specific project ideas for climate-resilient and sustainable agriculture, aquaculture, and fisheries development, organized into three thematic groups. The project ideas are presented below.

#### Aquaculture and fisheries group:

- SAMBO TREI Programme: Toward resilient ecosystems and inland fisheries in **Cambodia**;
- MARCO-PH: Mangrove and fisheries resilience for coastal communities in the **Philippines**.



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#### Rice group:

- Application of innovative technologies to increase the productivity and income of rice farmers towards climate resilience and sustainable farming systems in **Malaysia**;

- Enhancing high-value, low-emission rice production through climate-smart agriculture and sustainable water management in **Viet Nam's** Mekong River Delta.



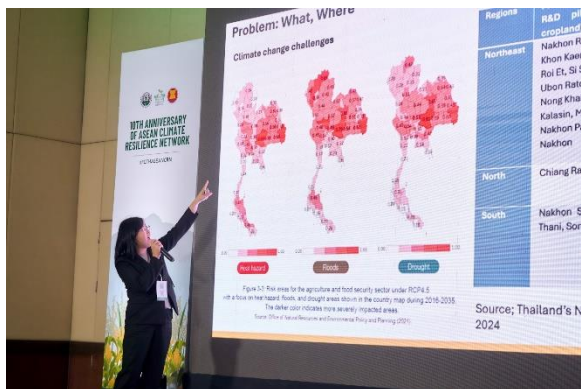
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### Climate-smart agriculture group:

- Climate-smart initiatives for resilient crop value chain systems in **Thailand**;
- Sustainable agriculture adapted to climate change in the Uplands (SAACCU) in **the Lao People's Democratic Republic**.



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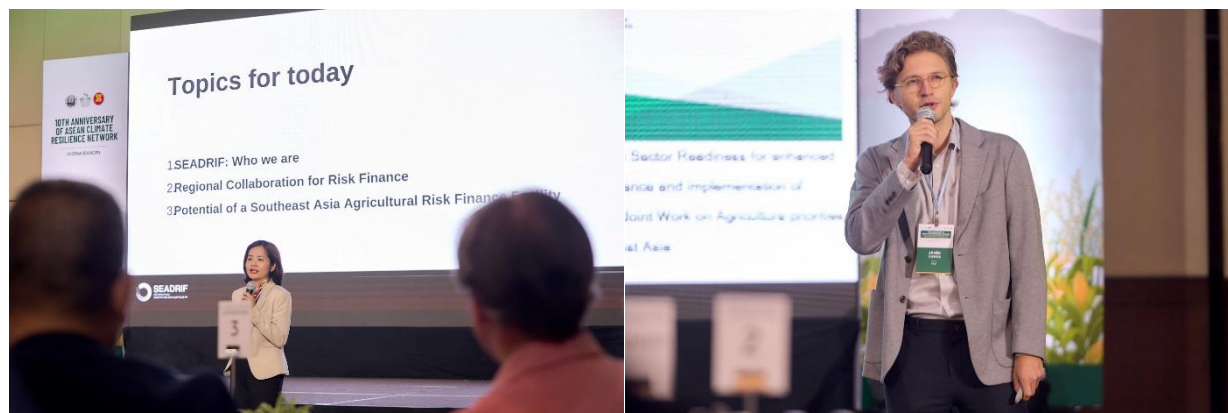
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## Regional risk finance facility

Mr. Toepper and Ms. Than presented the concept of the Southeast Asia Agricultural Risk Finance Facility to strengthen financial resilience against climate shocks for farmers across the region.



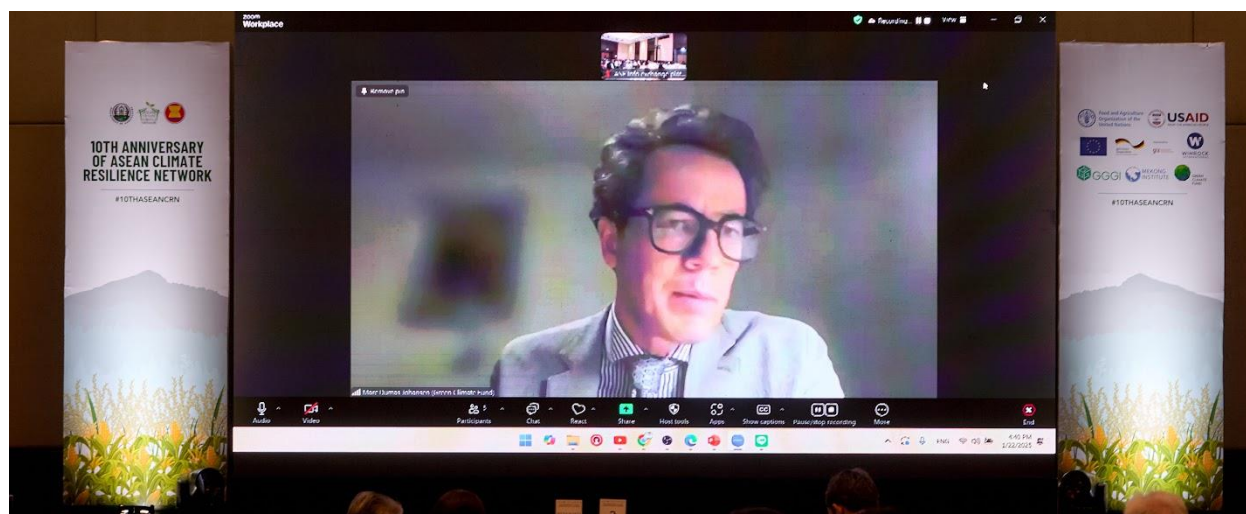
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Ms. Than highlighted SEADRIF's successful implementation of the Lao Parametric Flood Insurance Product, which has delivered two rapid payouts since 2021: USD 1.5 million in 2023 and USD 3 million in 2024, both disbursed within days of triggering. The presenters outlined how the proposed facility would consolidate knowledge exchange, a regional platform for data and technical services, and joint financial solutions through risk pooling.

## GCF's approach to investing in climate-smart agriculture and fisheries

Mr. Marc Dumas-Johansen, Agriculture and Food Security Specialist, GCF, virtually provided insights on how the Fund approaches investments in climate-smart agriculture and fisheries.



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He outlined the GCF's thematic areas and results framework, highlighting the eight result areas covering both mitigation and adaptation. Mr. Dumas-Johansen explained the key components

that make projects attractive for GCF funding, including transformative potential, paradigm shift potential, and strong climate rationale.

### Prioritizing women, smallholder farmers and fisherfolk

Ms. Sibyl Nelson, Climate Change Programme Implementation Specialist, FAO led a session on mainstreaming gender and the needs of smallholder farmers and fisherfolks in project design.



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She presented case studies on successful gender integration in climate projects and facilitated small group exercises on addressing gender considerations in project cycles. Ms. Nelson emphasized that gender-responsive approaches are not only about equity but also lead to more effective and sustainable project outcomes in the agricultural and fisheries sectors.

### Conclusion

The day concluded with remarks on next steps from Ms. Bacudo, Mr. Damen and Mr. Moreno, who emphasized the importance of continued collaboration and capacity building to access climate finance for agricultural transformation in Southeast Asia. They highlighted the upcoming project milestones, including country-level multi-stakeholder climate-smart agriculture investment planning workshops and the development of GCF Concept Notes.

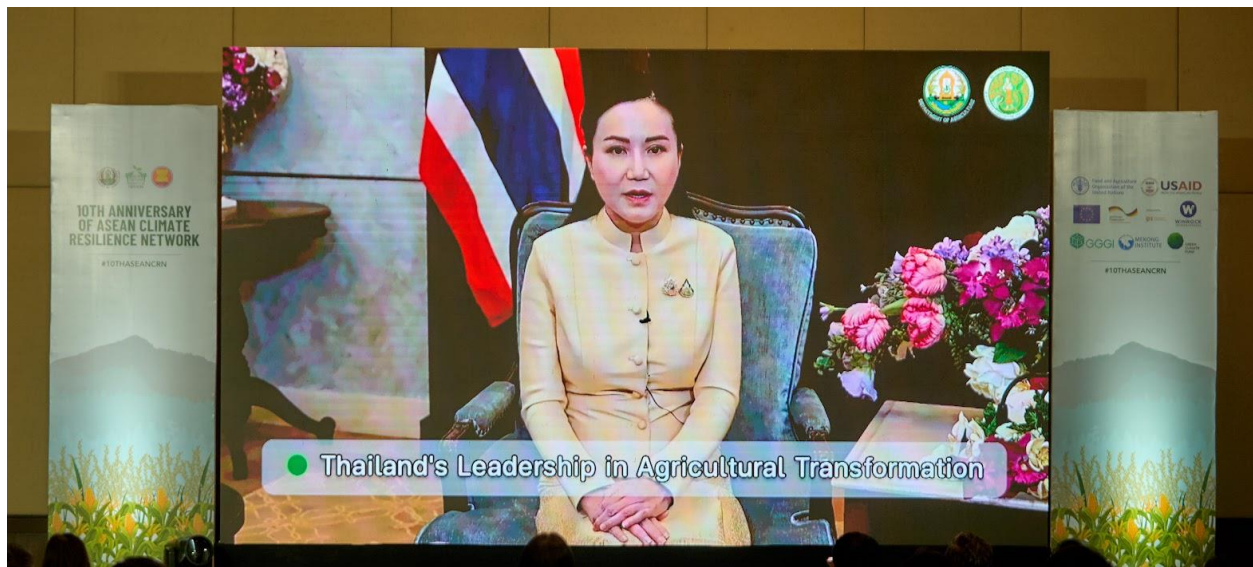
The technical and knowledge exchange sessions set the stage for the formal celebration of ASEAN-CRN's 10th anniversary on the following day.

## Tenth anniversary of ASEAN-CRN: Regional cooperation for a sustainable agricultural future

The **Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia** workshop was held jointly with the celebration of the tenth anniversary of ASEAN-CRN, which has served as a forum for knowledge exchange and cooperation in Southeast Asia in support of climate-resilient interventions.

### Opening session

Her Excellency Prof. Dr. Narumon Pinyosinwat, Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, delivered a recorded video message officially opening the celebration. She congratulated ASEAN-CRN on its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and highlighted Thailand's leadership in the network since its inception in 2014. She emphasized the urgent need for climate resilience in ASEAN's agriculture sector due to extreme weather events that disrupt farming and affect smallholder farmers.



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Her Excellency outlined three key pillars for achieving climate resilience:

1. Comprehensive decarbonization – integrating sustainable farming, efficient processing, and responsible waste management,
2. Innovation and capacity building – investing in research and technology to drive sustainable agriculture and,
3. Strategic partnerships – strengthening regional collaboration through ASEAN-CRN.

She shared Thailand's pioneering policies, such as the "3R" Approach – Re-Habit, Replace with High-Value Crops, and Replace with Alternate Crops, – the ING Model for Low-Carbon Agriculture, and the GAP Zero Burning Standard for Maize.

## Recap of technical and knowledge exchange

Mr. Vichitlekarn provided a recap of the discussion takeaways from the first day of the event. He noted that over the past decade, the ASEAN-CRN has evolved into a dynamic platform for collaboration, fostering partnerships to align efforts and drive impactful climate action. The key takeaways from the previous day's sessions encompass several critical areas. First, policy frameworks need alignment through the integration of climate change and agrifood systems with a focus on NDC 3.0 implementation. Second, sustainable agriculture and climate action require the development of viable models for climate-smart agriculture, leveraging digitalization. Additionally, participants discussed nutrition-sensitive approaches within agricultural systems to ensure food security and improved health outcomes. Furthermore, the event explored financing national climate action plans by leveraging climate finance mechanisms, including GCF, with new inclusive, scalable, and sustainable projects.

## Looking back: The ASEAN-CRN journey

Dr. Margaret C. Yoovatana, Retired Senior Expert in Policy and Strategic Planning, Thailand's DOA and Ms. Bacudo engaged in a dialogue recounting the establishment and evolution of the network, following a special video presentation of key achievements.



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They highlighted the network's origins in response to climate change challenges threatening food security and economic growth. Dr. Margaret recalled drafting the initial proposal during an ASEAN Technical Working Group meeting, which Thailand endorsed, supported by GIZ, and later approved by ASEAN agriculture ministers.

Key milestones included the development of the *ASEAN Regional Guidelines for Promoting Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) Practices*, which gained formal endorsement at the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) meeting. They also discussed ANGA, which emerged to give ASEAN a unified voice in global climate negotiations under the UNFCCC.

Despite challenges in securing consensus among diverse member states with varying levels of climate resilience, agricultural practices, and policy priorities, ASEAN-CRN's collaborative and inclusive nature has generated impactful outcomes.

### Looking forward: Panel discussion on enhancing regional cooperation - 10 years and beyond

This panel session, moderated by Mr. Vichitlekarn, focused on the future of the ASEAN-CRN.



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Dr. Pongthai emphasized the importance of a well-structured and sustainable Secretariat for the ASEAN-CRN and identified climate-smart agriculture as a strategic approach. He highlighted three key activities crucial to advancing it: Green agricultural practices, green loans, and developing a green market.

Ms. Pouchamarn Wongsanga, Project Director, GIZ, outlined GIZ's sustained commitment to ASEAN's climate resilience efforts, highlighting contributions including the ASEAN EU-German Climate Action Programme. GIZ has supported the *ASEAN Regional Guidelines for Promoting Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) Practices*, sustainable agriculture, and decarbonization, with multilingual translations to enhance accessibility.

Mr. Damen shared FAO's role in supporting countries' priorities in addressing climate change. He cited successful country-level resource mobilization efforts initiated through the ASEAN-CRN, such as the Adapting Philippine Agriculture to Climate Change (APA) project and Cambodia's Public-Social-Private Partnerships for Ecologically-Sound Agriculture and Resilient Livelihood (PEARL) project, both funded by GCF.

Mr. Sparks presented a nine-stage process for scaling innovations to benefit smallholder farmers: technical review, business model development, private sector engagement, piloting, public agency engagement, incentives offering, scaling, assessment, and regional knowledge sharing.

### Planning ahead: ASEAN-CRN workplan and priorities

Mr. Suriyan presented ASEAN-CRN's mission and contribution as a key regional platform to address climate change in the food, agriculture, and forestry sectors. He introduced the network's six priority areas:

1. **Scaling up best practices** - Implementing national climate action plans, advancing climate resilience research, and developing scalable models.
2. **Technical knowledge exchange** - Organizing climate foresight discussions and knowledge-sharing events.
3. **Access to climate finance** - Leveraging climate finance mechanisms and promoting incentives for businesses.
4. **ASEAN policy development** - Integrating climate resilience objectives into ASEAN policies.
5. **Strengthening ASEAN-CRN secretariat** - Capacity-building and improved knowledge management.
6. **Networking and partnerships** - Exploring collaborations to support the ASEAN-CRN work programme.

Participants engaged in discussion through an online Padlet forum, providing insights on collaboration opportunities and priority areas for climate resilience and agrifood systems transformation.

## Commitment to climate resilience and renewed support for the ASEAN-CRN

Mr. Nirat Pongsitthavorn, Governor of Chiang Mai, welcomed participants and highlighted the province's collaborative effort to address severe air pollution through a project on research and innovation to reduce particulate matter (PM) 2.5 in agriculture.

Mr. Rapibhat Chandarasrivongs, Director-General of DOA, reiterated Thailand's commitment to addressing climate challenges through regional cooperation. He emphasized that new technologies and green management are key strategies for enhancing agricultural practices.

His Excellency Itti Sirilattayakorn, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, delivered opening remarks highlighting Thailand's proactive efforts in climate change adaptation. He acknowledged the increasing problem of PM 2.5 pollution in Thailand and mentioned initiatives such as the Bio-Circular-Green Economy (BCG) and Carbon Credit programmes.

Mr. Robert Simpson, Deputy Regional Representative of the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, delivered congratulatory remarks highlighting the work of the ASEAN-CRN over the past decade and FAO's collaboration with governments through the GCF Readiness Programme.



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The ASEAN-CRN issued a [commemorative statement](#) recognizing agriculture's vulnerability to climate change impacts and addressing its environmental consequences. The statement underscored the importance of coordinated policy approaches, noting progress through the adoption of the ASEAN Guidelines on the Reduction of Crop Burning. It acknowledged ASEAN-CRN's role in building regional climate resilience while reinforcing countries' shared commitment to sustainable agricultural practices and continued cooperation on environmental challenges.

## Exhibition and study tour

An exhibition showcased initiatives, projects, and publications from the organizing and development partners. Deputy Minister H.E. Itti Sirilattayakorn led the official opening of the exhibit hall, while Mr. Suriyan guided a tour highlighting key contributions. A poster gallery featured key milestones and achievements from the network's first decade.



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On the following day, the participants joined a study tour of the Royal Park Rajapruek in Chiang Mai, Thailand, hosted by DOA. The park serves as a horticultural and agricultural learning centre highlighting Thailand's agricultural heritage and innovations.

## Evaluation

Before commencing the activities on Day 0 and at the end of the day, pre- and post-workshop evaluations were conducted, covering questions about regional GHG emissions from agriculture, Theory of Change development for GCF proposals, project framework terminology, agricultural insurance integration in NDCs/NAPs across project countries, and the establishment of the ASEAN-CRN. The number of correct answers for all five of the questions increased, showcasing the effectiveness of sharing knowledge and information during the workshop.

The knowledge of the number of countries including risk finance in their NDCs and NAPs has improved the most – by 20 percentage points – thanks to the session on the risk finance facility.

Understanding of the GCF Theory of Change also saw an increase, with an improvement of 18 percentage points as a result of the dedicated session at the beginning of Day 0.

Figure 8. Results of the pre- and post-evaluation.

Questions	Pre-workshop evaluation result (Percentage of votes with a correct answer)	Post-workshop evaluation result (Percentage of votes with a correct answer)	Changes in percentages (Increase/decrease)
1. What percentage of GHG emissions in Asia comes from the agrifood sector? <i>Options: 15%; 28%; 24% (correct); 7%.</i>	51 %	65 %	↑ 11
2. When developing a Theory of Change for a GCF proposal, which aspect is most critical to demonstrate? <i>Options: The maximum possible funding amount that can be secured; The causal links between activities and climate resilience outcomes. (correct); The number of participating government agencies; The total geographical coverage of the project.</i>	79 %	97 %	↑ 18
3. These are quantifiable products and services that result directly from project activities and budget execution. <i>Options: Outputs (correct); Outcomes.</i>	77 %	81 %	↑ 4
4. How many of the six Project countries include agricultural insurance/ risk finance in their NDCs and/or NAPs? <i>Options: 4 (correct); 6; 5; 3.</i>	32 %	56 %	↑ 20
5. When was ASEAN-CRN established? <i>Options: 2015; 2014 (correct); 2017; 2011.</i>	49 %	52 %	↑ 2

## Conclusion

The workshop on **Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia** established concrete pathways for advancing climate finance and policy implementation while commemorating ASEAN-CRN's decade of regional coordination. The event catalyzed alignment between climate policy frameworks and agrifood system transformation priorities, particularly in developing sector-specific interventions for the agriculture sector's NDC contributions.

Technical outcomes include refined project proposals for the six country-specific initiatives focused on resilient ecosystems and inland fisheries in **Cambodia**, upland agriculture adaptation in **Lao PDR**, climate-resilient rice farming in **Malaysia**, mangrove and fisheries resilience in the **Philippines**, resilient crop value chains in **Thailand** and low-emission rice production in **Viet Nam**. These initiatives represent targeted approaches to address country-specific climate challenges while contributing to regional resilience. The event also highlighted the Southeast Asia Agricultural Risk Finance Facility as a promising regional mechanism to strengthen farmers' financial resilience.

The tenth anniversary of ASEAN-CRN reinforced institutional commitments to three strategic pillars for regional climate resilience: comprehensive decarbonization, integrating sustainable farming practices; technological innovation and capacity building; and strengthened regional coordination mechanisms. These priorities align with global climate policy developments and establish a structured framework for agriculture sector climate action in Southeast Asia.

The anniversary celebration underscored the importance of regional collaboration in addressing climate challenges in agriculture. ASEAN-CRN aims to continue strengthening regional networks of public, private, and civil society stakeholders across agrifood systems, which will lead to improved investments supporting NDC 3.0 planning and implementation throughout Southeast Asia.

The workshop was prominently featured in media through the FAO-published press release [\*Southeast Asian countries advance climate-smart agriculture through regional cooperation\*](#), which was covered by [Scoop News](#), [thediplomaticinsight](#), and [ReliefWeb](#). It was also picked up by the [United Nations in Thailand](#). The Mekong Institute and the ASEAN-CRN has also published a press release [ASEAN-CRN: 10 Years of Driving Climate-Resilient Agriculture in Southeast Asia](#), further promoting the event and the knowledge that had been shared with ASEAN-CRN audience.

## Annex 1: Participant information

### Country participants

Name	Gender	Position, organization
<b>Brunei Darussalam</b>		
Nurul Ashira Kathereen Abdullah Liew	Female	Agriculture Officer, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood
Farah Ani Gapor	Female	Special Duties Officer Grade I, Department of Agriculture and Agrifood
<b>Cambodia</b>		
Chin Leakhena	Female	Deputy Director of the Department of Administrative Affairs and Litigation, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries
Keo Vibol	Male	Chief Office of Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Economy and Finance
Din Phearun	Male	Official of Vulnerability Assessment of Climate Change Adaptation, Department of Climate Change, General Directorate of Policy and Strategy, Ministry of Environment
<b>Indonesia</b>		
Adha Fatmah Siregar	Female	Head of Programme and Evaluation Division, Indonesian Soil and Fertilizer Instrument Standard Testing Institute, Ministry of Agriculture
Ratri Ariani	Female	Soil Scientist, Ministry of Agriculture
<b>Lao People's Democratic Republic</b>		
Phommy Inthichack	Male	Deputy Director General, Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Kynong Keopaseuth	Male	Director of Planning, Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Anousack Maitrychith	Male	Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Bounphama Phothisan	Female	Deputy Executive Director, Environmental Protection Fund
<b>Malaysia</b>		

Azizi Ahmad Azmin	Male	Senior Research Officer, Climate Change Programme (BE01), Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI)
Nurul Ain Abu Bakar	Female	Research Officer, Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI)
Ainul Maria Abu Bakar	Female	Principal Assistant Secretary (Multilateral), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
Daniel Siew	Male	Head, Sustainable Finance Business Development, Group Sustainability, CIMB Bank Berhad
<b>Philippines</b>		
Alicia Ilaga	Female	Director of the Climate Resilient Agriculture Office, Department of Agriculture
Anna Marie Mercaldi	Female	Planning Officer III, International Finance Group - Policy Office, Department of Finance
Jennelyn S. Vargas	Female	Planning Officer I, Fisheries Planning and Economics Division, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Department of Agriculture
Katherine J. Garces	Female	Programme Officer Assistant, Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP)
<b>Singapore</b>		
Yueying Lee	Female	Singapore Food Agency
<b>Thailand</b>		
Itthi Sirilatthayakorn	Male	Deputy Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Nirat Pongsitthaworn	Male	Chiang Mai Governor
Pongthai Thaiyotin	Male	Deputy Director-General, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Rabiphat Chandarasrivongs	Male	Deputy Director General, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Narongrat Muangprasert	Male	Deputy Secretary-General, Acting Secretary-General

Poonsit Wongthawatchai	Male	Executive Vice President, Head of Environmental Social and Governance Division, Krungsri Bank/MUFG
Wimonwan Sooktoneang	Female	Vice President of Treasury Department, Bank of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC)
Teeraporn Wongchokprasit	Male	Director of International Agricultural Affair Group, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Theerawut Chutinanthakun	Male	Director of Greenhouse Gas in Agriculture Research Group, Crop for the Future and Greenhouse Gas Management in Agriculture Sector Research and Development Division, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Charuwat Taekul	Male	Entomologist, Senior Professional Level, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Wissarut Muangpluem	Male	Environmentalist, Professional Level (Measure and Mechanism Development Section, Strategy and International Cooperation Division: Operational NDA focal point)
Phatthicha Plianphanich	Female	Policy and Plan Analyst, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Adilan Ali-ishoh	Male	Advisor to Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Phupha Lik	Male	Assistant Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Atthakorn Sirilattayakorn	Male	Director General, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Sasiya Pantun	Female	Director of Crop for Future and Greenhouse Gas Management in Agricultural Sector Research and Development Division, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

Chaowanart Phruetthitthep	Female	Director of Biotechnology Research and Development, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Piyarat Thammakijawat	Female	Expert of Crops Breeding and Renewable Energy Crops Research Institute, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Suriphath Thaitad	Female	Agricultural Research Specialist, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Parichart Potchanasin	Female	Policy and Plan Analyst, Professional Level, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Kanokthip Wacharalekagool	Female	Policy and Plan Analyst, Professional Level, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Kwanchanok Sukprasert	Female	Policy and Plan Analyst, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Juraiporn Kaewthip	Female	Agricultural Research Officer, Senior Professional Level, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Jaruayporn Saokhat	Female	Soil Surveyor Professional Level, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Nopnapa Boonpin	Female	Scientist, Practitioner Level, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Chanaporn Muang-une	Female	Scientist, Practitioner Level, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Raphiporn Klinneam	Female	Deputy Director of Cooperative Auditing, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives

Kamonwan Nochai	Female	Director of Chiang Mai Provincial Cooperative, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Apinya Chantanawong	Female	Expert of Rice Bursment of Cooperative, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Yupin Inthayat	Female	Cooperative Technical Officer, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Sansanee Sriwichai	Female	Agricultural Extensionist, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Warangkana Makkumrai	Female	Researcher, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Luckana Thommaskard	Female	CM Agriculture and Cooperative Officer, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Chutimon Doomdok	Female	EPO 01, Department of Agriculture (DoA), Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Hathaikan Prapaiparnich	Female	The Queen Sirikit Department of Sericulture
Duangdao Kantarat	Female	Extension and Development Officer, Highland Research and Development Institute
Arnon Yodyadthai	Male	Head of Development Management Section, Highland Research and Development Institute
Adirek Panyalue	Male	Highland Research and Development Institute
Siriya Noodaeng	Female	FPO-Ching Mai
Piyanoot Suangkum	Female	Environmentalist, Professional Level, Pollution Control Department, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment
Jeeraporn Chookietwana	Female	Environmentalist, Professional Level, Pollution Control Department, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment
<b>Viet Nam</b>		

Nguyen Van Vuong	Male	Head of Food Crops Division, Department of Crop Production, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Cao Viet Hung	Male	Principal Official, Division of Agricultural Land Management and Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

## Development partners

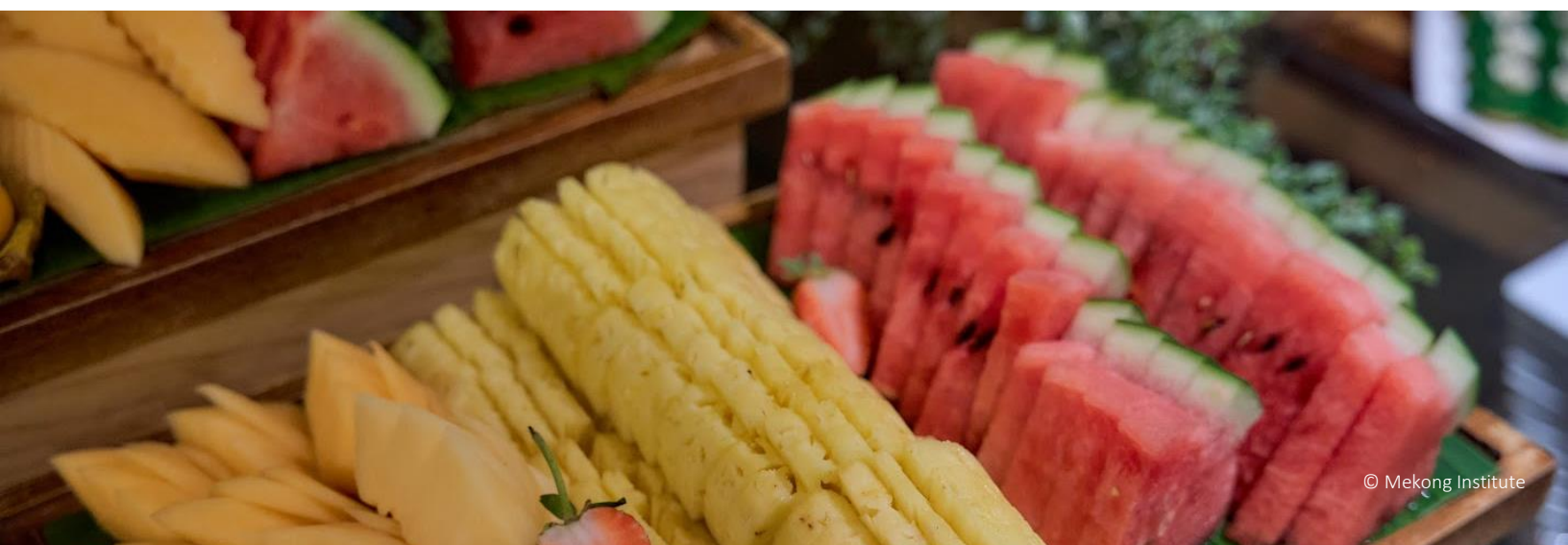
Name	Gender	Position, organization
Ravi Khetarpal	Male	Executive Director, Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)
Maria Elena Rebagay (Lany)	Female	Deputy Secretary-General, Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)
Leanne Zeppenfeldt	Female	Collaboration and Learning Architect, Climate and Food (Clim-Eat)
Samantha Rabine	Female	Regional Officer, Green Climate Fund (GCF)
Marc Dumas-Johansen	Male	Agriculture and Food Security Specialist, Green Climate Fund (GCF)
Pouchamarn Wongsanga	Female	Project Director, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Julian Tost	Male	Project Director, Innovative Climate Risk Financing for the Agricultural Sector in ASEAN, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Jennifer Braun	Female	Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Machima Thongdejsri	Female	Project Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Marcel Silvius	Male	Country Representative of Philippines and Deputy Regional Director Asia, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
Jisu Min	Male	Country Representative of Thailand and ASEAN Program Development Lead, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
Santikorn Pakdeesettakul	Male	Senior Green Investment Strategy Officer, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
Alisher Mirzabaev	Male	Senior Scientist, Policy Analysis/Climate Change, International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
Suriyan Vichitlekarn	Male	Executive Director, Mekong Institute

Anusara Tanpitak	Female	Communications and Knowledge Management Manager, Mekong Institute
Eastword De Manlises	Male	Special Project Coordinator, Mekong Institute
Natchaya Potiwat	Female	General Service Supervisor, Mekong Institute
Prakob Kaewpanya	Male	Communications and Knowledge Management Assistant, Mekong Institute
Narathip Dahan	Female	Mekong Institute
Jennisa Chayboonkrong	Female	Mekong Institute
Hien Anh Than	Female	Non-Executive Director, Southeast Asia Disaster Risk Insurance Facility (SEADRIF)
Julie Teng	Female	Climate Change Adaptation Specialist / Global SCALA Programme Coordinator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Srikanth Eadara	Male	Asia Regional Representative, Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat, hosted by United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
Barry Flaming	Male	Program Development Specialist, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Boonthida Parnnui	Female	ESG Program Manager, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Ronnarit Chaiyosaeng	Male	Partnerships and Events Manager, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
William Sparks	Male	Country Director, Winrock International
Chayada Muangsopa	Female	Innovation Accelerator & Public Private Partnership Specialist, Winrock International
Sumon Sangkaew	Female	Field Engagement Specialist, Winrock International
Kritkarun Krongpol	Male	Project Assistant to Chief of Party, Winrock International

## FAO

Name	Gender	Position, organization
Robert Simpson	Male	Deputy Regional Director, RAP
Beau Damen	Male	Natural Resources Officer - Climate Change and Climate Finance, RAP
Ly Proyuth	Male	Assistant FAO Representative, Cambodia
Nawarat Chalermkao	Female	Assistant FAO Representative, Thailand
Akihito Kono	Male	Climate Finance Specialist, RAP
Alejandro Moreno	Male	Regional Coordinator and International Agriculture and Climate Change Specialist, RAP
Alessandro Spairani	Male	Project Officer, OCB
Angela Lentisco	Female	Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, RAP
Ben Patrick Soliguin	Male	Environment Programme Coordinator, Philippines

Chan Seevilay	Male	National Coordinator (Climate Finance), Lao PDR
Daniel Riveong	Male	Climate Foresight and Scenarios Development Specialist, RAP
Georgii Nikolaenko	Male	Knowledge Management Specialist - Agriculture and Climate Change, RAP
Imelda Bacudo	Female	Climate Finance and Engagement Specialist, OCB and RAP
Janek Toepper	Male	Climate Change Disaster Risk Financing Specialist, RAP
Marie Aislinn E. Cabriole	Female	National Coordinator and Climate Finance Specialist, Philippines
Napaporn Yuberk	Female	National Coordinator and Climate Finance Specialist, Thailand
Nghia Tran	Male	National Coordinator and Climate Change Finance Specialist, Viet Nam
Nguyen Dinh Cong	Male	Food Systems Specialist, Viet Nam
Pannita Taechamaneesatit	Female	Project Assistant, RAP
Phoeurn ChanArun	Female	Technical Specialist (Climate Finance), Cambodia
Rathana Peou Norbert-Munns	Female	Senior Agrifood system policy expert and Climate Foresight Planning Specialist, OSG
Richard Gregory	Male	Technical Expert (Fisheries), RAP
Sengphachanh Sonethavixay	Female	National Climate Change Specialist, Lao PDR
Shrijwal Adhikari	Male	Geospatial Specialist, RAP
Sibyl Nelson	Female	Climate Change Programme Implementation Specialist, OCB
Theodorus Visser	Male	Freshwater Fisheries Management and Information Specialist, Cambodia



## Annex 2: Programme agenda

### Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia Regional workshop

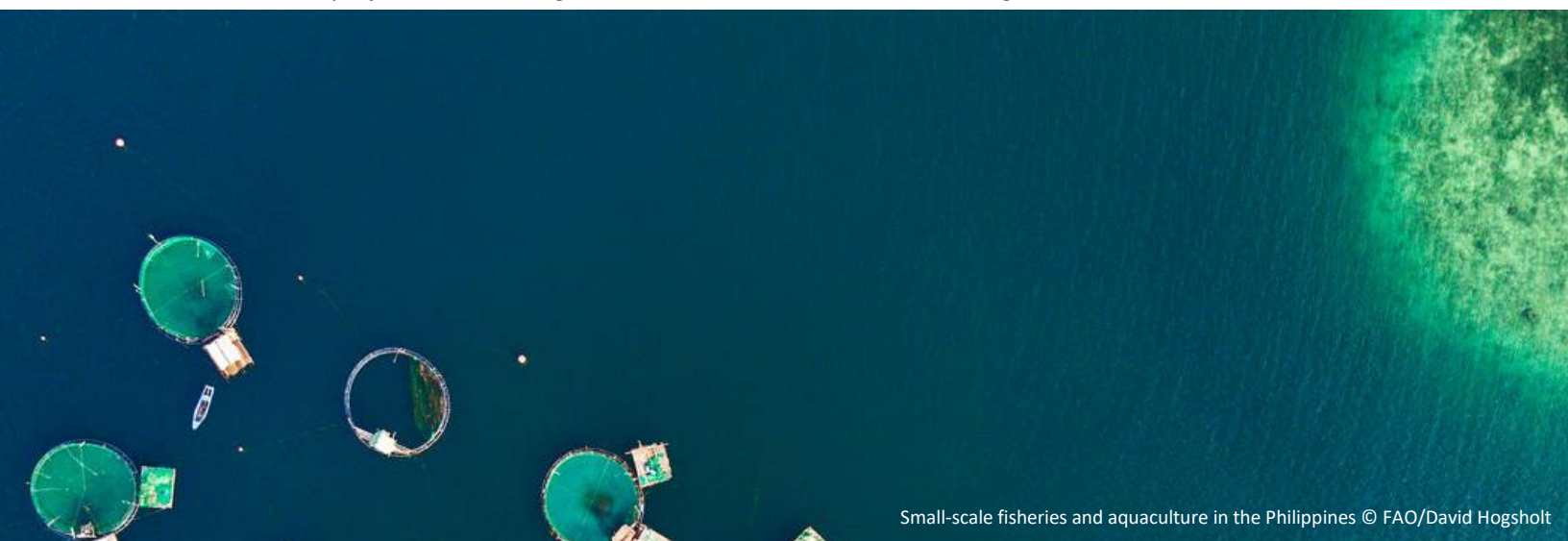
21-23 January 2025  
Chiang Mai, Thailand

#### Background and context

Agrifood systems in Southeast Asia play a major role in countries' economies and provide livelihoods for millions of small-scale farmers. Yet they require an urgent sustainable, resilient, low-emission and inclusive transformation to combat the effects of climate change and provide food security and nutrition in the growing region. Current climate finance flows are not efficient to support the transformation of agrifood systems – [in 2019, USD 6.6 billion per year, or only 3% of total climate finance flows, went to agriculture, forestry and other land use.](#)

Prioritizing investments in specific agrifood systems for climate action can support access to climate finance. Project development is key to accessing public and private finance serving as a means to policy implementation. New policies and targets, including an upcoming round of submissions of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0), can be further supported by ambitious and robust future-proof climate finance projects for agrifood systems. Accelerated implementation of national climate plans is key to enabling sustainable agriculture and climate action coupled with food security and nutrition. Climate baselines and agriculture standards as well as innovation in climate-resilient agriculture can support the achievement of national targets in agrifood systems. Financing national climate plans is key to their implementation, and it can be enabled with climate-smart agriculture investment plans, investments for green growth and promoting innovative insurance products.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Thailand's Department of Agriculture (DOA) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MOAC), Mekong Institute, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Winrock International, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) and ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN) are organizing a regional event **Climate-smart agriculture investments and policy implementation in Southeast Asia**. The event will showcase project ideas developed under the [Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia](#) Green Climate Fund's (GCF) Readiness project, implemented by FAO in coordination with project participating countries. The event will also allow Project Steering Committee members to become familiar with the project's progress, discuss the direction of the project and its implementation and pass decisions to advance the project, contributing to the realization of countries' existing and future NDCs.



Countries will exchange views regarding priorities and experiences from global discussions on agriculture following the decisions made during the 29<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (COP29) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The event will also celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN), which enabled the creation of the project through regular knowledge exchanges and project development support.

## Objective

The workshop aims to exchange knowledge about the implementation of national climate plans and highlight opportunities for financing national plans as well as solutions for agrifood systems in Southeast Asia, particularly those benefiting smallholder farmers and women, host the third Project Steering Committee of the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project and celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASEAN-CRN.

## Outcomes

- Southeast Asian countries' capacity to implement and finance climate-smart agricultural initiatives by aligning national policies, securing investments, and sharing practical solutions for sustainable food systems is strengthened
- Shared knowledge of project ideas for climate investments in agrifood systems in Southeast Asia and further elaboration of the project ideas for Concept Notes
- Regional networks of public, private and civil society stakeholders across the agrifood systems are strengthened leading to improved investments in support of NDC 3.0 planning and implementation.
- Project Steering Committee members of the *Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia* project are informed of project activities and updates

## Programme at a glance

Sessions	<b>21 January</b> <b>Day 0 – Pre-workshop masterclass for <i>Agriculture Sector Readiness for enhanced climate finance and implementation of Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture priorities in Southeast Asia</i> project</b>	
Morning	<b>Masterclass on project development</b> and project presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Peer-to-peer presentations of project updates with Q&amp;A</li> <li>• Presentation of successful existing GCF projects</li> </ul>	
Afternoon	<b>Preparing a GCF Concept Note</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aligning project ideas with NDCs</li> <li>• From project ideas to Concept Notes</li> <li>• Development of Theory of Change</li> <li>• Dos and don'ts of GCF applications</li> </ul> <b>Project Steering Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional risk finance facility</li> <li>• Increasing direct access to GCF funding for agriculture in Southeast Asia</li> <li>• Workplan update</li> </ul>	
Sessions	<b>22 January</b> <b>Day 1</b>	<b>23 January</b> <b>Day 2</b>
Morning	<b>Project ideas for climate investments in agrifood systems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Country presentations</li> </ul>	<b>ASEAN-CRN anniversary</b>  <b>Opening of the day</b>

	<p><b>Accelerating implementation of national climate plans</b>  <b>Session 1: Thematic exchange on sustainable agriculture and climate action</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate baselines and agriculture standards</li> <li>• Food security, nutrition and climate action</li> <li>• Innovation for climate-resilient agriculture</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening remarks</li> <li>• Looking back: ASEAN-CRN's role, mandate, core areas of focus</li> <li>• ASEAN-CRN's achievements: Gallery walk and testimonies</li> </ul> <p><b>Panel Discussion on “Enhancing Regional Cooperation: 10 Years and Beyond”</b></p>
<p>Afternoon</p>	<p><b>Session 2: Financing national climate plans</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate-smart agriculture investment plans</li> <li>• Investments for green growth</li> <li>• Promoting crop insurance through PPP</li> </ul> <p><b>Session 3: Policy frameworks alignment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COP29 outcomes for climate action in agriculture</li> <li>• NDC 3.0 planning and implementation country support</li> </ul>	<p><b>Official Ceremony</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video Presentation: “ASEAN-CRN’s Journey: 10 Years of Enhanced Regional Exchange for Sustainable Agriculture Future”</li> <li>• Remarks from high-level participants and organizing partners</li> </ul> <p><b>Visit to pilot site</b></p>



