



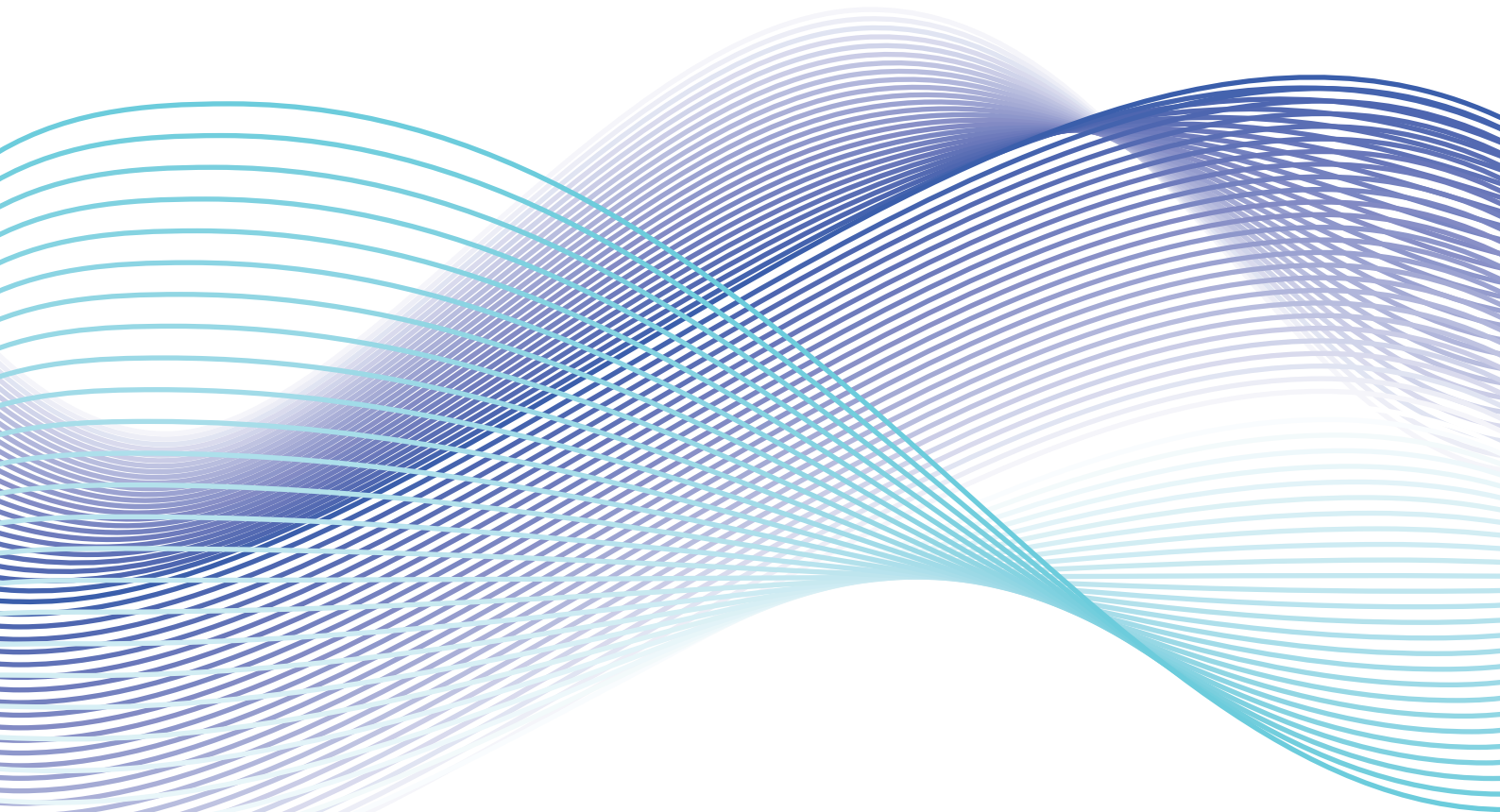
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ASEAN SCP FRAMEWORK

Summary



Background Report

Summary of the ASEAN SCP Framework

The Launch and Meeting on the ASEAN SCP Framework as back-to-back event of the 15th ASEAN Working Group on Environment Education will be held on 13th July 2023 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The event was proposed by Indonesia, as the lead country for ASEAN cooperation on SCP, in cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat and supported by the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme.

This Background Report written by Dr. Shun Fung Chui for the EU SWITCH-Asia Policy Supported Component and in collaboration with the Government of Indonesia has been prepared as background material for the Launch and Meeting on the ASEAN SCP Framework.

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I. Introduction

1. Sustainable development is central to the ASEAN Community Vision 2025. This commitment to leaving no one behind resonates effectively in many of the activities of the ASEAN through its various Working Groups, initiatives and partnerships. Among others, the *ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework* adopted at the 37th ASEAN Summit supports multistakeholder action toward the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
2. A sustainable and resilient future recognizes the need to accelerate and consolidate efforts in line with the SDGs, particularly SDG12 on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). A paradigm shift toward sustainability will require comprehensive and engaging education campaigns, complementary and dynamic actions across the region, and collaborative environment for public-private partnerships and community involvement on SCP and ASEAN Vision 2025.

II. Development of the ASEAN SCP Framework

3. Indonesia, being the lead coordinating country for ASEAN cooperation on SCP, took the initiative to initiate collaboration with the EU-funded SWITCH Asia Programme, Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC) in partnership with UNEP and the Asia Pacific Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption and Production (APRSCP) to develop an [ASEAN SCP Framework](#) (herein referred to as the “Framework”).
4. The ASEAN SCP Framework underwent a series of preparatory activities and consultations with the ASOEN through the AWGEE, culminating in its adoption in 2021.
 - a. In March 2021, a [scoping study “Mapping SCP in ASEAN Countries”](#) was prepared and presented in a virtual consultation. Following the comments from ASEAN Member States, the scoping document was finalized in May 2021.
 - b. In September 2021, the initial draft of the “ASEAN SCP Framework” was presented virtually to AWGEE. Surveys and roundtable/ consultations among SCP experts and practitioners in the regions were used to provide the inputs to the design and SCP priorities and activities. The Framework together with a compendium of SCP cases in ASEAN was finalized in November 2021.

III. ASEAN SCP Framework

5. The goal of the Framework is to drive regional efforts in SCP implementation in the advancement of ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and SDG12. To this end, the ASEAN SCP Framework will strengthen synergies and bring all networks together for greater collective impact through:
 - a. active engagement among intergovernmental and governmental agencies, businesses, and civil society, and community groups within ASEAN in SCP Practices, and
 - b. knowledge management within ASEAN, AMS and regional partners for mutual support in upscaling technical capabilities and expertise, and accelerating progress in SCP.
6. The Framework provided four SCP goals for regional action, with four action lines each to cover the *Policy* (guidance/ goal setting), *Technology innovation and capacity building* (the needs to implement the policy), *Market mechanism* (engagement with stakeholders), and *Public awareness* (increasing understanding of goals).
 - a. Measure and support progress in SDG12. Data presents a crucial opportunity for science-policy interface and evidence-based policymaking. Resource consumption and resource efficiency have well established accounting methods to support an analysis of how well an economy utilizes its resources and identify needs to better support for sustainability. The ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators Baseline Report 2020 together with

the modular methodology in calculating resource consumption by the UNEP and EuroStat can be used as a starting point in expanding the data reporting and monitoring activities on SDG12. A regional guidance for reporting on SCP/ SDG12 targets (1a) will be an effective supporting tool in the commitment to sustainable development and further implementation of the Framework. In line with this, regional consultations and capacity building for national statistics authority (1b) will identify the needs of each agency in reporting SDG12 targets and can involve other stakeholders that can support this objective, including the ASEAN Community Statistical System, academe and international organizations. To complement the work of national agencies, governments can take advantage of the increasing practice of sustainability reporting by corporations and state enterprises (1c) and broaden partnerships in support of sustainability goals. Lastly, increasing public awareness on sustainability (1d) and SDGs remains a critical component of any agenda on sustainable development as consumption is significant in a sustainable transition to the growth and development of the region.

- b. Promote sustainable food systems. The challenges on food supply are further magnified considering food loss and food waste in the region is among the highest in the world particularly at the farm, distribution, handling and storage stages in the food cycle. With the rising population and income in the region, promoting good practices for minimizing food loss and food waste (2a) presents a practical approach to ensuring sustainable and reliable food supply. The ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint prioritizes cooperation on food, agriculture and forestry sector and suggests interventions like strengthening capacity for sustainable production, identifying needed infrastructure investments and enhancing agricultural productivity. To complement 2a, a community of practice & capacity building programs (2b) will be instrumental in bridging the knowledge of good practices with practical applications. International organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization promotes sustainable food and agriculture and provide related action guides. Linkage with ASEAN Technical Working group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD) may be sought on any existing work plan. On the other hand, food waste can be managed by encouraging sustainable practices at retailers & food establishments (2c) and through consumer education on sustainable consumption (2d).
- c. Establish good practices for green products and guidelines for Green Public Procurement (GPP). Efficient use of raw materials leading to less waste, chemical use and toxic emissions will be a desirable process to support sustainability transitions. Small and medium enterprises provide significant employment and economic output in the ASEAN region, and a shift to sustainability will involve significant support to this sector as well as collaboration among the stakeholders. A regional guidance on the practice of GPP (3a) can clarify and support its implementation by countries and facilitate the harmonization of country requirements (setting of purchasing criteria) for trade within ASEAN. Green products and GPP are proposed here as opposed to ecolabels, which could become a deterrent to the growth of many SMEs. As such, a programmatic scheme for SMEs in implementing SCP and good practices for green products (3b) should be able to appropriately plan the progression and scaling up of SME skills to be at par with globally recognized systems or standards of product and production systems. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) can be a starting point for preparing SMEs in acquiring more technical skills for productivity, green technology, and manufacture of green products among others. The cooperation with Ministry of Finance may be sought for the development of regional GPP guidance. This action line can have links with the Ministry of Trade/ Industry and the ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (ACCMSME). A community of practice & capacity building programs (3c) for SCP in general or for specific industry/ sectors can be an effective network for sharing good practices in establishing green manufacturing capabilities and addressing challenges to green technology and productivity. The ASEAN Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (APASTI) 2016-2025 can also be a vital plan to link with. Lastly, a market for green products need to be facilitated by having Green product certifications and National Green Product Directory (3d) for the benefit of procurers and by increasing awareness through Consumer information on green products (product information/ labelling) (3e).

- d. Promote sustainable lifestyles in urban and rural settings. Increasing wealth and growing population significantly drives consumption in ASEAN. Proactive regional guidance on good practices for sustainable lifestyles in the region (4a) are needed to adequately respond to this challenge. Realizing that urban and rural sustainability practices vastly differ can help shape comprehensive guidance to the public. In addition to regional efforts, targeted information dissemination like a Household guidance on sustainable lifestyles (4d) and using market signals like Developing incentives/ rewards to encourage sustainable lifestyles (4c) function to encourage sustainable practices especially when it is not yet mainstream. Consumer awareness through local level campaigns (4d) can be deployed and tailored to target consumers.
7. The ASEAN SCP Framework is anchored in the Marrakech Process, recognizing the importance of multistakeholder involvement and action in the implementation of SCP. **Table 1** below presents the four specific goals with the corresponding action lines to guide its implementation. Furthermore, the lead implementer and partner line agencies are indicated as a guide in the operationalization of this Framework. Related SDG12 target in each of the goals are identified as well.

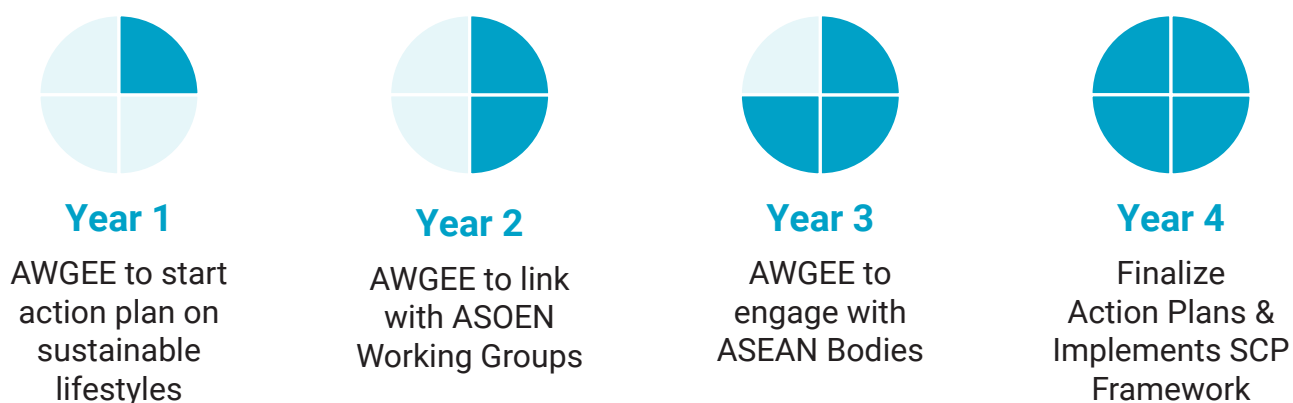
IV. Implementation

8. The action lines proposed in this Framework includes the SCP tools common to many AMS. *Sustainable lifestyles and education* aim to promote sustainable consumption among consumers and has been elevated here as a goal in itself particularly as consumption in ASEAN is expected to increase. In providing end consumers with information and choice, they can contribute to sustainability by becoming responsible consumers. *Green public procurement* aims to catalyze the demand for green products and make them cost-competitive to regular products. *Green products* aim to lessen the environmental impacts of goods throughout its lifecycle. *Sustainability reporting* encourages sustainability practices in large corporations that have the awareness and the resources to contribute to sustainable development.
9. A phased implementation with a timeline of four years (**Figure 1**) was proposed to implement the Framework. These phases aim to provide sufficient time for leadership to take shape, engagements and partnerships to forge and specific action plans to develop.
 - a. The ASOEN, with support from AWGEE as the lead Working Group, shall be the principal coordinating body responsible for the strategic implementation of the ASEAN SCP Framework. To support the AWGEE, a lead implementing body can be designated for each goal. The specific goals and action lines outlined in this Framework may serve as a guide for them to draft the Action Plan. For Year 1 of implementation, AWGEE may focus on establishing an Action Plan for Specific Goal 4 (promote sustainable lifestyles).
 - b. AWGEE can start looking into possible stakeholders and co-implementers for the proposed action lines to prepare a list of ASOEN WGs and ASEAN Bodies to reach out to for collaboration in Years 2 and 3, respectively. Considering other ongoing and related regional action plans to the Specific Goals identified here, the proposed ASEAN SCP Framework and its action lines may be updated at any point in its implementation, as necessary. Acknowledging the wide scope and technical nature of the proposed goals and action lines, a lead implementing body can be designated to work on each specific goal or action lines. Options for implementing bodies will be decided by the ASOEN, ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) and AMS, and the ASEAN Body if outside of ASOEN Working Group.
 - c. Year 4 will see the launch of the ASEAN Action Plan on SCP and its implementation plan.

Table 1. The ASEAN SCP Framework

1. Specific goals	2. Measure and support progress in SDG12	3. Promote sustainable food systems	4. Establish good practices for green products and procurement (GPP)	5. Promote sustainable lifestyles in urban and rural settings
Policy	1a. Regional guidance for reporting on SCP/ SDG12 targets	2a. Good practices for minimizing food loss and food waste	3a. Regional guidance on good practices for the practice of GPP 3b. Programmatic scheme for SMEs in implementing SCP and good practices	4a. Regional guidance on best practices for sustainable lifestyles
Technology innovation and capacity building	1b. Regional consultations and capacity building for national statistics authority	2b. Community of practice & capacity building programs	3c. Community of practice and capacity building programs	4b. Household guidance on sustainable lifestyles
Market mechanism	1c. Sustainability reporting by corporations and state enterprises	2c. Encouraging sustainable practices at retailers & food establishments	3d. Green product certifications and National Green Product Directory	4c. Develop incentives/ rewards to encourage sustainable lifestyles
Public Awareness	1d. Public awareness on sustainability	2d. Consumer education on sustainable consumption	3e. Consumer information on green products	4d. Consumer awareness through local level campaigns
Lead Implementer	ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS), AWGEE	ASEAN Technical Working group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD)	ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise (ACCMSME)	AWGEE, ASEAN Center for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue (ACSDSD)
Partner Line Agency	National Statistical Authority, in cooperation with Academic Institutions	Ministry of Industry, Research Institutes	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Industry, SME Groups/ Federations	Local Government Units
Related SDG12 target	12.1 Implement 10YFP 12.6 Encourage companies to report sustainability information	12.3 Halve per capita global food waste 12.2 Sustainable management of natural resources	12.a Strengthen scientific and technological capacity for SCP 12.7 Promote sustainable procurement practices	12.5 Reduce waste generation 12.8 Ensure people have relevant information on sustainable lifestyles

Figure 1. Phased implementation of the ASEAN SCP Framework



10. Implementation of the Framework will require financial resources, as well as human resources. Financial, technical and knowledge support may be sought from key partners in the region, academic and research institutions, and related Ministries and private sector organizations. To avoid redundancy of efforts, initiatives and activities to be implemented will consider established bodies and mechanisms within the ASEAN system. The lead implementers are encouraged to map out past and ongoing funding and technical support to AMS and ASEAN related to the specific goals and identify future funding needs. The lead implementers may propose activities and outcomes and draft the specifics of the Action Plans during Years 2-4 of the implementation of this Framework. More detailed key performance indicators, which may or may not be linked to SCP indicators and SDG12 targets, can be developed for the Action Plan.
11. The review and evaluation of the implementation of the Framework will periodically be done by ASOEN. With respect to the phase/ year of implementation, the AWGEE in coordination with lead implementers will submit annual reports to ASOEN, including recommendations for the next year of implementation of the SCP Framework. ASEC shall facilitate coordination among ASOEN, AWGEE, lead implementers and funding agencies, following internal protocols.
12. The ASEAN SCP Framework and Implementation Plan covers areas and approaches that will be instrumental in enabling the transition to sustainability: baseline data on SDG12 and SCP indicators, good practices, community of practice, consumer education and Action Plans for the proposed specific goals to be launched at Year 4 of the implementation of this SCP Framework. The SCP and SDG12 data reporting will enable evidence-based policymaking and regional cooperation and form the basis of carefully designed SCP actions on the local, national and regional level. These outputs shall serve as the backbone for broader engagements and ambitious targets that will contribute to progress in the identified SDG12 indicators (**Table 1**). The use of knowledge outputs and networks like good practices and community of practice can be tested and refined for ease of management and to support the implementation of the Action Plans.



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