



ASEAN CLIMATE FINANCE POLICY PLATFORM

- The ACFPP initiated activities in 2024 to support ASEAN Ministries of Finance (MOF) through policy dialogue, knowledge generation, and capacity building.
- In 2025, under Malaysia's chairmanship, the platform moved to implementation, establishing a focal network, and advancing work on climate-responsive Public Financial Management (PFM) and Environmental Taxation.
- Formal endorsement by ASEAN finance ministers during the Philippines' ASEAN 2026 chairmanship will catalyze deeper regional cooperation and accelerate climate finance action across ASEAN Member States.

THE ASEAN CLIMATE FINANCE POLICY PLATFORM (ACFPP) is a regional technical assistance and capacity-building initiative (2024–2027), supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), to strengthen the role of finance ministries and policymakers in addressing climate change. The platform builds on the regional grouping's existing finance cooperation architecture by facilitating policy dialogue, knowledge sharing, and evidence generation aligned with the priorities of both ASEAN and the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action (CFMCA). It emerged from a series of key engagements, including a High-Level Policy Dialogue on the role of finance ministries on climate action in April 2024 during the 11th ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM) in Lao PDR, and subsequent discussions during the first Asia-Pacific Regional Meeting of the CFMCA held in Manila in August 2024.

Why is it needed?

ASEAN countries face growing climate finance requirements amid constrained fiscal space. Meanwhile, the capacity of MOFs to design and implement climate-aligned fiscal policies varies widely. ASEAN has made progress through green finance taxonomies, climate budgeting, and sustainable finance initiatives. However, gaps remain in coordinated MOF-led approaches to mobilizing climate finance and integrating climate considerations into fiscal systems. The platform addresses these gaps by providing a structured mechanism for peer learning, policy coordination, and scaling innovative financing solutions.



Capacity building session at the 2026 WG-AFT and SF-ET Meetings in the Philippines—presenting the ERT report and advancing reform pathways and regional learning across ASEAN.

How does the platform work?

The platform primarily focuses on finance ministries, while also engaging central banks and other related ministries as needed. It complements existing ASEAN and global initiatives by focusing on fiscal and financial policy tools required to scale climate finance and strengthen fiscal resilience. It aims to build leadership in ministries of finance, and strengthen their capacity to respond to climate change.

The platform implements four sets of activities: (i) high-level ministerial policy dialogues to drive leadership and visibility, (ii) technical policy dialogues and deep dives on priority topics, (iii) evidence generation and capacity building through research, case studies, and training, and (iv) development of policy frameworks and country-level roadmaps to support implementation. These activities are demand-driven and aligned with ASEAN chairmanship priorities.

The platform is closely aligned with ASEAN frameworks, including the ASEAN Economic Community Strategic Plan 2026–2030, and supports consideration of climate finance issues, both through existing ASEAN finance sector bodies and through a network of focals in member states. It also links regional efforts with global processes under the CFMCA, ensuring that ASEAN countries benefit from international best practices while contributing regional perspectives.

Implementation is anchored in a light-touch governance structure, supported by designated focal points in each member state. ADB plays a coordinating role by managing the work plan, facilitating dialogue, mobilizing technical expertise, and supporting knowledge production. Activities are implemented in consultation with the ASEAN Chair, ASEAN Secretariat, and relevant sectoral bodies to ensure coherence and avoid duplication.



On the sidelines of the CFMCA regional meeting in Manila in August 2024, ADB organized the inaugural meeting of the ASEAN Climate Finance Policy Platform, to equip officials with the tools and knowledge to address climate risks in fiscal and economic planning.

What has the ACFPP done so far?

1. Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Capacity

Advancing the Platform through ASEAN processes

The platform has progressed from concept to formal recognition within ASEAN. The concept note was presented and refined through ASEAN finance processes, with a pathway established for intersessional endorsement and formal noting at AFMGM 2026.

Establishing governance and focal network

Initial governance arrangements have been put in place. These include a first governance meeting and the appointment of focal points across several ASEAN Member States, creating a starting point for a regional network of Ministries of Finance engaged on climate finance.

Facilitating regional and global engagement

With support from the initiative, ASEAN officials have been able to engage with global platforms, including participation in the CFMCA Annual Forum on macroeconomic and fiscal aspects of climate transition. This has strengthened exposure to international practices and tools and helped identify capacity gaps across ASEAN MOFs.

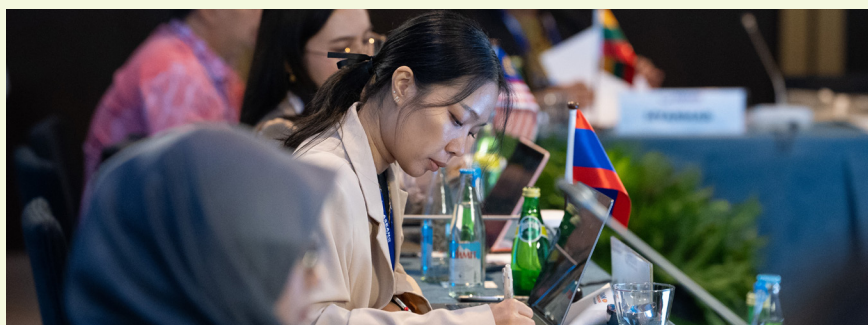
2. Advancing Climate Finance Policy Uptake

Climate-responsive fiscal management

The platform has delivered its first policy dialogue on climate-responsive PFM under the ASEAN Treasury Forum held in Putrajaya, Malaysia in August 2025, with strong participation from member states. It also produced the *Climate-Resilient Fiscal Planning and Management* report (2024), providing practical guidance on integrating climate considerations into fiscal policy, budgeting, and risk management.

Environmental taxation

Work has commenced on a regional knowledge program on environment-related taxes, including the preparation of a report. It lays the groundwork for future policy dialogue and reform discussions.



■ Capacity building session at the 2026 ASEAN Forum on Taxation (AFT) and its Sub-Forum on Excise Taxation (SF-ET) meetings held in Manila, Philippines on 12 March - presenting ASEAN Environment Related Taxes report and advancing reform pathways and regional learning across ASEAN.

2024-2025: Emerging Takeaways

Climate action depends on strong finance ministries.

Delivering climate outcomes at scale requires finance ministries to play a central role in shaping fiscal policy, mobilizing finance, and managing climate-related risks.

A whole-of-ministry approach is essential.

Climate cannot be addressed by a single unit. It requires coordinated action across budget, revenue, macrofiscal, treasury, and capital markets functions, supported by leadership and coherent data systems.

Institutionalization within ASEAN is the next step.

Initial momentum has been established, but impact will depend on embedding climate finance within ASEAN finance processes and sustaining it as a core agenda across relevant fora.

Moving from dialogue to implementation.

Strong demand and participation are in place; the priority now is to translate these into concrete outputs, policy actions, and measurable reforms.

Capacity and leadership are both important.

Differences in experience across ASEAN, combined with the need for strong internal coordination, underscore the importance of sustained capacity building and clear institutional leadership within finance ministries.

What's next: Work Plan 2026

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COOPERATION AND CAPACITY ON CLIMATE FINANCE

Activity	Timing	Description
High-level Policy Dialogue at the 13 th ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting	April	Formal launch of the ACFPP under the Philippines' Chairship, through a High-Level Policy Dialogue on climate finance and fiscal resilience. The event will elevate climate finance within ASEAN finance discussions, and set the direction for platform activities.
Baseline / Benchmarking Assessment on Climate Integration in Finance Ministries	August	Regional assessment of how climate considerations are integrated into finance ministry functions (fiscal policy, budgeting, treasury, and macrofiscal analysis). The study will identify capacity gaps, institutional arrangements, and priority areas, providing evidence for future platform support.
Pilot In-Country Climate Finance Training Programs	October	Delivery of tailored, in-country training programs for finance ministry officials, based on country demand. Trainings will be designed based on the needs of each country and aim to strengthen institutional capacity across different functions within ministries.

ADVANCING UPTAKE OF CLIMATE FINANCE POLICY

Activity	Timing	Description
Policy Dialogue on Environment-Related Taxes (ASEAN Forum on Taxation)	March	Regional dialogue to share experiences and approaches on environmental tax instruments across ASEAN.
ASEAN Environmental Tax Report	April	Knowledge product providing comparative analysis of environment-related taxes across ASEAN, including design features, impacts, and reform options.
Benchmarking Report on Climate Integration into Treasury Functions	July	Report assessing current practices in integrating climate into treasury functions across ASEAN. The report will support more systematic adoption of climate-responsive PFM approaches.
Policy Dialogue on Climate-Responsive Public Financial Management	July	Continued engagement under the ASEAN Treasury Forum to advance integration of climate considerations into treasury and PFM systems, including fiscal risk management, expenditure planning, and reporting practices.
Policy Dialogue / Conference on Carbon Markets (ASEAN Capital Markets Forum)	September	Regional dialogue on carbon market development and harmonization, linked to ASEAN capital markets discussions. The event will explore regulatory approaches, market infrastructure, and opportunities for scaling carbon markets in line with Article 6 and voluntary market developments.



■ As part of the 2nd Annual Forum in Copenhagen, ADB supported regional participation and led key capacity-building sessions, strengthening analytical capabilities and policy dialogue on climate-related fiscal risks.

For more information please visit:
<https://seads.adb.org/hub/asean-climate-finance-policy-platform>

