

Appendix 1

ASEAN Initiatives on the Blue Economy

No.	Initiatives	Description	Relevant Sectoral Body	ASEC Division
Blue Science, Data, and Technology				
Science, Technology, and Innovation <i>(e.g. biotechnology; marine science; data, statistics, and data analytics, including on digitalisation and innovation)</i>				
1.	Development of an ASEAN Blue Economy roadmap – application of science, technology, and innovation (STI)	The project aims to develop new initiatives in smart aquaculture, marine ecosystem health, and integrated ocean monitoring (IOM) to advance the Blue Economy in South-East Asia. It will assess current conditions and analyse gaps; identify and design the application of STI to support the development of the roadmap; develop policy briefs for policymakers and other stakeholders; and disseminate the roadmap related to smart aquaculture, marine ecosystem health, and IOM.	Main: ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on STI/Committee on STI Sub-committees: (i) Sub-committee on Marine Science and Technology (ii) Sub-committee on Microelectronics and Information Technology (iii) Sub-committee on Space Technology and Applications	Science and Technology Division

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2.	Inclusion of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 14.4.1 (i.e. proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels) and indicator 14.5.1 (i.e. coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas) to ASEAN SDG indicators	The ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS), through the Working Group on SDG Indicators, agreed to include SDG indicators 14.4.1 and 14.5.1 on the list of ASEAN SDG indicators, and to submit available data to ASEANStats.	ACSS	Statistics Division
Blue Conservation Management				
Environment (e.g. marine and coastal ecosystems protection, marine litter, and plastic pollution)				
3.	International Maritime Organization (IMO) MEPSEAS	MEPSEAS assists partner countries in developing environmental protection strategies to address high-priority marine environment issues, in particular relating to the transport and shipping industry.	Individual ASEAN Member State (AMS) representatives	
4.	IMO GloLitter project	This project aims to assist countries in the prevention and reduction of marine litter (particularly plastic litter) within the transport and fisheries sectors.	Individual AMS representatives	
5.	IMO GloFouling Partnerships Project	This project aims to address the challenge of invasive species introduction via biofouling on vessel hulls.	Individual AMS representatives	
Blue Priority Sectors				
Fisheries (e.g. illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing; sustainable aquaculture and fishing practices; food security)				
6.	ASEAN Network for Combating IUU Fishing	The network was established to facilitate the sharing of monitoring, control, and surveillance information amongst AMS.	ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry	Food, Agriculture

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			(AMAF)/ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF)	and Forestry Division (FAFD)
7.	<i>ASEAN Roadmap for Combating IUU Fishing (2021–2025)</i>	The roadmap sets out priority actions and activities to address IUU fishing in the region.	AMAF/ASOF	FAFD
8.	<i>ASEAN Good Aquaculture Practices for Food Fish and ASEAN Guidelines for the Prudent Use of Antimicrobials in Aquaculture</i>	These were adopted to address the risks of aquaculture production in terms of food safety, animal health and welfare, environmental integrity, and socio-economic aspects.	AMAF/ASOF	FAFD
9.	Project on Mangrove Ecosystem Management in the ASEAN Region	The project aims to strengthen the network on mangrove ecosystems in the South-East Asian region for sustainable mangrove management.	AMAF/ASOF	FAFD
Trade and Industrial Development (<i>e.g. maritime trade, marine industrial development</i>)				
10.	ASEAN–Australia–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA)	In the upgraded AANZFTA, the Blue Economy is listed as a possible area for economic cooperation under the chapter on trade and sustainable development.	AANZFTA Economic Cooperation Sub-committee	External Economic Relations Division
Transport (<i>e.g. maritime transport, security and safety of navigation</i>)				
11.	<i>ASEAN Green Ship Strategy</i>	The strategy promotes the use of environmentally friendly ships by encouraging AMS to develop policy menus and to exchange best practices on the use of alternative shipping fuels.	ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM)/Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM)	Transport

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12.	ASEAN Same Risk Area	Relevant AMS are trying to establish an ASEAN Same Risk Area to protect regional marine environments from invasive aquatic species.	ATM/STOM	Transport
13.	ASEAN Ship Waste Management Project (2023–2025)	The project aims to develop a regional ship waste management strategy to limit the illegal discharge of ship waste into the marine environment of South-East Asia.	ATM/STOM	Transport
14.	<i>ASEAN Regional Oil Spill Contingency Plan</i>	The plan, which was adopted in 2018, provides a mechanism for AMS to respond to oil spills and establishes a common understanding and effective integration amongst affected and assisting AMS.	ATM/STOM	Transport
15.	Sustainable Port Development	Technical support by GIZ from 2009 to 2015, aimed to assist participating ASEAN ports to achieve and to maintain quality and sustainability in safety, health, and environmental management.	ATM/STOM	Transport
Tourism <i>(e.g. coastal tourism and heritage conservation)</i>				
16.	ASEAN Declaration on Cruise Tourism and Cruise Tourism Work Plan	The declaration agrees to accelerate cruise tourism development, focussing on the effectiveness of tourism destination management by considering environmental and social sustainability issues as well as the welfare of local communities. The 2022 work plan aims to drive awareness of South-East Asia as a regional cruise destination, while the 2023 work plan proposes organising trade engagement activities such as	ASEAN Tourism Ministers (ATM)/national tourism organisations (NTOs)	Tourism Unit

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		participating in joint ASEAN marketing initiatives at the annual Seatrade Cruise Global 2023 in Miami, collaborating with cruise tourism partners to promote cruising in South-East Asia , collaborating with cruise industry partners to develop relevant training content, and organising training and trade engagement sessions for cruise travel agents to provide them with updated skill sets and knowledge of cruise for tourism recovery.		
17.	Achieving Sustainable Tourism with Intangible Cultural Heritage and Creative City Network in Waterway Cities of ASEAN	A project, 'Achieving Sustainable Tourism with Intangible Cultural Heritage and Creative City Network in Waterway Cities of ASEAN, funded by the ASEAN-Turkey Fund covering Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Thailand under the pilot phase. The project aims to encourage public and private sectors in AMS to collaborate to promote sustainable tourism through their intangible cultural heritage and creative industries.	ATM/NTOs	Tourism Unit
18.	Pakse Declaration	The Pakse Declaration on the ASEAN Roadmap for Strategic Development of Ecotourism Clusters and Tourism Corridors encourages ASEAN to develop a network of tourism corridors to enable tourists to visit the region's rich ecotourism sites, especially its nature reserves, to experience the essence of ASEAN's nature-based products and services and to implement concerted actions for the balanced sustainable development of ecotourism through partnerships with relevant stakeholders.	ATM/NTOs	Tourism Unit

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Energy and Minerals <i>(e.g. ocean and renewable energy, activities to anticipate potential environmental impacts of offshore mining)</i>				
19.	East Asia Summit (EAS) Energy Cooperation Task Force workstream on renewable and alternative power generation	Under the workstream, continued efforts are given to innovative and emerging renewable energy technologies such as offshore wind and floating solar power including through floating solar applications; EAS Clean Energy Forum, which features dialogues on new solar photovoltaic and wind technologies and experience sharing on the prospects of floating solar photovoltaic, low-speed wind power, and offshore wind power; future cooperation with development partners to conduct project development, knowledge sharing, and capacity building activities to improve the deployment and utilisation of offshore wind and floating solar power in ASEAN.	Senior Officials Meeting on Energy (SOME)/Renewable Energy Sub Sector Network	Energy and Minerals Division (EMD)
20.	Activities to anticipate potential environmental impacts of offshore mining	The ASEAN-Intergovernmental Forum on the Environmental Impacts of Offshore Mining took place in 2021. Moreover, there is work with development partners to conduct activities related to offshore mining to further develop collaboration and knowledge exchange, including technologies and leading practices. Noting that offshore mining is yet to be developed as a major cooperation area under the ASEAN minerals sectoral body, such activities are to be considered further while implementing <i>ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Plan Phase 2, 2021–2025</i> .	ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Minerals	EMD

No.	Initiatives	Description	Relevant Sectoral Body	ASEC Division
Blue Enablers				
<i>(e.g. blue financing, blue investment, blue infrastructure, sustainable production and consumption, good ocean governance, connectivity, and inclusivity)</i>				
21.	Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA): Sustainable Development Programme (ISDP)	The project-based programme aims to facilitate sustainable development for its member states and is expected to foster regional cooperation and partnerships.	Individual member state representatives	

Source: Authors.

Appendix 2

Regional Governance and Cooperation Mechanisms in ASEAN

Cooperation or Governance Mechanism	Regional Organisation	Signatory Countries
<p>Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) project and development services:</p> <p>PEMSEA helps development organisations, including multilateral and bilateral agencies, international nongovernmental organisations, regional programmes, foundations, and development service providers with a focus on coastal and marine sustainable development to increase their efficiency and effectiveness in East Asia.</p>	PEMSEA	Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), North Korea, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam, and other extra-PEMSEA partners.
<p>PEMSEA Network of Learning Centres (PNLC):</p> <p>A consortium of higher education and research institutes that provide academic training, extension services, policy advice, and other forms of technical assistance and capacity building, it consists of PEMSEA learning centres and regional centres of excellence (RCOEs). PEMSEA learning centres are higher education institutions that have the institutional capacity and track records to provide academic degree programmes and other means of capacity development, research, and technical advisory services on sustainable coastal and marine resource development. RCOEs are either higher education institutions or research institutions that may offer academic degree programmes but have received recognition of high distinction from their national governments for exemplary performance in capacity development, research, and technical advisory services on sustainable coastal and marine resource</p>	PEMSEA	Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, North Korea, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Viet Nam

Cooperation or Governance Mechanism	Regional Organisation	Signatory Countries
development.		
PEMSEA <i>Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia Action Plan 2023-2027</i>	PEMSEA	PEMSEA partners
<p>Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF):</p> <p>The IORBF convenes business representatives from Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) member states and dialogue partners to advise IORA ministers and officials on business issues and ways to accelerate intraregional trade and to increase investment flows in the region. Members of the IORBF comprise senior members of chambers of commerce and the business community who can effectively represent the national business interests of their economies.</p>	IORA	Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and other IORA member states
<p>Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG):</p> <p>IORAG has been positioned as the primary vehicle for academia, universities, think tanks, and scientific and technological centres to formulate policy and project recommendations to IORA member states. Its role is both advisory and catalytic, to service the needs of government and business, promote intellectual dialogue amongst participating member states, serve as a vehicle for the development and dissemination of the Indian Ocean Rim Concept, and serve the region through coordinated and rigorous research.</p>	IORA	<p>India (leading the IORAG Reform Sub-Committee and is the coordinating country for academic science and technology cooperation)</p> <p>South Africa (when chair of IORA, it took steps to reinvigorate IORAG with the establishment of the Sub-Committee on IORAG Reforms)</p> <p>Other IORA member states</p>
The IORA Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security:	IORA	Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and other IORA member states

Cooperation or Governance Mechanism	Regional Organisation	Signatory Countries
<p>It was established in September 2018 and is presently chaired by Sri Lanka for 2 years. It advances the <i>IORA Action Plan, 2017–2021</i> with member states developing a regional agenda through a maritime safety and security work plan.</p>		
<p>Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD):</p> <p>The IOD is a stand-alone Track 1.5 dialogue, encouraging an open and free flowing dialogue by key representatives of IORA member states such as scholars, experts, analysts, and policymakers from governments, think tanks, and civil societies on a number of crucial strategic issues of the Indian Ocean Region.</p>	IORA	IORA member states and dialogue partners
<p>The Regional Centre for Science and Transfer of Technology (RCSTT):</p> <p>The RCSTT was established through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with IORA in 2008. Its objective is to promote regional integration and cooperation amongst member states by supporting applied research, networking, technology transfer, and commercialisation. It was created following a recommendation by the IORA Academic Group and approved at the 7th Council of Ministers’ Meeting, held in March 2007 in Teheran.</p>	IORA	IORA member states (including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand)
<p>The Fisheries Support Unit (FSU):</p> <p>The FSU was created through an MOU between IORA and the Sultanate of Oman pursuant to a decision at the 4th Council of Ministers' Meeting in Sri Lanka in October 2003. Its objectives are to enhance cooperation within the fisheries sector of IORA, better utilise fisheries resources, and conduct joint research activities.</p>	IORA	IORA member states (including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand)

Cooperation or Governance Mechanism	Regional Organisation	Signatory Countries
MOU between IORA member states for the coordination and cooperation of search and rescue services in the Indian Ocean Region (2014)	IORA	IORA member states
MOU between the Institute of Seawater Desalination and Multipurpose Utilization of the Chinese State Oceanic Administration and RCSTT. This established the IORA RCSTT Coordination Centre for Desalination Technologies to deepen understanding of seawater technology and to facilitate technology transfers (2015).	IORA	IORA member states and China
MOU between IORA member states for the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) was launched at the 17th Council of Ministers' Meeting held in Durban, South Africa. It created a framework for capacity building to grow and support SMEs, which are crucial economic units driving employment creation and poverty alleviation around the region (2017).	IORA	IORA member states and South Africa
MOU between IORA and the Indian Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) to enhance academic cooperation in the region and other international economic and development issues (2018).	IORA	IORA member states (including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand)
MOU between the RCSTT and the Indian Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CSIR-CIMAP) for technical cooperation, technology transfer and commercialisation of medicinal plants to facilitate joint projects and transfer of scientific information in the field of medical plants (2018)	IORA	IORA, IORA member states including India

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