



Guidance Note

**Mainstreaming Climate Change in the Sectoral Working Groups of the
ASEAN Framework on Climate Change:
Agriculture and Forestry towards Food Security (AFCC)**

***In line with the
Food, Agriculture and Forestry Vision (FAF)
and other relevant ASEAN Frameworks***

Draft for Comments

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Table of Contents

GUIDANCE NOTE ON MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE	3
MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE INTO ASEAN SECTORAL WORKING GROUPS	4
SOM AMAF Working Groups	5
Sector: Crops	5
Sector: Forestry	6
Sector: Fisheries & Aquaculture	7
Sector: Livestock	8
Other Working Groups	8
Sector: Climate Change	8
Sector: Rural Development and Poverty Eradication	9
MONITORING AND REPORTING	10

Guidance Note on Mainstreaming Climate Change

Southeast Asia (SEA) is one of the world's most vulnerable regions to climate change, due to its long coastlines, high concentration of population and economic activity in coastal areas, and heavy reliance on agriculture, fisheries, forestry and other natural resources¹. Climate hazards such as temperature increase, erratic rainfall patterns, extreme climatic events (such as strong typhoons and severe droughts) cause adverse effects and impacts on ecosystems livelihoods and on many other aspects of human societies. In particular, climate change threatens agricultural production and indirectly food security, ecological stability, and sustainable development. Food Security has been a long-standing agenda in ASEAN. With the global food crisis of 2007 / 08, ASEAN made food security an integral part of community building and adopted the ASEAN Integrated Food Security (AIFS)² Framework as a regional umbrella for food security related initiatives. ASEAN leaders recognised the impacts of climate change across all sectors and the need for close cross-sectoral collaboration and coordination when planning and implementing climate change responses. Trans-boundary impacts of potential climate change scenarios, but also potential responses, call for a coordinated regional framework, strategy and mechanism to cope with climate change and its impacts. The ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Framework on Climate Change: Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry towards Food Security (AFCC)³ was developed, under the purview of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM AMAF) to provide the mechanism for coordinated action and collaboration to address the issues and challenges threatening food security due to climate change.

The increasing importance of climate change at the regional level to ASEAN is reflected in the Food Agricultural and Forestry (FAF) Vision and Strategy 2015-2025 that are currently being developed under the purview of SOM AMAF⁴. The ASEAN Vision 2025 Statement, agreed by SOM AMAF September 2014, is for "a competitive, inclusive, resilient and sustainable FAF sector integrated with the global economy, based on a single market and production base contributing to food and nutrition security and prosperity in the ASEAN Community". There is a clear commitment from the ASEAN leaders in addressing both impacts of (adaptation) and contribution to (mitigation) climate change by the agriculture and forestry sector. The contributing sectoral FAF visions and strategic thrusts each address the issue of climate change with regards to the specific sector.

The AFCC is being coordinated and implemented by the ASEAN Ad-hoc Steering Committee on Climate Change and Food Security, which comprises of representatives from ASEAN bodies from the Economic Community, under the Senior Official Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM AMAF), and the Socio-Cultural Community, namely the Working Group on Climate Change and the Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOM RDPE). The AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee is assisted by the AFCC Management Team chaired by the AINRD of the ASEAN Secretariat with supporting Partners, currently consisting of the GAP-CC and ASFCC, as members⁵.

¹ The Economics of Climate Change in Southeast Asia: A Regional Review. ADB, Manila, April 2009

² ASEAN adopted the AIFS in 2009 and is now in its second phase (2015 - 2020) and includes Climate Smart Agriculture

³ The AFCC was endorsed at the 31st Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) in Brunei Darussalam in November 2009

⁴ The FAF Vision is currently being drafted. Together with the Sectoral FAF strategies the FAF Vision will be endorsed and adopted by SOM AMAF in October 2015.

⁵ The AFCC management team is open for other potentially interested partners to engage and contribute to the development and operationalization of a truly cross-sectoral platform and mechanism.

The AFCC Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) sets out results and outcomes, with corresponding Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)⁶ until 2020. One integral focus of the AFCC is to enhance the mainstreaming of climate change in the working groups of the SOM AMAF as well as to ensure coordinated and integrated approaches in tackling issues of climate change in agricultural and forestry sectors with relevant sectors and ASEAN bodies. This note seeks to provide guidance to the ASEAN Ad-hoc Steering Committee on Climate Change and Food Security on mainstreaming climate change and the AFCC into the AFCC working groups as directed by the FAF Sectoral Plans (2015 – 2020) and other relevant ASEAN Frameworks (including ASEAN Climate Change Initiative (ACCI)).

Please note that this document is in line with all relevant frameworks and Strategic Plan of Actions (SPA) of relevant working groups (as highlighted in Figure 1). It highlights the thematic areas, either proposed or currently being implemented in these frameworks and SPAs, that contribute directly to results / outcomes and KPIs of the AFCC.

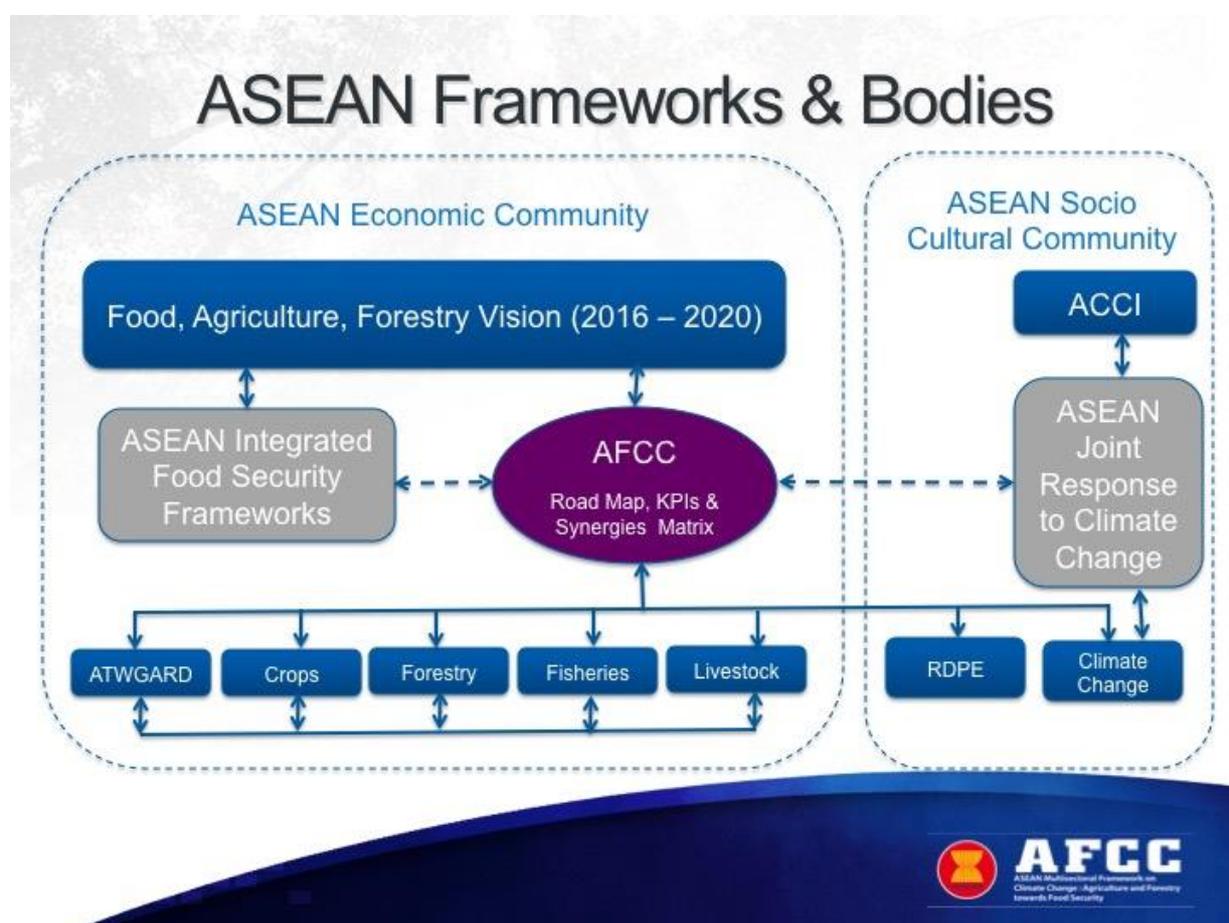


Fig 1: ASEAN frameworks and bodies which contribute to AFCC, on which this guidance note is based.

Mainstreaming Climate Change into ASEAN Sectoral Working Groups

⁶ The KPIs were formulated in February 2015 and were presented in the 4th AFCC Steering Committee Meeting, Bogor, March 2015 for endorsement

SOM AMAF Working Groups

Sector: Crops

For the period 2016-2025 the vision for ASEAN cooperation on crops is to be ‘a productive, competitive, sustainable, resilient and inclusive industry sector that ensures and enables economic and equitable integration, food security, sustainable management of resources and protection from climate change’⁷.

ASEAN cooperation on the crops sector is under the purview of the ASEAN Sectoral Work Group on Crops (ASWGC), with relevant initiatives at the research level under the ASEAN Technical Working Group on Agricultural Research and Development (ATWGARD), both members of the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee.

Proposed activities in line with the FAF Sectoral Strategic Thrusts for Crops Sector⁸, which would contribute to the AFCC and enhance cooperation on climate change in ASEAN include:

- Improved information on Climate Change and undertaking assessments of impacts of climate change (and contribution to climate change) of selected crops, in order to guide regional policymaking. Furthermore, identification of best practices of institutional arrangements of translating scientific assessments into policy recommendations in the crops sector. Outputs to be linked to current information and network platforms, such as the Climate Resilient Network (CRN) and the ASEAN Food Security Information System (AFSIS).
- Increased cooperation and information exchange with other sectoral working groups (through the AFCC platform) to identify projects on integrated landscape approaches towards climate change and contribution to sustainable management of natural resources. This includes promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)⁹, issues of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), governance of natural resources, management and conservation and promotion of cross-sectoral climate smart practices (e.g. shrimp farming and rice cultivation).
- Promotion of climate smart practices through regional knowledge platforms to promote the exchange of experiences and learning across ASEAN Member States. This includes the Climate Resilient Network (CRN) that promotes sharing of appropriate practices and scaling up of these measures across ASEAN Member States.
- Based on the above, contribute to the development of recommendations to influence regional policy in agriculture, for example with the formulation of collaborative regional governance guidelines on natural resource management.
- Promote access to climate finance resources to support climate smart/friendly agriculture: promoting common understanding on institutional arrangements for accessing multilateral funds such as Green Climate Fund, Green Investment Fund, Adaptation Fund, etc.; sharing information and experience on promoting private sector investment; and sharing information and experiences on accessing multilateral funds.

⁷ ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Crops Sector, July 2014

⁸ For more details on the six strategic thrusts, please refer to the ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Crops Sector, July 2014

⁹ With links to the FAO / UN Global Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance (<http://www.fao.org/climate-smart-agriculture/85725/en/>)

Sector: Forestry

For the period 2016-2025, the vision for ASEAN cooperation on forestry is 'forest resources are sustainably managed to meet societal needs, ecological resilience, and to contribute positively to sustainable development'¹⁰.

ASEAN Cooperation on the forestry sector is under purview of the ASEAN Senior Officials on Forestry (ASOF), and its related working groups¹¹, such as AEG-IFPP¹², AWG PATCI¹³, AEG FPD¹⁴, AEG CITES¹⁵, ASFN¹⁶ and ASEAN-WEN¹⁷. Besides those working groups, two regional networks, were also established to support policy decision making process, namely ARKN-FCC and ARKN-FLEG. Currently ASEAN Social Forestry Network, ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network Forestry and Climate Change, and ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network Forest Law Enforcement and Governance are members of the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee.

Proposed activities in line with the FAF Sectoral Strategic Thrusts for Forestry Sector¹⁸, which would contribute to the AFCC and enhance cooperation on climate change in ASEAN include:

- Enhanced efforts to promote sustainable forest management, including forest protection and conservation, in an integrated manner through the implementation and promotion of social/community forestry policy and related programmes that address multipronged issues of sustainable resource use, poverty reduction, food security and climate change adaptation and mitigation.
- Increased cooperation and information exchange with other sectoral working groups (through the AFCC platform) to develop projects on integrated landscape approaches to climate change, food security and equitable and sustainable management of natural resources. This includes issues of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry, landscape approaches in land-based sectors for Intended National Determined Contributions (INDC), governance of natural resources, sustainable peat land management, watershed management to enhance food production in high yielding areas, and links with online platforms, such as the ASEAN Forest Clearing House Mechanism (CHM).
- Enhanced collaboration and coordination with regional and international bodies to promote holistic, equitable and integrated approaches to regulate and minimise GHG emissions from the Forestry Sector.
- Facilitating and strengthening capacity of ASEAN to develop and articulate joint statements and/or common positions for international fora to increase ASEAN visibility in forest-related climate change negotiating platforms, in collaboration with other sectoral working groups. This will build on current initiatives of ARKN FCC on developing a common ASEAN position for

¹⁰ ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Forestry Sector, July 2014

¹¹ Please note that currently ASEAN is in the process of streamlining the Forestry working groups under ASOF.

¹² ASEAN Experts Group on International Forest Policy Processes

¹³ ASEAN Working Group on a Pan-ASEAN Timber Certification Initiative

¹⁴ ASEAN Expert Group on Forest Product Development

¹⁵ Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (*CITES*)

¹⁶ ASEAN Social Forestry Network

¹⁷ ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network

¹⁸ For more details on the six strategic thrusts, please refer to the ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Forestry Sector, July 2014

REDD+, in cooperation with relevant initiatives by the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWG CC). Furthermore, platforms such as ARKN FCC play a role in linking international and regional initiatives to national and subnational actions.

- Promotion of regional initiatives / platforms, involving ARKN FCC, ARKN FLEG, ASFN and other relevant bodies, to: strengthen AMS learning; ASEAN's role in international negotiations on REDD+, in monitoring of forest-related aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and in the post-2015 International Arrangement on Forests (IAF); support national REDD+ and FLEG policy development and implementation; and promote exchange of lessons and experience related to REDD+, FLEG, SDGs and associated forest related issues (REL/RL, MRV, safeguards, governance and tenure reform, addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation).

Sector: Fisheries & Aquaculture

For the period 2016-2025, the Vision for ASEAN cooperation on fisheries and aquaculture is to 'promote the sustainable development of capture fisheries and aquaculture in the ASEAN region to enhance the contribution to food security, poverty alleviation and improvement of livelihoods of ASEAN people dependent on the harvesting, farming and marketing of fish and fish products, through responsible management and increased trade'¹⁹.

ASEAN cooperation on the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector is under the purview of the ASEAN Sectoral Work Group on Fisheries (ASWGF) as a member of the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee, with the contribution from the ASEAN Fisheries Consultative Forum (AFCF), ASEAN Shrimp Alliance (ASA) and Fisheries Consultative Group of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Strategic Partnership FCG/ASSP).

Proposed activities in line with the FAF Sectoral Strategic Thrusts for the Fisheries Sector²⁰, which would contribute to the AFCC and enhance cooperation on climate change in ASEAN include:

- Improved information on Climate Change and undertaking assessments of impacts of climate change (and contribution to climate change) of the fisheries and aquaculture sector in order to guide regional policymaking²¹. Furthermore, identify best practices of institutional arrangements of translating scientific assessments into policy recommendations in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.
- Increased cooperation and information exchange with other sectoral working groups (through the AFCC platform) to identify projects on integrated approaches towards climate change and contribution to sustainable management of natural resources. This includes issues of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), promotion of dialogue with the private sector and the public private task force that was established²², links with the Coral Triangle and SEAFDEC work on habitat management and climate change, and promotion of cross-sectoral climate smart practices (e.g. shrimp farming and rice cultivation).

¹⁹ ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector, July 2014

²⁰ For more details on the six strategic thrusts, please refer to the ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector, July 2014

²¹ Building on the work that was undertaken by AFCF and currently also by SEAFDEC.

²² With support of the ASEAN – U.S. Market Project

Sector: Livestock

For the period 2016-2025 Vision for ASEAN cooperation on livestock is 'livestock production and trade facilitate ASEAN integration towards a single market and production base with the goal of sustainable livestock production and trade contribute to growth, poverty alleviation and food security (improved nutrition)'²³.

ASEAN cooperation on the livestock sector is under the purview of the ASEAN Sectoral Work Group on Livestock (ASWGL), a member for the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee.

Proposed activities in line with the FAF Sectoral Strategic Thrusts for the Livestock Sector²⁴, which would contribute to the AFCC and enhance cooperation on climate change in ASEAN include:

- Improved information on Climate Change and undertaking assessments of contribution to climate change (and impacts of climate change) of the livestock sector in order to guide regional policymaking. Furthermore, identify best practices of institutional arrangements of translating scientific assessments into policy recommendations in the livestock sector.
- Increased cooperation and information exchange with other sectoral working groups (through the AFCC Platform) to identify projects on integrated landscape approaches towards climate change and contribution to sustainable management of natural resources. This includes issues of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry, reduction of contribution of livestock sector to Green House Gasses (GHG), and incorporate strategies for addressing livestock related issues in natural and environment disaster management programmes.
- Formulate and enforce regulations to control land degradation and water pollution due to nutrient loading and green house gas emission from increased intensification and industrialisation of livestock production and processing (for example, by incorporating livestock related environmental standards in Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) guidelines, good production and processing establishments, or by formulating separate environmental regulations for the livestock sub-sector).

Other Working Groups

Sector: Climate Change

For the period 2009 - 2015, ASEAN cooperation in environment is guided by the ASEAN Climate Change Initiative (ACCI), a regional consulting platform established in 2010, and the road map on ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change (AAP-JRCC), adopted by 12th AMME in 2012.

ASEAN Senior Meeting on Environment (ASOEN) and the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWGCC), a member of the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee, are currently addressing ASEAN cooperation on Environment under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).

²³ ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Livestock Sector, July 2014

²⁴ For more details on the five strategic thrusts, please refer to the ASEAN Cooperation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry Sectors and its Strategic Plans (2016 – 2020) for the Livestock Sector, July 2014

Hence proposed activities²⁵ based on the AAP - JRCC and the ACCI, and in line with the AFCC, include:

- Promoting regional climate information / data sharing in order to develop ASEAN climate change impact scenarios and provide inputs to the Assessment Reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Real-time regional climate outlook products with ASEAN Climate Outlook Forum²⁶, downscaling global climate models to produce climate change impact scenarios at the regional, national and local levels and creating links with current ASEAN information platforms such as AFSIS and CHM.
- Assessing detailed climate impacts on agricultural and forestry sectors, vulnerability adaptation options and needs for the regions and sub regions (such as Greater Mekong Sub region).
- Sharing best practices on mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from agriculture, land use, land-use change and forestry (including REDD/REDD+) in the region.
- Facilitating and strengthening capacity of ASEAN to develop and articulate joint statements and/or common positions for international fora to increase ASEAN visibility at climate change negotiating platforms, in collaboration with other sectoral working groups.
- Promoting common understanding on institutional arrangements for accessing multilateral funds such as Green Climate Fund, Green Investment Fund, Adaptation Fund, etc.; Sharing information and experience on promoting private sector investment; Sharing information and experiences on accessing multilateral funds.
- Facilitating international support for technology transfer to ASEAN, including through the UNFCCC Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), based on the technology needs assessment for mitigation and adaptation; Sharing information and experiences on strengthening science and policy interface towards low carbon development and green economy; Establishing strategic alliances with private sector to promote R&D collaboration and technology transfer and commercialisation.
- Facilitating regional and international support for capacity building for ASEAN based on capacity building needs for mitigation and adaptation; such as organising training courses on developing national GHG inventories for AMS; Sharing information and experiences on strengthening of adaptive capacities of communities, including through the enhancement of education on climate change.

Sector: Rural Development and Poverty Eradication

For the period 2010-2015, the vision for rural development and poverty eradication is ‘to support the sustainable development of rural areas and contribute to the eradication of rural poverty and food insecurity in the ASEAN region’²⁷.

²⁵ Based on AFCC Synergies Matrix 2013 and the ASEAN Action Plan on Joint Response to Climate Change (AAP-JRCC)

²⁶ ASEANCOF was initiated by the World Meteorological Organization/Climate Information and Prediction Services (WMO/CLIPS) project, in collaboration with National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), and regional/international climate centres among many other partners.

²⁷ As stated in the Thematic Areas and Modes of Engagement between SOM-AMAF and SOMRDPE agreed at the Consultation Meeting between SOM-AMAF and SOMRDPE, June 2012, Da Nang City, Viet Nam

The ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOM RDPE), a member of the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee, is currently addressing ASEAN Cooperation on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication, under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC).

Hence proposed activities²⁸ in line with the Rural Development and Poverty Eradication vision and based on the high-level meeting agreed thematic areas and modes of engagement between SOM AMAF and SOM RDPE²⁹, include:

- Assessment of impact of sea-level rise on different sub-sector of agriculture and forestry in specific geographical areas. This includes assessment of vulnerability of the ASEAN coastline and the promotion of appropriate technologies in agriculture dealing with climate change and particularly sea level rise.
- Development of low-cost strategies for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG); promote the cooperation in science-technology research for climate resilient varieties etc.; and support in drafting green development strategies for reduction of emission of GHG.
- Undertake a regional study to document the existing climate change risk reduction and adaptation strategies in agriculture in ASEAN Member States aiming at piloting food crop cultivation diversification strategies. Undertake a regional study on crop diversification strategy, ensuing food security despite climate change impacts on food production, as well as looking at protection from climate change & natural disasters of poor communities.
- Promote and strengthen curricula on climate change, food security and agriculture in universities/faculties of agriculture in collaboration with the Ministries of Education and Ministries of Environment; promote trainings to improve food production and agriculture competitiveness amidst challenges of climate change in collaboration with SOM-AMAF, particularly with its ASEAN Sectoral working Group on Agriculture Training and Extension (AWGATE) in developing the proposed ASEAN Field Schools.

Monitoring and Reporting

As agreed in the 3rd ASEAN Ad-hoc Steering Committee on Climate Change and Food Security Meeting (2014) each AFCC working group member under SOM-AMAF will assign a focal person, responsible for climate change mainstreaming and reporting. This focal person (or focal ASEAN Member State) will be assigned and agreed by the working group. The role of the focal person will be: to ensure that the relevant climate change issues of the sector are integrated into the Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) of the Working Group; to monitor and report on activities within the working group on related activities; and to represent the working group at the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee Meetings (or inform the relevant representative) of climate change activities and progress of the working group.

²⁸ Based on AFCC Synergies Matrix 2013

²⁹ Thematic areas and modes of engagement between SOM-AMAF and SOMRDPE agreed at the Consultation Meeting between SOM-AMAF and SOMRDPE, 11 June 2012, Da Nang City, Viet Nam

With working groups outside the purview of SOM AMAF, the chairpersons (and or representatives of the WG) of the respective working group will report to the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee of progress and contribution towards the AFCC KPIs.

The AFCC Management Team, which supports the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee, acts as a secretariat to the AFCC and its members and will follow up with monitoring and reporting formats and progress. The AFCC Management Team will support the AFCC Ad Hoc Steering Committee in drafting of recommendations and relevant documents for submission to SOM AMAF.

The AFCC Steering Committee meets on an annual basis³⁰, in which the progress of AFCC implementation will be discussed. Furthermore, a Mid-Term Review (end 2017) and Final Review (2020) will be conducted to assess the progress of implementation of the AFCC, reported to the AFCC Steering Committee and submitted to SOM AMAF. The AFCC Framework, the updated AFCC Concept note (2016 – 2020) and KPIs together with the AFCC Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) (KPIs and operational plan), provide further details on the implementation of the AFCC.

³⁰ Details are further elaborated in the Terms of Reference for the ASEAN Ad Hoc Steering Committee on Climate Change and Food Security