SUMMARY
Training on Climate Negotiations for ASEAN Agriculture and 5th Annual ASEAN-CRN Meeting
28 – 29 May 2019 | Vientiane, Peoples Republic of Laos

BACKGROUND
Since its establishment in 2014, the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network (ASEAN-CRN) — a platform for promoting climate resiliency through exchange of information, expertise and experiences on climate-smart agriculture amongst ASEAN Member States — has successfully and vigorously launched activities that aimed to ensure adaptation of the agriculture sector to climate change, and optimise its mitigation potential.

In 2019, the ASEAN-CRN, as chaired by Thailand’s Department of Agriculture, convened its annual meeting, hosted by the Laos National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI). The aim of the meeting was to intensify implementation of joint strategies to access various support mechanisms (related to climate financing, Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture, Sustainable Development Goals), and enhance the engagement with climate governance frameworks such as the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) for wider implementation of CRN’s workplans. It was complemented by an additional workshop day that will allow policy-makers from the climate and the agriculture sphere to prepare for the Bonn Climate Change Conference (SBSTA 50 | SBI 50) in June 2019 and specifically the processes related to the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA).
The annual meeting was divided into:

**May 28 – Training on Climate Negotiations for ASEAN Agriculture (selected participants)**

The meeting outcome aims to continue establishing the ASEAN Negotiation Group for Agriculture (ANGA), endorsed by ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF). This meeting will provide a platform for further planning the ASEAN cooperation related to the KJWA up to now and build capacities for the further negotiations process under the UNFCCC.

**May 29 – Annual ASEAN-CRN Meeting**

The meeting outcome aims to continue strengthening ASEAN CRN’s contributions to the Strategic Plan of the ASEAN Food Agriculture and Forestry Cooperation Vision (FAF) 2025 through joint responses in addressing the impacts of climate change on food security. With support from partners, this meeting will produce actionable strategies that aim to continue implementing the ASEAN-CRN plans and gain wider legitimacy of its work through integration in each member state’s National Determined Contributions (NDCs).

The meeting was supported by the Climate Smart Land Use (CSLU) Project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in close cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) from GIZ and UN FAO Regional Asia Pacific Office.

It was attended by members of the ASEAN-CRN, consisting of focal points from the ATWGARD and selected focal points from the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops and the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change, as well as experts from AMS working on the climate change negotiations (mainly from ministries of agriculture and environment or related government bodies and research institutions). Of the 10 AMS, only Myanmar and Singapore were not represented in the meeting.

Regional and international development partners and civil society representatives were also present in the meeting, including the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), Grow Asia, CUSO-VSO, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Rice ActionWatch Network (RWAN Philippines) and Climate Smart Villages IRRI-Laos.

**MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – 28th**

1.1 Opening

The opening ceremonies were facilitated by Dr. Viengsavenh of NAFRI who called on Dr. Phome, Director General in the National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute (NAFRI) of Laos, Dr Margaret C. Yoovatana, representing Thailand as the Chair of ASEAN-CRN, and Dr Dinh Pham Hien, representing Vietnam as the current chair of AMAF. They welcomed all participants and highlighted the importance of this meeting of and training for the ASEAN Negotiation Group for Agriculture (ANGA). They appreciated this meeting as an opportunity to exchange about experiences and views, build capacities and create strong network within ASEAN related to the negotiations on the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture (KJWA) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). They also stressed the importance on further coordinating within ASEAN for formulating common positions on climate change and agriculture and jointly discussing the on ways forward for ANGA.
1.2 ASEAN Agriculture’s engagements with the UNFCCC processes

Dr. Yoovatana reminded the participants of ASEAN’s engagement in UNFCCC negotiations on agriculture since 2015 and showcased how ASEAN successfully influenced the decisions leading to the creation of the KJWA and the first in-session workshop held during the Conference of Parties (COP) 24 in Katowice. Highlights of the ASEAN engagement are:

- 2016:
  o Two submissions for SBSTA 44
  o Special SOM – 37th AMAF agreed on the ASEAN Common Position on Issues Related to Agriculture
  o 38th AMAF endorsed common position and agreed in principle on establishing ANGA
- 2017: Further considered at SOM – 39th AMAF
- 2018: Vietnam made a submission on behalf of ASEAN on topic 2(a) Modalities for implementation of the outcomes of the five in-session workshops on issues related to agriculture and discussion during COP24

In the reflections following this input, participants stressed the importance to align the efforts of the stakeholders from the agriculture sector with the national processes lead by the UNFCC focal points in the respective AMS. It was highlighted that ANGA also strives to bring together experts from both spheres in order to facilitate effective negotiations on behalf of ASEAN within the UNFCCC.

1.3 Training on UNFCCC negotiations

1.3.1 Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Ms. Imelda Bacudo, Senior Project Consultant to the CSLU project and facilitator of this training workshop, gave a short overview about the different Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and explained where the KJWA, as an element of the UNFCCC, is placed within their landscape. She also explained the core elements of a MEA.

1.3.2 Effective negotiating methods and practices to achieve ASEAN agriculture sector objectives under the KJWA

Dr Wojtek Galinski, Consultant and former UNFCCC Secretariat expert, gave a comprehensive overview about

- Major party groupings at the UNFCCC negotiations
- The bodies, structure and processes of the UNFCCC
- The approach for ASEAN to effectively participate in the KJWA
- The basics of negotiation theory and practice, including recommendations for process elements, timing, substance and interacting with others, drafting and considering text

It was explained that ANGA operates under the framework of the G77&China negotiations group. Hence, it is important to closely coordinate with other Parties belonging to this group in order to gain their support for ASEAN submissions. ANGA will need first to develop a clear joint position about relevant topics related to the KJWA and then feed this position into the pre-sessional consultations of G77&China. Also, it will be important to establish channels for continuous informal exchange with other relevant negotiators.

Further, it is important to note that submitting written submission to the UNFCCC is not sufficient to influence negotiations. It is crucial to actively engage during the negotiation meetings and deliver and defend the ASEAN positions.
In the second part of his input, Dr Galinski focused on the content for the upcoming KJWA in-session workshop during the meetings of the SBSTA and SBI in Bonn, Germany, 17-27 June 2019 and provided guidance on how ANGA can influence discussions on the relevant topics.

He stressed that the upcoming workshop will provide a key opportunity to influence how the KJWA will be implemented by influencing the contents of the Report on agenda item 2a. For this, it is important to have a vision of the implementation of the final outcome of the KJWA that will guide further discussion about the modalities.

Dr Galinski presented three general possible outcomes of the KJWA:

1. No tangible outcome
2. Enhancement of existing programmes
3. Creating a new programme

During a scenario exercise session, participants could then explore how to design a negotiations strategy for each the potential outcomes named above.

The exercise showcased that it is important to agree on the elements of the position and a strategy how to negotiate for this position well before the climate negotiations take place. It is also crucial to anticipate negotiation positions by other Parties/groupings in order to prepare counter-arguments.

1.3.3 Philippine submission on KJWA topic 2b and 2c

Mr. U-Nichols Manalo representing the Philippines as the appointed coordinator of ANGA shared information about the submission the Philippines are intending to send to the UNFCCC. It addresses the KJWA topics 2 (b) and 2(c).
Due to time constraints, the submission could not be coordinated with other AMS, but it includes a reference to ASEAN (“in solidarity with the members of the Association of South East Asian Nations”). It was discussed that other ANGA representatives could support the positions of the Philippines’ submission through an intervention during the in-session workshop in Bonn. Further, it was explained that positions can also be placed in the sessions without sending a submission prior to the workshops.

1.4 Updates and direction for ANGA

Ms. Yoovatana reported back from a Koronivia Preparation Meeting in Shiga, Japan, 13-16 May 2019 organised by the World Bank. During this meeting, experts exchanged views on agriculture’s role in climate change and specifically discussed technical issues related to soil management.

After this update, participants discussed the next steps to further formalize the work of ANGA and to prepare for the SBSTA / SBI 50 in Bonn.

1.4.1 Formalising ANGA

To further establish the work of ANGA the following steps will be necessary:

- Informing ATWARD about the workshop results and potential core activities of ANGA, including Annex with TORs of ANGA and overview of core activities (see below)
- Requesting ATWARD to facilitate confirmation of the Philippines as the coordinator of ANGA by SOM-AMAF
- Requesting ATWARD to facilitate nomination of focal points by AMS for ANGA

To support this, the facilitators of the workshop in coordination with Thailand (Chair of ASEAN CRN), Vietnam (Chair of AMAF) and the Philippines will prepare an information note and a presentation for ATWGARD. This information note will include an overview of potential core activities of ANGA:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Potential core activities of ANGA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coordination</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular activities (before, during and after negotiations):</td>
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<tr>
<td>- preparatory meetings (ANGA, G77&amp;China)</td>
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<td>- participation at negotiations</td>
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<td>- analysis of outcomes</td>
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<td>Timeline 2019-2020:</td>
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<tr>
<td>- June 2019: SB 50</td>
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<td>- December 2019: COP25 / SB 51</td>
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<tr>
<td>- May 2020 (tbc): SB 52</td>
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<td>- November/December 2020: COP26 / SB 53</td>
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### Potential core activities of ANGA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordination</th>
<th>Submissions</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 2019:</td>
<td>(d) Improved nutrient use and manure management towards sustainable and resilient agricultural systems;</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020:</td>
<td>(e) Improved livestock management systems;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(f) Socioeconomic and food security dimensions of climate change in the agricultural sector</td>
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#### 1.4.2 Preparation for and coordination during SBSTA / SBI 50

ANGA will be represented in Bonn by Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia and Malaysia. It was highlighted that it will be crucial to reiterate ASEAN’s views as expressed in the joint submission on topic 2(a) (modalities for implementation, see Annex) and, by this, influence the content of the respective workshop report that will be discussed during the in-session meeting.

The Philippines will organize a coordination call to further discuss ANGA’s strategy for the negotiations before the Bonn conference. Representatives of ANGA will also attend the preparation meeting of G77&China on 15-16 June in Bonn to gain the support of this group for ANGA’s positions.

As ANGA’s acceptance by G77&China is still pending, Vietnam agreed to send a new letter to the Group’s chair on this behalf.

For the future, participants expressed the interest for further trainings to increase negotiations capacities and also for workshops on technical issues addressed in the KJWA topics.

#### 2 Meeting Highlights – 29th

##### 2.1 Opening

The second workshop day was again opened by welcome remarks from NAFRI Director General Dr. Phome, Mr. Hien representing Vietnam as AMAF chair, and Ms. Yoovatana representing Thailand as Chair of ASEAN CRN. They highlighted the achievements by ASEAN-CRN in the past years in increasing resilience for climate change in AMS. They recognized ASEAN-CRN as an important platform for knowledge exchange and promoting action, but also emphasized the challenges posed by climate change to agriculture and forestry in the region.

When introducing the meetings objectives and agenda, Mr. Beau Damen from the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) reminded the participants that the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) of the AMS provide an important framework for ASEAN-CRN’s work that can guide its plans, actions and the reporting on progress.

##### 2.2 ASEAN-CRN History and Achievements

Ms. Yoovatana summarized the accomplishments of the ASEAN-CRN in the five years since it has been established which included holding knowledge exchange events with stakeholders from governments, civil society, research institutions and development partners, contributing to ASEAN guidelines and knowledge products, identifying good practices and support needs and matching them with support.
2.3 Progress on National Action Plans
After a short rerun of what was discussed at the last Annual Meeting in Bali 2018, where participants reflected on in how far their work is connected to their country’s NDC, participants of this year’s meeting reviewed and updated the action plans they had developed in order to increase alignment with the NDCs. Overall, all countries have progressed in their endeavors and many of the actions noted in the plans are being implemented. Generally, it can be noted that cooperation and coordination between the agriculture and climate policy sphere seem to have evolved and has become more structured.

2.4 ASEAN Agriculture and Climate Change – good practices and needs
In this session, three initiatives shared their approaches to climate smart agriculture:

Ms. Hazel Arandez-Tanchuling introduced the Rice Watch Action Network, which provides assistance for local government units (LGUs) in the Philippines for climate change action planning and implementation and monitoring in the agriculture sector. The Network has developed an Enhanced LGU Guidebook on the Formulation of Local Climate Change Action Plan. She highlighted the importance for collaborating with the national government in order to scale up efforts. Other lessons learned are that a comprehensive approach for climate change planning in agriculture is needed that involves different stakeholders and that adaptation planning does not equal agriculture planning, as it focuses more on vulnerabilities of people.

https://www.facebook.com/RiceWatch/

Jerome Villanueva from IRRI and Timothy Straker-Cool from Cusco International Laos spoke about the Climate Smart Villages, which are being supported by CGIAR and CCAFS. The project is working in different sites in four ASEAN countries. Here, tools and protocols for climate smart agriculture are being tested and evaluated. Scaling-up of the approaches is being done through farmer field schools, seed fairs and distribution of climate-resistant rice varieties and community seedbanks. The work is linked to national adaption programmes and the countries’ NDCs.

https://ccafs.cgiar.org/novel-approaches-climate-smart-villages-mekong-region#.XPa_MnkUn4g

Dr Nguyen Quang Tan from ICRAF presented on crop irrigation with water saving technology for sandy soil in Vietnam, which is supported by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). The project uses integrated water, soil and nutrient management for sustainable farming. Amongst others, it has tested water-saving technologies for selected crops and plans to expand initiative to include further crops.


http://worldagroforestry.org/region/southeast-asia

Following the presentations, participants discussed how governments as well as ASEAN-CRN could support scaling up successful approaches. It was highlighted that governments should provide resources for research, training and awareness raising, publish guidelines for adaptation, improve coordination between different development partners and reflect efforts to mainstreaming
adaptation in the public budget. Participants noted the challenge that high up-front costs for developing project proposals are a common challenge.

The ASEAN-CRN on the other hand should continue to support replicating of successful approaches across ASEAN countries and coordination and collaboration between different stakeholders.

2.5 Presentations and market place with development partners

During the market place session several development partners presented their support programmes for climate-smart land use and exchanged with the other participants about potential for collaboration.

Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (with a focus on FAO support):

- Created under the UNFCCC through the Paris Agreement to help strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of non-Annex I countries to meet the enhanced transparency requirements defined in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement
- Funds managed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), projects implemented by different implementing partners such as FAO

https://www.thegef.org/topics/capacity-building-initiative-transparency-cbit

AFOCO (Asian Forest Cooperation Organization):

- Founded as part of Korea-ASEAN forest cooperation, but now an independent initiative
- Strategic priorities: customized afforestation & reforestation models, climate change adaptation approaches, management of forest related disasters, enterprise development, institutional capacities & promotion of regional actions
- Provision of scholarships for higher education and trainings through regional education & training centers
- How to engage (for member countries):
  o Consult with country representative
  o Develop proposal -> reach out to secretariat early to discuss project idea
o Project appraisal
o Confirmation during annual assembly meeting
goter regional projects possible

http://www.mofa.go.kr/eng/brd/m_5676/view.do?seq=319802&srchFr=&srchTo=&srchWord=&srchTp=&multi_itm_seq=0&itm_seq_1=0&itm_seq_2=0&company_cd=&company_nm=&page=1&titleNm=

CUSO International:
- Conference “Silver linings for gender transformation through climate adaptation networks”, tentatively December 2019

https://cusointernational.org/

Re-Imagine project/CCAFS:
- Aims to understand anticipatory climate governance in practice: links between anticipation and policy
- Analyses climate change policy processes in ASEAN countries -> investigate ways in which future scenarios can lead to appropriate and effective modes of governance in the world’s most vulnerable regions, and serve as useful decision making tools in developing countries

https://ccafs.cgiar.org/scaling-out-scenario-guided-policy-and-investment-planning#.XPP9f3kUmP8

World Agroforestry:
- Support for agroforestry for adaptation & mitigation
- ASEAN guidelines for agroforestry are being developed -> support for roll-out
- Scaling-up field work experience to national level

http://worldagroforestry.org/region/southeast-asia

ESCAP Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization:

Regional center that focuses on agriculture mechanization for enhancing productivity and food security
- New focus on resilience of smallholder farmers
- Avenues for cooperation: trainings, pilot projects etc.

www.un-csam.org

Grow ASIA:
- Inclusive action on sustainable agriculture, focus on smallholder farmers
- Operates in five ASEAN countries
- Thematic areas: Digital solutions, Inclusive Finance, Farmer aggregation

https://www.growasia.org/

Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information System (SAMIS)/FAO:
- Objective: enhance capacities to gather, process, analyse, and share climatic and geospatial information so that these can be applied to planning and decision-making
- Building the infrastructure and a comprehensive agro-climatic monitoring and information capacity focused on boosting sustainable production by optimizing farmers and smallholders resilience against climate change
- Regional activities e.g. conference on spatial planning for mitigation & adaptation


**Announcement of two conferences:**

- Workshop on Establishing CSVs in the ASEAN Region, 8-14 July 2019, SEARCA, Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines
- Global Conference on Climate Smart Agriculture, October 11-14, 2019, Bali, Indonesia

[https://globalcsaconference.org/](https://globalcsaconference.org/)

**2.6 Progress on Mainstreaming the ASEAN PPP Investment Guidelines for Food, Agriculture and Forestry**

Ms. Ishwinder Kaur from Grow ASIA provided an update about the progress in mainstreaming the ASEAN PPP Investment Guidelines for Food, Agriculture and Forestry that have been adopted in October 2018. The guidelines consist of principles and recommendations for governments, investors and other stakeholders on how to encouraging responsible investment in food, agriculture and forestry.

An action plan has been developed for implementing the guidelines which still needs to be approved by ATWGARD. Grow ASIA plans to create a group of experts who can provide advice on the guidelines as well as tailored (online) trainings.

[https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4458b1_72f0553231b14209a4195dff8466b845.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/4458b1_72f0553231b14209a4195dff8466b845.pdf)

**2.7 ASEAN-CRN regional action plan**

Participants reviewed the action plan developed last year and gave an update about the status of implementation. Some activities have been completed or are ongoing, some others are still pending.

Participants then had the chance to add further ideas for actions that actors within the ASEAN-CRN could implement jointly.
Table 1. ASEAN CRN Climate Action Plan on FAF Sectors (2019-2020).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific Activity</th>
<th>Committed Lead Agency</th>
<th>Support Agency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Identify options to strengthen coordination among CSOs to support CAFA/CSA</td>
<td>ASIA DHRRA &amp; RWAN</td>
<td>FAO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Exchange on private sector engagement to scale up CSA/CAFA</td>
<td>AMS</td>
<td>Grow Asia, CIAT, WBCSD, FAO, RECOFTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Follow-up workshop on gender &amp; CSA</td>
<td>AMS</td>
<td>FAO, WOCAN, WBCSD, RECOFTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Regional exchange on monitoring climate change in agriculture</td>
<td>ASEAN CRN, FAO</td>
<td>GIZ, WOCAN, WBCSD, CIAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Strengthening coordination among ANGA on the development of KJWA submissions and negotiation strategies</td>
<td>ASEAN CRN</td>
<td>GIZ, FAO</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Introduce the information on agriculture climate change to the local people</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Regional meeting on climate governance and policy</td>
<td>CCAFS</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Exchange on risk assessment for agriculture adaptation planning and implementation</td>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Fifth global CSA conference, Bali, Indonesia</td>
<td>CCAFS, IAARD, CIAT</td>
<td>ASEAN CRN, GIZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Knowledge exchange on Climate Smart Village models and experiences</td>
<td>CCAFS</td>
<td>ASEAN CRN, GIZ, CIAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Assessment tools on efficiency and effectiveness of CSA practices</td>
<td>ATWGARD, ASEAN CRN</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. CSA on livestock including manure management</td>
<td>ATWGARD, ASEAN CRN</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Agroclimate information for agriculture in ASEAN (CLMV)</td>
<td>AMS</td>
<td>FAO</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Regional case studies and knowledge exchange on healthy (paddy) soils for emissions reduction</td>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>CARDI, MARDI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Exchange of knowledge on mitigation in agriculture and forestry</td>
<td>ASEAN CRN, FAO</td>
<td>CCAFS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Regional knowledge sharing on model of CSA upscaling</td>
<td>ASEAN CRN, FAO</td>
<td>CCAFS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Regional publication on role of agroforestry (AF) in climate change mitigation and adaptation</td>
<td>ICRAF</td>
<td>FAO</td>
</tr>
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</table>
As shown in the table above, the regional action plan focused on the five areas of governance, adaptation, mitigation, finance and monitoring. Among the strategies identified were regional knowledge exchanges on CSA, adaptation and mitigation planning and implementation, as well as on tools for monitoring agriculture and ecosystem based adaptation. In terms of governance, AMS representatives identified regional policies for monitoring and strategies that strengthen engagement with the civil and private sectors, particularly for scaling up CSA activities. Moreover, to meet the need for financing these activities, it was recommended that a regional proposal should be developed for NDC priority financing and investment pipelines, as well as micro grants for CSA in particular and agriculture in general.
To further accelerate the implementation of the action plan, ASEAN-CRN development partners who participated in the meeting expressed their commitment to support the selected activities. In many cases, the organizations who committed to support specific activities stated that these are either already being done or in the pipelines within their organization or are directly in the focus of their development work.

**WAY FORWARD**

Participants agreed that Dr. Yoovatana will present the outcomes of the negotiations training and the ASEN-CRN annual meeting at the following 15th ATWGARD meeting (30-31 May 2019, Vientiane) to seek endorsement for further formalizing ANGA and implementing both national and regional action plans. Specifically, the it was decided to submit the following information to ATWGARD:

- ANGA Training Report (ppt)
- ANGA Information Note and Proposed activities
- 5th ASEAN CRN Meeting Report (ppt)
- ASEAN CRN Action Plan (2019-2010)