

WEBINAR

Financing a climate resilient future for ASEAN cities: *Pathways and Lessons*

Date: 11 August 2026,

Time: 14:00h to 16:00h (GMT+7)

Platform: Zoom (The link will be shared to the registered participants by email)

Registration link:

https://climatepolicyinitiative.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6Eo3JpdtTCWwbbzKW74HtQ#/registration

Background

Urbanization is transforming the socioeconomic and environmental landscape of ASEAN, with more than half of the region's population now living in cities. Rapid urban growth is increasing pressure on infrastructure, widening development challenges, and amplifying climate risks. Coastal and fast-growing secondary cities are particularly vulnerable to floods, storms, and extreme heat. Without embedding climate resilience into urban planning and financing, these risks could undermine sustainable development.

ASEAN Member States (AMS) have made significant progress in integrating climate objectives into long term development planning through the ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change (AWGCC), ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESC), the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN), Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans, and alignment with the Sendai Framework. However, urban adaptation finance remains heavily centralized, with limited fiscal autonomy for cities. As a result, city-level adaptation needs are often underfunded, and existing financing mechanisms are insufficient to meet growing investment demands.

The CLARE–ASEAN initiative, *Supporting Socially Inclusive Climate Adaptation and Resilience in ASEAN*, is a grant-funded programme that advances socially inclusive urban climate resilience by bridging science, policy, and practice while strengthening Southern leadership and aligning research with ASEAN priorities.

This webinar, organized under the CLARE–ASEAN initiative, will present emerging evidence and regional experiences on financing urban adaptation. It will explore successful financing approaches, key implementation challenges, and opportunities for city governments, national governments, Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), and private investors to mobilize and scale investment in urban climate resilience.

Objectives

The webinar aims to bring together policymakers, practitioners and researchers development partners and the private sector to discuss the need for and evidence on financing adaptation and resilience in ASEAN cities and collectively identify policy and investment opportunities for scaling adaptation efforts in the region. Specifically, the webinar on **‘Financing a Climate-Resilient Future for ASEAN Cities: Pathways and Lessons’**, aims to:

- Set the context for the imperative for financing urban adaptation and resilience with key insights and examples from the region
- Share key evidence on financing urban adaptation and resilience in the region, enabling factors such as policy, market movements, and innovative initiatives which shape its quality and volume.
- Facilitate dialogue on existing and new financing and implementation approaches for urban adaptation
- Identify policy and investment opportunities to scale urban climate adaptation finance across ASEAN.

Target Audience

The webinar is intended for:

- Government officials and practitioners from ASEAN Member States.
- Representatives of ASEAN bodies, including the AWGCC and AWGESC.
- Policymakers work on urban development, climate change, and environmental governance.
- Development finance institutions, Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), private investors, and financial experts.
- Private sector representatives engaged in sustainable urban development.
- Researchers, early-career academics, and members of the CLARE community.

Expected Outputs

The webinar is expected to generate the following outputs:

- Key insights and emerging evidence on urban adaptation finance in ASEAN.
- Identification of financing barriers, enabling conditions, and governance considerations.
- Practical recommendations to strengthen urban climate adaptation planning and investment.
- Enhanced knowledge exchange and collaboration among stakeholders across the region.

Agenda

Time/Duration (GMT+7)	Activity
14:00 - 14:25 (25 min)	Segment 1: Welcome Address and Context Setting Moderator: AIT - Welcome address by Official from FCDO* (05 min) - About CLARE-ASEAN initiative by Prof. Shobhakar Dhakal, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand (05 min) - Introduction to the webinar by Mr Vivek Sen, Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) (05 min) - Poll-1 (05 min)
14:25 - 14:55 (30 min)	Segment 2: Presentation on 'Financing Adaptation and Resilience for ASEAN Cities' Presenter: Climate Policy Initiative - Sharing the insights from "Financing Adaptation and Resilience for ASEAN Cities" (20 min) - Poll-2 (10 min)
14:55 - 15:35 (40 min)	Expert Panel Discussion: "Pathways for Urban Adaptation Finance in ASEAN" Moderator: Ms Preety Bhandari, Climate Policy Initiative Panelist 1: Mr Curt Garrigan, Chief of the Sustainable Urban Development Section, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Panelist 2: Ms Cristina Gregorio, Regional Climate Finance Specialist, United Nations Development Programme, Bangkok Panelist 3: Dr. Ahmad Dzulfikar Nurrahman, Head of the Environmental Agency, Malang Regency, Indonesia
15:35 - 15:55 (20 min)	Segment 4: Interaction with participants - Poll-3 (10 min) Q&A with audience (10 min)
15:55 - 16:00 (5 min)	Segment 5: Closing and Way forward Closing remarks by Dr Arjan De Hann, International Development Research Centre (5 min)

*TBC – To be confirmed