



Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity: National and Regional Initiatives Report

The Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity: National and Regional Initiatives Report will serve as a guide for existing and future initiatives to refer to. It will include information from all initiatives on all the points seen below. The purpose of this report is to have the most essential and pertinent information about GPBB initiatives in one place, for easy access and visibility, as well as the up-to-date information as the annual report in each initiative's webpage. Because the makeup of each national and regional initiative is different, we hope this report highlights the key characteristics that comprise the GPBB initiatives.

1. General Information

Profile
<u>Description</u> : Please include a brief summary of the initiative while mentioning the date of creation, who it represents, and its main purpose.
Please answer here: The ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) has undertaken several initiatives over the years to provide technical assistance and avenues for dialogues that enable ASEAN Member States (AMS) and stakeholders from both government and private sectors to address challenges and seize opportunities related to biodiversity and business actions. In September 2023, the ACB and the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) established a strategic partnership to integrate biodiversity considerations into the plans and processes of the business sector in Southeast Asia through a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU set up the ASEAN Business and Biodiversity Initiative (ABBI) as a dynamic platform emphasising the critical role of biodiversity in sustaining key industries and mitigating climate change impacts. ABBI seeks to enhance private sector contributions toward ASEAN's green and sustainability goals through cooperation, investment, and support for biodiversity mainstreaming, nature-based solutions, and capacity-building efforts for micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to work towards biodiversity-friendly and climate-smart operations.

Vision
<u>Description</u> : Please summarize the initiatives' vision in one sentence.



Please answer here:

ACB Vision: Biodiversity in the ASEAN region is valued, conserved, sustainably managed, and the benefits derived from the use of thereof are equitably shared.

Mission

Description: Please summarize the initiatives' mission in one sentence.

Please answer here:

ACB Mission: To catalyse and scale up efforts on biodiversity valuation, conservation, sustainable management, and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use thereof in the ASEAN Region.

ACB Mandate:

The purpose of the Centre shall be to facilitate cooperation and coordination among AMS and with relevant national governments, regional and international organizations on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of such biodiversity in the ASEAN region.

Objectives

Description: In point form, please include the main objectives of the initiative.

Please answer here:

The general objectives of the ASEAN Business and Biodiversity Initiative are the following:

- i. facilitate cooperation to enhance the role of the business sector in advancing ASEAN's climate goals and green and blue economy;
- ii. contribute towards building sustainable supply and value chains by supporting capacity development programmes for micro-, small-, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in the region to encourage the adoption of biodiversity-friendly and climate-smart practices and operations; and
- iii. encourage more investments for biodiversity mainstreaming and nature-based solutions through targeted communication, education, and public awareness campaigns; sharing best practices to demonstrate the many benefits of incorporating biodiversity in business plans and processes, using natural capital accounting, risk analysis, impact assessment, ecosystem valuation, and other science-based methodologies, through collaboration and partnerships.



Funding, Budget and Resources

Description: Briefly describe the funding aspect of the initiative, including membership fees, external funding, donations, funding through events, etc.

Please answer here:

Over the past two years, the ACB, ASEAN-BAC, and other private sector groups have jointly organised roundtable discussions, awareness-raising activities, and similar initiatives on business and biodiversity by leveraging resources or through co-funding arrangements. The ACB has also been actively exploring potential partnerships and collaborations with businesses and financial institutions to support activities under the ABBI. Additionally, the ACB welcomes support from ASEAN Member States (AMS), as well as engagement and pledges from donor and partner countries, alongside ASEAN Dialogue and Development Partners. These efforts underscore the commitment to securing the necessary resources to advance ABBI's objectives effectively.

Services and Activities

Description: In point form, please include the main services and activities that the initiative provides. These can include projects, events, workshops, information sharing, resource mobilization, capacity building, program development and implementation, case studies, policy recommendations, indicators and methodologies, etc.

Please answer here:

To date, ACB activities, in collaboration with ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN BAC), under the ABBI have focused on the following intending to accelerate the transition toward a nature-positive ASEAN:

- **Awareness raising and knowledge sharing** about global and regional developments in the business and biodiversity nexus to foster an understanding of the critical role the business sector plays in achieving the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) goals and targets
- **Policy dialogues and exchanges** to highlight the challenges and opportunities faced by businesses in ASEAN as they adapt to evolving global frameworks and policies impacting operations and business processes
- **Showcase of innovations and practices** adopted by the business in the ASEAN to provide helpful guidance and practical tools and build understanding and strengthen partnerships.

Membership and Governance

Description: Please describe the membership and governance structures of the initiative, including the executive body, types of membership, levels of engagement and any associated organizations.

Please answer here:



The ACB's work under ABBI is guided by its Governing Board (GB) and relevant ASEAN Working Groups to ensure alignment with regional priorities and policies.

2. Annual Updates

Businesses your initiative represents

Description: Please indicate the businesses that your initiative represents. Please provide a **full list** of their names and the total amount of businesses that are represented.

Please answer here:

The ACB collaborates with the ASEAN Business and Advisory Council (ASEAN BAC) under the ABBI Memorandum of Understanding signed in September 2023 to reach out to its private sector members, which are diverse in terms of sustainable business operations.

Highlights of Work in 2024

Description: Please highlight outstanding works in 2024.

Please answer here:

The following key business-biodiversity activities were either co-designed, initiated by the ACB in collaboration with ASEAN BAC, or other partners with ASEAN business-biodiversity stakeholders:

1. Roundtable Discussion on Business and Finance in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)

7 March 2024

In partnership with Business for Nature (BFN) and the Malaysia Platform for Business and Biodiversity (MPBB), the ACB co-hosted an online roundtable to discuss the critical role of businesses and financial institutions in achieving Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) targets. AMS representatives exchanged best practices and explored challenges and opportunities for integrating businesses into NBSAPs.

2. Planning Workshop on the ASEAN Business and Biodiversity Initiative

19 March 2024, Alabang, Philippines

The ACB and ASEAN BAC co-organised a multi-stakeholder workshop to finalise the ABBI Joint Work Programme (JWP). Key outcomes included:

- ABBI's vision and mission drafted
- Strategic directions for engaging businesses in biodiversity conservation defined.



- Program components such as the Biodiversity Knowledge and Innovation Hub and the Capacity Building and Regional Exchange Programme identified

3. **ASEAN's Contribution to the GPBB Positive Incentives Collaborative Project**
20 September 2024

Supported by the ACB's Institutional Strengthening of the Biodiversity Sector in ASEAN (ISB II) Project, this initiative documented examples of ASEAN businesses incorporating biodiversity conservation approaches into their operations, with a focus on positive incentives. The study served as ASEAN's contribution to the GPBB [Positives Collaborative Project](#) that showcased innovative private-sector engagement, community-led initiatives, and impactful policy interventions across the globe.

4. **ASEAN Business and Biodiversity Forum (ABBF)**
3 October 2024, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

ACB, the Malaysian Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability (NRES), and PETRONAS co-organised the ASEAN Business and Biodiversity Forum (ABBF) that gathered Southeast Asia's business and sustainability leaders to address biodiversity loss, climate change, and pollution. Key discussions centred on KMGBF goals, sustainability strategies, and partnership-building.

5. **ASEAN Business and Investment Summit (ABIS)**
10 October 2024, Laos PDR

ACB Executive Director Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim highlighted biodiversity's links to food security during the ASEAN Food Security Session. Dr. Lim underscored the importance of biodiversity integration in achieving sustainable business practices aligned with ABBI's objectives.

6. **Roundtable Discussion at COP16 on Business and Finance in ASEAN NBSAPs**
24 October 2024, Cali, Colombia

ACB and Business for Nature co-organised a roundtable discussion, which engaged AMS government representatives and private sector participants attending COP16. Malaysia's Business and Biodiversity Action Plan and Thailand's Biodiversity-Based Economy Development Office presented actionable strategies for aligning businesses with KMGBF goals.

7. **Development of [ASEAN Natural Capital Roadmap](#)**. ACB collaborated with the ASEAN Secretariat and the E-READI group in facilitating discussions regarding the development of the ASEAN Natural Capital Roadmap, in which ASEAN BAC and others were invited to participate. The first was the consultation workshop on natural capital on 19 March 2024; followed by targeted consultation workshops with policymakers and experts from the ASEAN Member States, the ASEAN Secretariat in October 2024; January 2025 focused on private sector actors and financial institutions; and, February 2025 addressed civil society and academia. Highlights of these activities can be found at this [LINK](#).



Reports, Platforms, or Publications Launched in 2024

Description: Please indicate reports, platforms, or publications launched by the initiative in 2024, if any.

Please answer here:

Launch of the global compendium of private-public cases implementing positive incentives under the Positive Incentives Collaborative Project ([link](#)) at the COP16

24 October 2024, Cali, Colombia

The GPBB global report was launched on 24 October in Cali, Colombia, during the [COP16](#) titled “Positive Incentives: Key to Progress. The [report](#), published on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) [website](#), includes 27 case studies from around the world, four of which are from the ASEAN region.

Planning of Work in 2025

Description: Please indicate the initiative’s remarkable work in 2025.

Please answer here:

Under the ABBI initiative, ACB was involved in the following:

- Natural Capital Roadmap development, led by the ASEAN Secretariat and EREADI.
 - 24 January 2025 focused on private sector actors and financial institutions, emphasising the role of businesses in ecosystem preservation and sustainable economic growth. Discussions highlighted best practices for companies to account for natural capital risks and opportunities in business operations, investment structuring, and financial decision-making. Case studies from pioneering firms demonstrated the potential for aligning profitability with sustainability.
 - 18 February 2025 addressed civil society and academia, exploring their roles in fostering nature-positive governance and business practices. The need to work with local communities and to communicate in a language understood by non-environmental decision-makers was among the points highlighted
- Potential activities in discussion with ASEAN BAC, include:
 - Strengthening the role of the private sector in the achievement of the targets of the ASEAN Biodiversity Plan and alignment with Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community.
 - ASEAN Business and Biodiversity Forum jointly organised with one of the ASEAN BAC members and AWGNCB Focal Point



Please provide the information below:

Website: [ACB website](#)

Focal point (one or two):

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