



OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Southeast Asia Regional Resilience Dialogue:

TRANSFORMATIONAL SOLUTIONS TO SCALE UP ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

Date: 3 September, 9:00–11:00 CEST / 14:00-16:00 Bangkok time

Acknowledgements

This dialogue is part of a series of regional dialogues convened with non-party stakeholders, organized by the [Global Resilience Partnership](#) together with [Climate Resilience Network of the UNFCCC Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action \(MPGCA\)](#) with the support of the Chile and UK High Level Champions (HLCs), Gonzalo Muñoz and Nigel Topping.

The Southeast Asia Regional Resilience Dialogue is co-led by: [Asian Development Bank \(ADB\)](#) and [Huairou Commission](#)

Supporting organisations include: [ASEAN Climate Resilience Network](#), [Asia Pacific Adaptation Network](#), [CGIAR Research Programme on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security \(CGIAR / CCAFS\)](#), [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#), [Stockholm Environment Institute \(SEI\) Asia](#), [UN Environment Programme](#), [World Resource Institute \(WRI\)](#) / [Global Commission on Adaptation](#)

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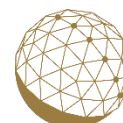
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ADAPTATION**

Top key messages for the High-Level Champions from the dialogue to take forward in their work to help advance ambitions in the run up to COP 26

1. **Support local actions** on resilience gain visibility and recognition at national, regional and global level and encourage countries to adopt a whole of society approach for dealing with climate risk, which recognizes local communities as agents of change.
2. **Create opportunities for grassroots organizations and their networks to engage in dialogues with decision makers at different levels** as a means of democratizing decision making and to leverage capacities constituencies to build partnerships for scaling up effective resilience practices.
3. Advocate for the **urgency to scale up sustainable financing (public and private) for climate adaptation that reaches the local level**, recognizing the opportunities for adaptation are drastically reducing with time.
4. Help bring the **spotlight on adaptation and resilience** in order to ensure a green, inclusive and resilient COVID-19 recovery and to achieve the sustainable development goals.

1. What concrete actions and solutions are being taken in the region to build resilience?

- Accounts of drought-affected villages of Gunugkidul Regency in Indonesia and flood prone provinces of Cambodia, highlighted the importance of undertaking community-level **climate and risk assessments** enabling communities to analyze and prioritize actions, dialogue with local governments, share information on local vulnerabilities and influence resilience related investments, thereby initiating a longer-term partnership that can eventually shift power relations and democratize decision-making.
- Availability of **flexible funding** allowed grassroot women's group in water scarce areas of Gunungkidul Regency affiliated with Yakkum Emergency Unit to adopt food banks to address food insecurity and waste banks to reduce impacts of flash floods while enhancing women's livelihoods and incomes.
- Influencing **decentralized governance processes** such as commune development planning processes the women's champions supported by ActionAid Cambodia and the engagement of grassroots groups in the *musrenbang* (*multi-stakeholder village planning*) in Indonesia enabled groups to aggregate and put forward their priorities and leverage their strategies to secure local government resources for scaling up tree planting in 2 sub-districts to prevent landslides.
- Close partnerships between local government and communities, in La Trinidad municipality Philippines, brought about a convergence of **community and government resources to upgrade and maintain infrastructure minimize flood risks**. Communities provided physical labor to clean creeks and local governments undertook civil works to desilt creeks
- Experiences from Local Alike, a social enterprise in Thailand working on community-based tourism, highlighted how local businesses working in partnership with communities were agile enough to rapidly **adapt** to crisis, by identifying **new business opportunities** (such as diversifying from tourism to the marketing and doorstep delivery of cooked food and local products produced by local communities), during the current pandemic.

- Accounts of Higaunon tribe in the Philippines highlighted the importance of how indigenous knowledge on food, health and farming practices can help not only cope with shocks, as witnessed during COVID-19, but also **promote local production and consumption**, which is critical to deal with long term climate risks.
- Experiences from Cambodia, Indonesia and Philippines recognized that investing in **women's leadership, strengthening networks that allow aggregation of collective efforts among women, and facilitating peer-to-peer learning** among women's group transfer and scale up practical solutions on addressing local vulnerabilities, and thereby change how they are perceived by wider communities and local government i.e., as partners, citizens, experts who can assist governments to deliver programs and policies more effectively.
- Even where national level transformative policies have been put in place such as decentralization and devolution of authority and resources – grassroots organizations – representing women historically excluded from public decision making have learn and demonstrate how these systems can work to **democratize decision making for them**.
- **The grassroots response to Covid 19** - is demonstrating that investments made by grassroots women to context-specific / locally driven resilience strategies - solutions are holistic, building resilience to multiple shocks - addressing multiple risks and vulnerabilities e.g Community vegetable gardens in Philippines are feeding communities, food banks in Indonesia are connecting farmers to local consumers - to deal with supply chain disruptions and food shortages during the lockdowns.

2. What are some of the boundaries/challenges related to building resilience in Southeast Asia?

- **Financial resources that reach local level are already tied to specific things.** Grassroots organizations have no voice in deciding how to allocate them in relation to community priorities for building resilience
- **Lack of recognition that meaningful and sustainable climate solutions need to be dealt in the context of wider vulnerabilities.** Transformational adaptation solutions require a combination of **technical know-how** to deal with the shifting means, tails, and increased uncertainties of climate variables, as well as introducing **fundamental systemic changes** which would reduce the root causes of vulnerability. The latter is closely linked to wider issues of governance – transparency, accountability, participatory decision-making, and equity and fairness, and thereby more challenging to address.
- **Lack of readiness to secure and sustain long-term financing to build resilience.** There are no silver bullets to deal with climate risks. Context specificity is key for successful climate actions. This requires adequate **level of readiness** among public and private sector to secure and sustain long-term and meaningful domestic financing that can help steer growth in a resilient direction. Much work is needed to enhance capacity, which currently varies significantly in the region.
- **New terms and agenda pose challenge** in dealing with communities and policy makers. There is a need to acknowledge and **integrate existing efforts before creating new** funding terms and agenda.

3. What more is needed to increase ambition, transform and take actions to scale?

- **Move beyond climate proofing investments.** A more holistic approach to resilience is needed. Leverage on poverty reduction programs, such as social protection programs to build resilience of the most vulnerable. Partnerships is needed to scale-up ambition. Diversify the pool of investments tools. Microfinance institutions need more support.
- **Transformative policies and programs** related to devolution and decentralization that enable organized communities to engage in **public decision-making and influence budgets for scaling up** effective community resilience practices.
- **Increased financing that is delivered differently.** Given the scale of problems, increases resources are needed to achieve resilience outcome. Equally important to ensure sure resources are making an impact on the lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable population. This requires adopting a suite of approaches that ensures money is reaching the local communities.

4. What are the different financing modes and instruments appropriate for effectively achieving adaptation and climate resilience in the region?

- **Combination of public and private financing.** Recognizing sustainable resilience solutions require a whole of society approach, it is important that financing includes a combination of public and private resources, is sustainable, has higher appetite to take risks and help unlock the barriers for private sector financing in adaptation.
- **Financing targeted at different scale.** Financing for resilience should be targeted at all levels- households, community, local government, landscape and national governments. Targeting financing at different scale will allow taking resilience decisions at most appropriate level. It should be recognized that community-managed funds do provide unique opportunities to test new approaches and address resilience to all types of shocks and stresses, the importance of which has been recognized in the current pandemic.
- **Combination of project and policy financing.** While project financing is important to deliver on certain resilience outputs (such as infrastructure), it is equally important to adopt innovative financing modalities that provides resources on achievement of resilience outcome, and thereby offer opportunities to strengthen institutions, processes and systems that are critical to deliver resilience.

5. How can community or grassroots led efforts be better connected to and resourced by national and international efforts and how to ensure that the poor and the vulnerable have voice in decision making?

- More **mechanisms and opportunities to engage decision makers** at local, subnational and global levels.
- **Flexible resources** delivered through mechanisms that allow them to organize, connect with one another, experiment, test solutions, learn by doing and collaborate with other actors to attract more resources and support to scale up work,

Annex I: Agenda

5 min	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bambang Susantono, Vice President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank
5 min	Remarks by High Level Champion (HLC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nigel Topping, UK COP26 High Level Champion
40 min	Panel 1 Local Voices: Local actions on adaptation and climate resilience Moderated by Arghya Sinha Roy, Asian Development Bank Perspectives by panelists: Implementing adaptation and climate resilience actions on the ground <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roniatun, Yakkum Emergency Unit, Indonesia Sothearith Siyonn, Head of Program, ActionAid, Cambodia Ita Natalia, Samdhana Institute, Indonesia Somsak Boonkam, Local Alike, Thailand Hon. Romeo K Salda, Mayor, Municipality of La Trinidad, the Philippines Response by discussant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corazón "Dinky" Juliano-Soliman, former Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Philippines
30 min	Panel 2 Regional Perspectives: Taking local actions to scale Moderated by Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio, World Resources Institute Perspectives by panelist: how solutions can be taken to scale and what type of transformational changes are needed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Albert Salamanca, Senior Research Fellow and Cluster Lead on Climate Change, Disasters and Development, Stockholm Environment Institute Suranjana Gupta, Advisor, Community Resilience, Huairou Commission Imelda Bacudo, Coordinator, ASEAN Climate Resilience Network Khan Ram-Indra, Director, Asia, The Rockefeller Foundation Preeti Bhandari, Chief of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, Asian Development Bank
5 min	Comments from HLC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nigel Topping, UK COP26 High Level Champion
10 min	Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Murton, UK COP26 Envoy