Blue SEA Finance Hub
Accelerating the Development of the Sustainable Blue Economy in Southeast Asia

The Ocean is “the lungs of the planet” and its largest “carbon sink”

The ocean economy
$2.5 trillion per year in goods and services
sustains 625 million people’s livelihoods in Southeast Asia

Ocean health is a crucial driver of sustainable growth in Southeast Asia. Given the wealth and biodiversity of its natural resources, the potential for a vibrant blue economy is especially high in the region. Blue economy sectors such as tourism, food production, waste treatment, and coastal infrastructure have significant potential to sustainably drive economic growth and mitigate the impacts of climate change. However, rapid urbanization and industrialization, unsustainable agriculture and aquaculture, and growing plastic pollution are increasingly threatening Southeast Asia’s seas and waterways. Developing a sustainable blue economy that safeguards ocean health requires innovative financing structures that can attract significant capital from private and public investors.

MISSION
The Asian Development Bank (ADB) established the Blue Southeast Asia (SEA) Finance Hub in 2021 to develop solutions to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of ocean pollution and climate change.

Develop bankable ocean health projects
Enhance capacities of central and local governments and state-owned enterprises to develop such projects
Support upscaling of small and medium-sized enterprises with relevant technologies or services to grow operations

OBJECTIVE
The Blue SEA Finance Hub supports Southeast Asian countries to develop blue projects that improve sustainability and conservation of the region’s oceans, waterbodies, and marine ecosystems. The Hub’s goal is to develop a pipeline of up to $300 million in bankable ADB-funded projects by 2024 to catalyze a significant flow of capital from other sources, including development financial institutions, philanthropic, and private, institutional, and commercial financiers.

STRUCTURE
The Hub is led by ADB’s Southeast Asia Department with support from the ADB-administered Association of Southeast Asian Nations Catalytic Green Finance Facility (ACGF).
The Blue SEA Finance Hub is operationalizing ADB’s Action Plan for Healthy Oceans and Sustainable Blue Economies launched in 2019, and aligned with the ADB Ocean Finance Framework. The Action Plan includes a commitment to increasing financing and technical assistance for ocean health and marine economy projects to $5 billion from 2019 to 2024, including cofinancing from partners.

### Focus Areas

**Pollution Control**
- Solid waste management: Source to Sea Approach
- Circular economy and responsible consumption
- Non-point source pollution management
- Wastewater management

**Sustainable Coastal and Marine Development**
- Coastal resilience and nature-based solutions
- Sustainable coastal and marine tourism
- Green ports and shipping
- Marine renewable energy

**Ocean and Climate Finance**
- Blue bond-incubator and global guidance
- Ocean resilience and climate adaptation partnership financing facility
- Climate finance: coral reef insurance

**Ecosystem and Natural Resource Management**
- Ecosystem management and natural resource restoration
- Sustainable fisheries management
- Sustainable aquaculture

### About the Asian Development Bank

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. Established in 1966, it is owned by 68 members—49 from the region. Its main instruments for helping its developing member countries are policy dialogue, loans, equity investments, guarantees, grants, and technical assistance.

### About the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility

The ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility (ACGF) is an innovative finance facility under the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund dedicated to accelerating green infrastructure investments in Southeast Asia. It supports ASEAN governments to prepare and source public and private financing for infrastructure projects that promote environmental sustainability and contribute to climate change goals. The ACGF is owned by the 10 ASEAN member states and ADB, which also administers the facility.

### Contact Us

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### For More Information

10 Things to Know

Please visit [www.adb.org/acgf](http://www.adb.org/acgf) for more information.

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Front page photo: Different species of fish provide wonderful colors to the marine life in Batangas, Philippines. This photo: Workers unload tuna from fishing vessels in General Santos Fish Port Complex, South Cotabato, Philippines (all photos by ADB).