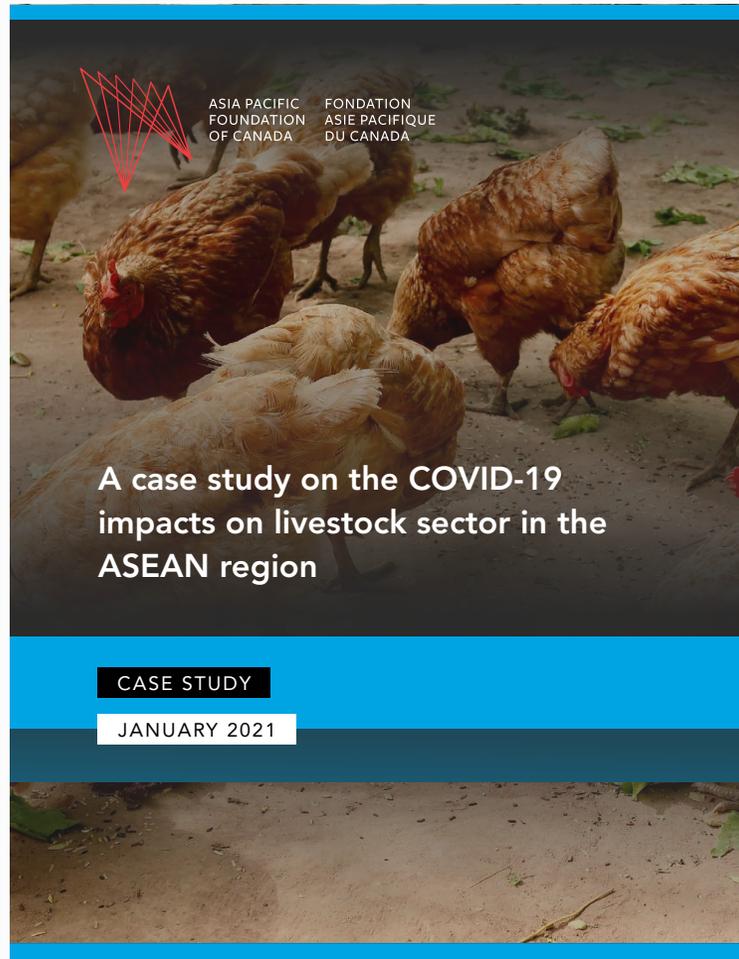
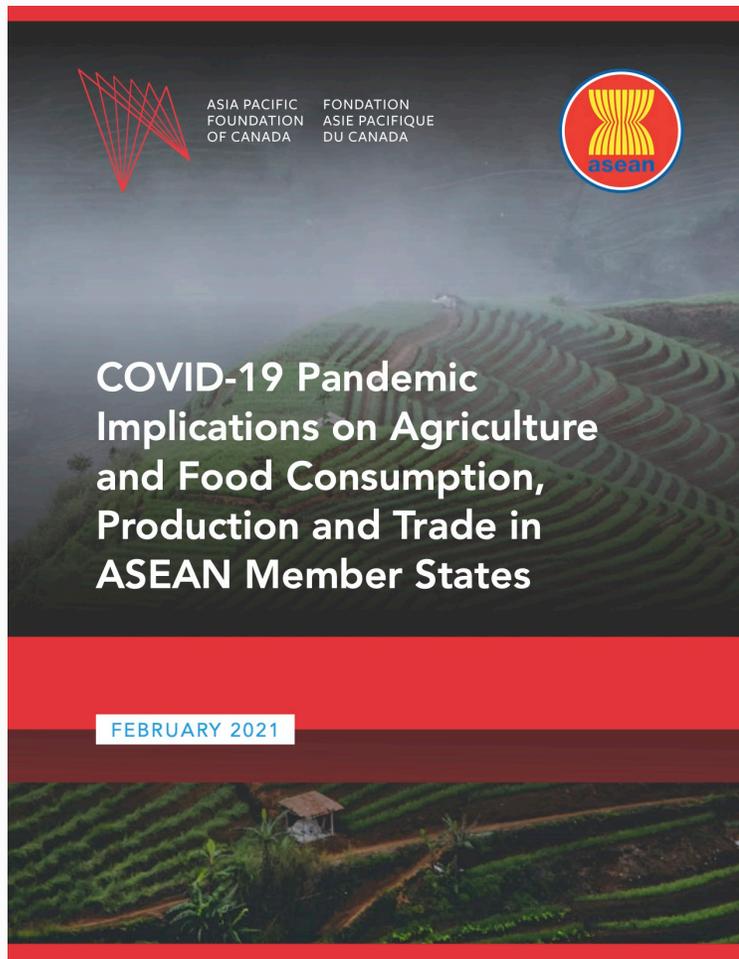




Promoting a green recovery in Southeast Asia

Tian Lin | 23 November 2021



2 | Report scope and background

SCOPE

Provide a tool for members of parliament (MPs) to deepen their understanding of the type of measures needed to decarbonize the economy and inspire climate actions at the national level

PURPOSE

Identify best practices MPs can adopt in their respective countries as well as structural obstacles they need to overcome to promote a transition to a green economy

ASSESSMENT TIMEFRAME

February 2020 – April 2021

METHODOLOGY

Desk-based research and virtual interviews with 20 expert stakeholders, including MPs, civil society representatives, and academic researchers conducted from March-May 2021

Publishing organization: ASEAN Parliamentarian for Human Rights (APHR)

Authors: Tian Lin, Cannelle Gueguen-Teil, Elise Tillet Dagousset

Common themes for defining green recovery:

1. Decarbonizing the economy and reducing GHG emissions
2. Renewable energy development
3. Sustainable resource use
4. Green growth strategies
5. Diversification and decentralization resources
6. Climate justice and indigenous and intergenerational rights

“Green recovery” is an umbrella term for regulatory and fiscal reforms that aim to accelerate economic recovery while cutting GHG emissions.

Reasons for promoting green recovery:

1. To limit global warming and meet the objective of the Paris Agreement
2. To avoid a 25% drop in ASEAN’s GDP by the end of the century
3. To mitigate the debt crisis in Southeast Asia
4. To accelerate economic recovery through job creation in climate-friendly sectors
5. To address the human rights crisis caused by COVID-19 and climate change

4

Report findings – green policies

Environmentally relevant COVID-19 economic measures, Feb 2020-April 2021

Policy measures	Indonesia	Malaysia	Philippines	Singapore	Thailand	Timor-Leste
Conditional government support or bailouts with green strings attached	None	None	None	None	None	None
Subsidies or tax reductions for environmentally friendly products	✓	✓	✓	✓	None	None
Tax increases for environmentally harmful products	None	None	✓	✓	None	None
Clean energy infrastructure	✓	✓	(✓) ^b	✓	None	(✓) ^b
Clean transport infrastructure	✓	None	✓	✓	✓	None
Electric vehicle incentives	None	None	None	✓	✓	None
Clean energy electric and energy-efficient appliance incentives	None	None	None	✓	None	None
Buildings upgrades & new green housing	None	None	None	✓	None	None
Clean research and development	None	None	None	✓	✓	None
Natural infrastructure and green spaces	None	None	None	✓	None	(✓) ^b
Green worker retraining and job creation	None	None	None	✓	None	None

5 | Report findings – brown policies

Environmentally relevant COVID-19 economic measures, Feb 2020-April 2021

Policy measures	Indonesia	Malaysia	Philippines	Singapore	Thailand	Timor-Leste
Conditional government support or bailouts without green strings attached	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Subsidies or waived fees for environmentally harmful products	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	None
Subsidies or tax reduction for environmentally harmful products	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Deregulation of environmental standards	✓	None	✓	None	None	None

1. Absence of strong institutional frameworks on climate change

- In the Philippines, the Climate Change Commission has neither the carrots or sticks to encourage or reprimand actions among affected public agencies and private companies
- A clear mandate on climate change from the PM's office remains missing in Malaysia

2. Resource constraints amplified by natural disasters

- Between Jan 2020 and May 2021, 92 natural disasters were recorded in Southeast Asia
- Recent disasters in the Philippines and Timor-Leste required the government to re-allocate public spending for the recovery to emergency relief

3. Lack of data transparency and cross-sectoral collaboration

- Constituents frequently left in the shadows during critical policy decisions
- Nearly all failed to consult marginalized persons and civil society groups

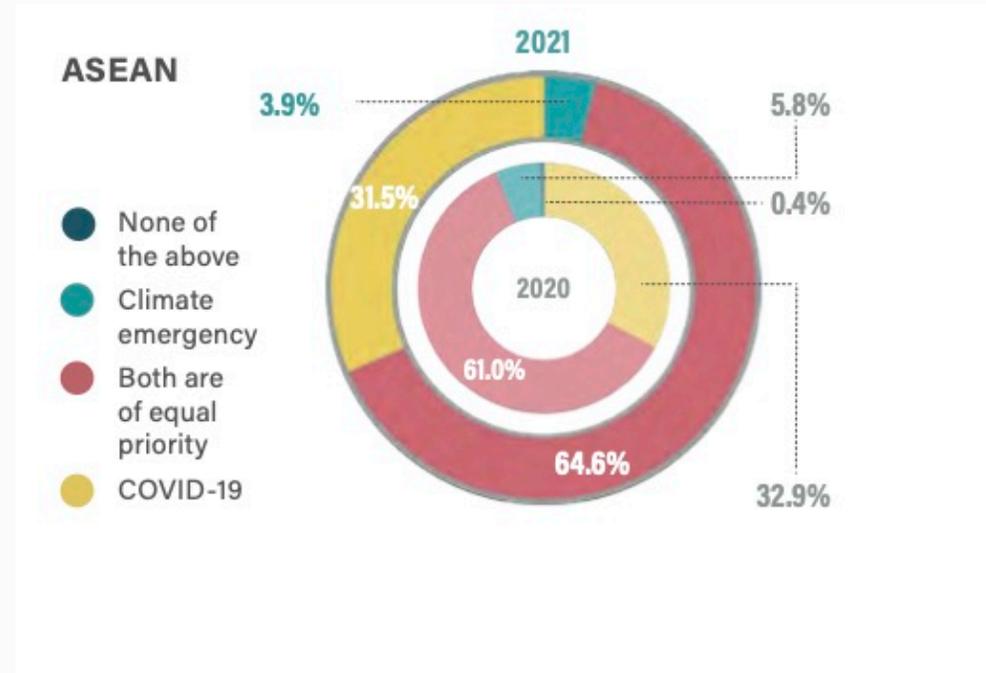
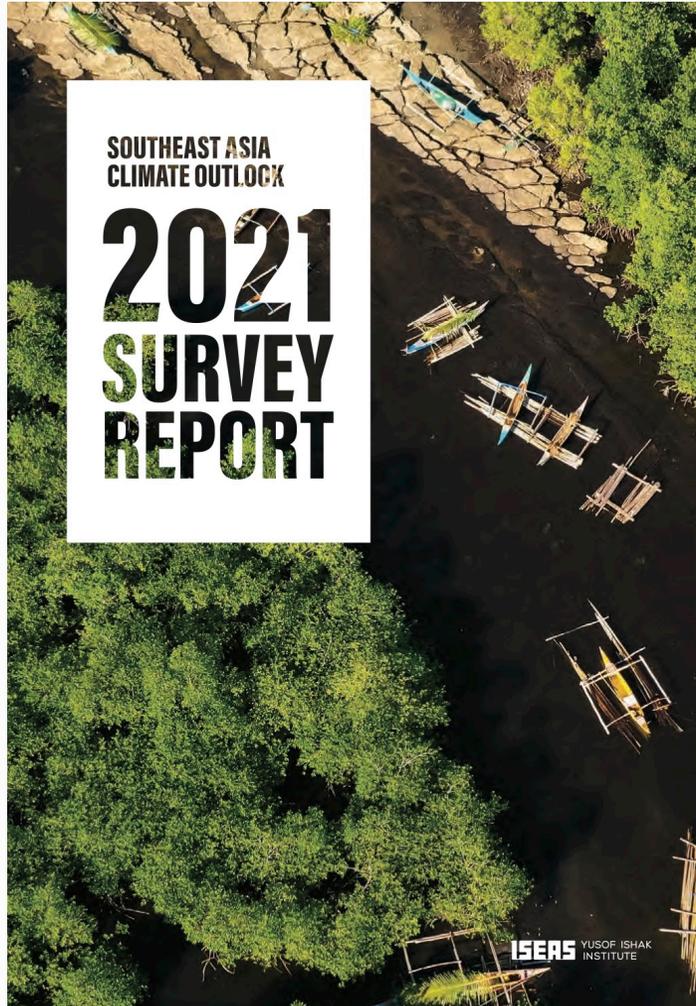
In Southeast Asia

- Urge your government to submit more ambitious NDC targets to the Paris Agreement and hold them accountable to existing targets by requesting regular progress updates;
- Prioritize budget allocations on renewable energy, public transport, energy efficiency, electric vehicles, and other key areas supportive of a low-carbon economic transition;
- Ensure social and environmental impact assessments are conducted for all recovery projects with public consultations before approval decisions in parliament;
- Vocalize the environmental and human rights concerns of coal development and other environmentally harmful policies, which may increase future GDP losses;
- Promote meaningful civic participation and environmental participatory rights, to ensure a green recovery that supports individual human rights; and more found in the report

Link to report: <https://aseanmp.org/2021/09/30/building-back-better-report/>

Toolkit to help MPs to advance a green recovery: <https://aseanmp.org/2021/09/30/toolkit-transition-to-a-green-economy-after-covid-19/>

7 | Road ahead



Access to report: <https://www.iseas.edu.sg/articles-commentaries/southeast-asia-climate-outlook/southeast-asia-climate-outlook-2021-survey-report/>



THANK YOU!

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