

ASEAN PLUS THREE MINERALS COOPERATION WORK PLAN 2022-2025

(ASOMM+3 WORK PLAN 2022-2025)

A. Background

The ASEAN Plus Three Minerals Cooperation Work Plan 2022-2025, hereinafter referred to as this Work Plan, serves as a blueprint to intensify cooperation between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea in sustainable minerals development. This is the successor of the ASOMM+3 Work Plan for 2016-2020.

The 8th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals (AMMin) held on 8 October 2021 noted with satisfaction the implementation of the ASEAN+3 Minerals Cooperation Work Plan for 2016-2020 with a 90% accomplishment rate. Nine out of 10 action lines were successfully completed with around 34 activities conducted throughout the work plan period in various forms of capacity building such as seminar, training, and workshop – in such areas as hydrogeology, environmental geology

and geo-hazard, basic geology, marine geosciences; digital technology for geological survey, geo-information technology as well as sustainable mining practices. Some activities were initially disrupted by the global pandemic but nonetheless were adjusted and implemented through online webinars and hybrid platforms. Capacity building on geological mapping and minerals exploration, mineral resources exploration, and efficient green technologies were successfully delivered online, while young geologists from ASEAN Member States benefited from scholarships to pursue post-graduate studies in Plus Three Countries. A number of programmes/activities through the private sector forum and exchanges were also conducted under the ASOMM+3 Work Plan 2016-2020 to promote investments from the Plus Three Countries into the ASEAN minerals sector.

B. Guidance and Objective

This ASOMM+3 Work Plan for 2022-2025 is pursued in the context of:

- i. the cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea on minerals under the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) Cooperation Work Plan 2018-2022 and its succeeding work plan;
- ii. the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ASOMM+3 Cooperation on Mineral Resources Development adopted at the 1st ASOMM+3 Consultation held on 8 June 2007 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar; and,
- iii. the agreement reached at the 13th ASOMM+3 Meeting hosted virtually by Singapore on 4 December 2020 to develop the new ASOMM+3 cooperation work plan following the conclusion of the ASOMM+3 work plan 2016-2020.

The main objective of this four-year Work Plan is to *support the*

implementation of the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan 2016-2025 (AMCAP-III) Phase 2: 2021-2025 in order to facilitate the creation of an advanced and progressive ASEAN minerals sector for socio-economic prosperity and environmental well-being by enhancing trade and investment and strengthening cooperation and capacity building for sustainable minerals development in the ASEAN and Plus Three region.

This ASOMM+3 Work Plan for 2022-2025 will serve as a rolling work plan towards the implementation of a broader AMCAP and will guide cooperation activities between ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries in the minerals sector from 2022 to 2025 by pursuing joint actions and measures in line with the four (4) programme areas of AMCAP-III Phase 2, namely:

- i. Trade and Investment in Minerals
- ii. Sustainable Minerals Development
- iii. Capacity Building in Minerals
- iv. Minerals Information and Database

C. Expected Activities and Outputs

I. Trade and Investment in Minerals (TIM)

To support the promotion of ASEAN investments in all components of the minerals value chain, the following activities will be undertaken collaboratively with the Plus Three Partners:

Activities	Expected Outputs
<p><u>1.1</u> Hold regular mining promotion conferences for global mining companies to provide comprehensive, consistent and readily available information on the mineral prospectivity and investment environment within ASEAN Member States to the mining companies in China and other countries</p>	<p>Annual conduct of the China-ASEAN Mining Cooperation Forum & Exhibition and other activities to promote mining investment in ASEAN</p>
<p><u>1.2</u> Organise country-specific mining investment seminars for private companies</p>	<p>The conduct of mining investment seminars organized by JOGMEC-Japan to provide up-to-date information to private companies that will lead to the promotion of investment in ASEAN Member States</p>
<p><u>1.3</u> ASEAN participation in the various mining forum of the Plus Three Countries by identifying and collating the companies in all stages of the minerals value chain per ASEAN Member States, focus in particular on greenfield exploration</p>	<p>ASEAN Member States participating actively in the activities held by China Geological Survey (CGS) and in the China-ASEAN Mining Cooperation Forum on areas related to greenfield mining exploration</p>

<p><u>1.4</u> Conduct technical workshops on issue of critical minerals development between ASEAN Member States and Plus Three Countries</p>	<p>The conduct of technical workshops to build up cooperation through sharing development plans and strategies on critical minerals between ASEAN Member States and Plus Three Countries</p>
<p><u>1.5</u> Provide information about mining industry situation in ASEAN countries to Japanese companies</p>	<p>The provision of up-to-date information from JOGMEC-Japan to Japanese private companies that will lead to the promotion of investment in ASEAN Member States</p>
<p><u>1.6</u> Initiate platforms to exchange information and hold regular forums involving the business sectors and stakeholders in the minerals landscape within ASEAN+3 region to promote investment, adopt leading practices, and build governance capacity</p>	<p>Establish a sub-forum under the annual China-ASEAN Mining Cooperation Forum or in other ASOMM+3 activities to specifically attract the business sectors and other stakeholders in the mining sector to invest in ASEAN</p>

II. Sustainable Minerals Development (SMD)

To help facilitate the adoption by ASEAN of the principles for Sustainable Minerals Development (SMD principles) and implement leading practices for minerals governance, the following activities will be undertaken in cooperation with the Plus Three Countries:

Activities	Expected Outputs
<p><u>2.1</u> Conduct technical discussion and experience sharing among the Plus Three and ASEAN countries on issues such as mine restoration and upgrading, to support the development and adoption of principles for sustainable minerals development across ASEAN</p>	<p>The conduct of technical discussions and experience sharing among Plus Three and ASEAN countries to help facilitate progressive adoption of SMD principles in ASEAN countries</p>

III. Capacity Building in Minerals (CBM)

To upgrade human, institutional and technical capacities in minerals governance of ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries, the following are among activities to be conducted between 2022 and 2025:

Activities	Expected Outputs
<p><u>3.1</u> Conduct capacity building program for ASEAN Member States' experts and trainees regarding mineral exploration, development, processing, and rehabilitation</p>	<p>Continue the conduct of capacity building programme for ASEAN, in areas including but not limited to mining environmental management, exploration technology and regional development in closed mine areas</p>
<p><u>3.2</u> Carry out technical exchanges and cooperation in the fields of ecological restoration and green mining of common concern, to strengthen scientific and technological innovation and promote the</p>	<p>The conduct of technical exchanges and cooperation in the fields of ecological restoration and green mine construction of common concern</p>

development of a green mining industry	
<p><u>3.3</u> Conduct joint study to promote cooperation on co-construction of geoscience infrastructure in ASEAN countries to enhance capacity on geological survey and technical level</p>	<p>Conduct joint study on Tethys evolution and its constraints on resources, energy and environment in Southeast Asia and adjacent region</p>
<p><u>3.4</u> Continuation of the China-ASEAN Scholarship Programme to build the capacity of young geologists from ASEAN Member States through post graduate studies in China universities</p>	<p>Continued implementation of China’s Scholarship Programme for ASEAN to help build capacity in geological survey, and teaching, learning, research, and development</p>
<p><u>3.5</u> Explore the establishment of a China-ASEAN Geoscience Cooperation Center</p>	<p>(i) Consensus on the decision to establish the ASEAN-China Geosciences Cooperation Center, and, (ii) Implementation of the decision</p>
<p><u>3.6</u> Establish a network of training institutions between ROK and ASEAN Member States working on mineral governance and SMD issues</p>	<p>Conclusion of an MOU to develop two-way cooperative networks by providing need-based educational programs and supporting ASEAN Member States to apply theoretical knowledge into practical research and exploration</p>

IV. Minerals Information and Database (MID)

In terms of minerals information and database/systems, ASEAN and the Plus Three Countries will undertake the following joint activities to support the development of new strategies and effective tools for collecting and processing data for the ASEAN minerals information system:

Activities	Expected Outputs
<p><u>4.1</u> Strengthen the construction and sharing of big data platform on geoscience and mining information in order to facilitate mining investment cooperation</p>	<p>Discuss and explore the proposal for a China-ASEAN Geosciences information platform, based on the network technique “GeoCloud ” ran by CGS</p>
<p><u>4.2</u> Development of new Web-GIS software in the new ASEAN Minerals Information System (AMIS) that follows international standards (OGC Web Services and SDI model) to allow sharing of data in different formats and creating data sharing web services</p>	<p>Established a fully developed AMIS system for all AMS in their countries to update databases for sharing</p>
<p><u>4.3</u> Establish arrangements for the WebGIS content of the new AMIS as well as review, manage and update the relevant data</p>	<p>Organised an expert team in AMS, to: (i) continuously update and manage the AMIS data, (ii) review AMS needs and requirements and monitor the utilization of AMIS for further improvement</p>

D. Mechanism and Tools of Cooperation

The mechanism and tools of cooperation to implement this Work Plan will be in the form of, but not limited to:

- i. Consultations on minerals cooperation between ASEAN Senior Officials on Minerals (ASOMM) and the Ministry of Natural Resources of China, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea;
- ii. Joint project activities in the areas of mutual interest, including workshops, seminars, research and training;

- iii. Congress/forum and exhibition on minerals related topics, which include engagement with private sector and other relevant mining stakeholders;
- iv. Policy and technical exchange;
- v. Provision of information on ASEAN minerals prospectivity and investment environment; and,
- vi. Other tools and mechanism as may be deemed necessary

E. Implementation Arrangements

The implementation of specific projects and activities under this Work Plan will be further discussed and decided through the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Minerals Plus Three (China, Japan, ROK) Consultation (ASOMM+3) platform and/or through other ASEAN minerals cooperation platform such as the relevant ASOMM's Working Group Meeting as mutually agreed upon by the parties.

F. Coordination and Monitoring

The activities proposed in this Work Plan will be coordinated and monitored by the ASEAN Secretariat in close consultation with the ASEAN country coordinator for cooperation with China namely: Viet Nam, with Japan namely: Indonesia, and with ROK namely: the Philippines. The monitoring outcomes shall be reported regularly to the ASOMM+3.

The **Appendix** of this Work Plan will be used as basis to monitor the progress of the ASOMM+3 Work Plan 2022-2025.

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