



# ASEAN-IGF MINERALS COOPERATION WORKPLAN 2022 TO 2024

This Work Plan aims to implement the collaboration between the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Minerals (ASOMM) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF) to support the implementation of the ASEAN Minerals Cooperation Action Plan 2016-2025 (AMCAP-III) Phase 2: 2021-2025.

## A. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

To support the 2025 Vision of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) for a well-integrated and connected regional economy within the global economic system, the AMCAP-III Phase 2: 2021-2025 recently adopted by the 8th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals (AMMin) on 8 October 2021 aims to *create an advanced and progressive ASEAN minerals sector for ASEAN socio-economic prosperity and environmental well being by enhancing trade and investment and strengthening cooperation and capacity building for sustainable minerals development in the region.*

Under the new AMCAP, ASEAN pledged to gear the minerals cooperation sector towards promoting the region as a minerals investment destination and building investments in all stages of the minerals value chain, commencing with focus on promoting investments into minerals exploration.

ASEAN is a region rich in mineral resources, with vast potential for new discoveries. Minerals will gradually emerge to be one of the main growth drivers in the region's economy. The total value of minerals trade within ASEAN in 2018 was valued at USD249.8 billion accounted for 8.9 per cent of ASEAN's total trade, resulting in socioeconomic and infrastructure development to many parts of the region. Demand of minerals from ASEAN is expected to continue to grow.

ASEAN and IGF are committed to responsible and sustainable minerals development and good governance designed to maximize mining's benefits for their member countries and citizens. IGF and ASOMM have therefore agreed to collaborate on



AMCAP-III Phase 2 strategic areas and actions common to both organizations. Both organizations recognize that AMCAP-III Phase 2 continues to stress the benefits of more inclusive mineral cooperation with various partners and especially in the sharing and exchange of knowledge and best practices.

With the successful ASOMM-IGF collaboration under the ASEAN-IGF Work Plan for 2019-2021, both ASOMM and IGF agreed to enhance the collaboration through this Work Plan from 2022 to 2024 and will consider collaboration beyond 2024 based on lessons learned and experiences in the execution of this plan. This current ASEAN-IGF Minerals Cooperation Work Plan will serve as a reference toward the implementation of the broader AMCAP and will guide cooperation activities within 2022-2024.

## B. OBJECTIVES AND AREAS OF COOPERATION

The 17th ASOMM and 6th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Minerals (AMMin) held in November 2017 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, welcomed the initiative to cooperate with IGF and tasked Cambodia to serve as country coordinator for ASEAN's engagement with IGF. The first engagement between ASEAN and IGF took place in 2018 when ASEAN invited IGF to the 2nd ASOMM Joint Working Groups (JWG) Meeting held in May 2018 in Puerto Princesa, Philippines. Following a couple of consultations between ASEAN and IGF, both parties agreed to adopt the ASEAN-IGF Minerals Cooperation Work Plan 2019-2021 at the 19th ASOMM/7th AMMin held in December 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. Despite of the COVID-19 pandemic which halted part of its activities and others were modified into online, under the 2019-2021 Work Plan, ASEAN and IGF has successfully established the Annual Sustainability Forum and Workshop which are hosted by ASEAN Member States (AMS). Ranged of topics were covered within 2019-2021 in response to expressed needs of AMS on important trending issues such as: (i) environmental management and social frameworks which shared guidance on good practices in sustainable minerals development, (ii) environmental impacts of offshore mining, including sustainable sand alternatives, and, (iii) critical minerals and sustainability which can drive investments and innovations as well as minerals supply to meet the demand for high-tech and low-carbon economies.

For the 2022-2024 Work Plan, hereinafter referred to as this Work Plan, IGF and ASOMM will work collaboratively and consider approaches to cooperate and implement actions in the following strategic areas of common interest from the AMCAP-III Phase 2:2021-2025:

- **Program Area 1: Trade and Investments in Minerals (TIM)**
- **Program Area 2: Sustainable Mineral Development (SMD)**
- **Program Area 3: Strengthening Institutional and Human Capacities in the ASEAN Minerals Sector (CBM)**



The IGF noted that the 8th AMMin held in October 2021 looked forward to the finalization of the new ASEAN-IGF Work Plan for 2022-2024 to support ASEAN in adopting SMD principles and implementing leading practices towards progressively improving governance and economic, social, and environmental outcomes and building human, institutional and technical capacities of the minerals sector in the region.

Details of action lines are included in section F (Expected Activities and Timelines) of this Work Plan.

## C. APPROACH AND METHODS OF DELIVERY

The activities under this Work Plan will be implemented via the following four methods of delivery:

1. Joint Annual one-day ASEAN-IGF Mining and Sustainability Forum (one or two times a year) back-to-back with JWG Meeting (Q1 or Q3) and/or ASOMM (Q4)
2. Policy dialogues during ASOMM and AMMin with IGF as key speaker.
3. Studies and analysis on country level barriers to certain AMS.
4. Joint research on specific topics..

Method 3 and 4 involve funding. IGF can provide funding to support its members and will therefore require a specific request to the IGF for each project. Funding could also be provided by ASEAN, and the International Institute for Sustainable Development - institution holding IGF 's Secretariat (IISD) can act as implementing agency.

At the discretion of the requesting IGF member host, non-IGF members from ASEAN may be invited to join regional workshops/activities.

## D. PRIORITIES - GUIDANCE AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE WORK PLAN

Priorities of this Work Plan will be on the AMCAP-III Phase 2 Programme Areas on Sustainable Mineral Development (SMD) and Capacity Building in Minerals (CBM) to support ASEAN to:

- **Adopt SMD principles and implement leading practices to progressively improve governance and economic, social, and environmental outcomes through the collective engagement of Member States, national government and sub-national government, investors in minerals, and relevant non-government actors, and,**
- **Build human, institutional, and technical capacities in minerals governance of the ASEAN minerals sector so as to achieve increased investment, greater output and trade in minerals and mineral products, and strongly positive economic, societal and environmental outcomes.**



This Work Plan also considers the inputs from ASEAN Member States to cover topics on, but not limited to the following:

- i. Learning **best practices** on:
  - SMD frameworks from other regions,
  - stakeholders engagement, and,
  - non-financial incentives to promote SMD.
- ii. Assist in **building greater understanding** of, and support for SMD policies and practices within ASEAN.
- iii. Assist in the **establishment of multi-stakeholders dialogue and engagement** to build support for SMD policies, objectives, principles and practices.
- iv. Other areas, including:
  - Response to COVID-19 in the mining sector
  - Improving Legal Frameworks for Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
  - Mine closure management and rehabilitation
  - Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining: global trends, legislation and environmental impacts
  - Circular economy in the mining sector

## E. RESOURCES

ASEAN and IGF will work to complete joint activities such as conducting forums, seminars, meetings on SMD.

IGF would provide support toward implementation of joint activities, including covering costs such as delegate sponsorship, IGF staff and/or expert(s), and the venue. Costs to be covered will depend on meetings being virtual or face-to-face. Costs may include sponsorship for IGF staff or expert to attend meetings, carry out studies and research and venues for ASEAN-IGF Forums. Costs of activities to be covered will be considered as they are planned.

Funding could also be provided by ASEAN, and IISD can act as implementing agency of the designated project.

## F. EXPECTED ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES

ASEAN and IGF will cooperate to implement and refine the implementation of the following activities and collaborations, the details, and concepts of which are in Annex 1:



## **1. ONE-DAY FORUM, FORMING PART OF THE ANNUAL ASOMM'S WORKING GROUP PROGRAM AND THE JWG MEETING:**

- a) ASEAN-IGF Forum back-to-back with either of the two Joint Working Groups (JWG) Meetings which will be carried out during Q1 and Q3; and/or,
- b) ASEAN-IGF Forum back-to-back with ASOMM which will be carried out during Q4.

(both related to ES1.3)

The format will vary depending on the theme and the interests of AMS manifested in previous meetings. However, in every forum (i) AMS and host country will propose themes based on regional priorities, (ii) IGF will propose its content and will invite experts as speakers and moderators with ASOMM host country's and ASEAN Secretariat cooperation, and (iii) AMS will have different opportunities to actively participate during the forums.

## **2. POLICY DIALOGUE DURING ASOMM OR AMMIN WITH IGF AS KEY SPEAKER.**

IGF can collaborate with ASOMM host countries on AMCAP-based workshops (related to AMCAP Action Line ES1.2 and ES1.3). Workshops and training would focus on AMCAP-III Phase 2 Action Plan tasks.

Some areas of dialogue could include:

- Tax and Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) in mining
- Innovation in Mining – including impacts of new technologies
- Response to COVID-19 in the mining sector
- Mine closure management and rehabilitation
- Circular economy in the mining sector
- Global Trends in Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining
- Community engagement: Experiences in multi-stakeholder dialogues to create a mining shared vision: best practices in Latin America presented by the Inter-American Development Bank as well as the African Mining Vision. .

## **3. STUDIES AND ANALYSIS ON COUNTRY LEVEL BARRIERS TO CERTAIN AMS**

IGF will carry out country-level analysis based on IGF Mining Policy Framework (MPF) and related programs. IGF's MPF assessment or the requested analysis will depend on AMS – that are also IGF members- request and topics will be agreed between IGF and the AMS requesting IGF assistance.

Potential activities depending on AMS requests:

- Carry out a mining sector policy and law assessment based on IGF's [Mining Policy Assessment](#) methodology.



- Diagnostic of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) Legal and Policy Framework (related to AMCAP Action Line TI1.2 and ES1.2) based on:
  - i. [IGF's Guidance for Governments: Improving Legal Frameworks for Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Management](#)
  - ii. [IGF ESIA tools](#)
- Preparing a strategy for artisanal and small scale mining sector management based on [IGF's Guidance for Governments: Managing artisanal and small-scale mining](#)
- Mine closure legal and policy framework analysis based on IGF's [post-mining transition](#) work
- Environmental management diagnostic based on [IGF's Guidance for Governments: Environmental Management and Mining Governance](#) (related to AMCAP Action Line IH1.2)

#### **4. ASEAN-IGF JOINT RESEARCH**

ASEAN and IGF will undertake joint research on specific topics. The topics of the research could entail:

- Best practices on stakeholder engagement to build support to SMD policies, principles, and practices (related to AMCAP Action Line ES1.3) Emerging issues, such as:
  - Minerals supply for the clean energy transition
  - Innovation in mining sector: impacts of the investment in new technologies in the mining sector. This research could include consultations with relevant organizations (related to AMCAP Action line IH2.1)
  - Global trends in artisanal and small-scale mining

#### **5. POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION OF IGF MEMBERSHIP AMONG AMS**

To be facilitated directly by Cambodia (as country coordinator of ASEAN cooperation with IGF and an IGF member) and the IGF.

Current IGF members (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand) may provide experience and testimonies, as may be requested or as necessary.

#### **6. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) REQUESTS FORMS FROM IGF MEMBERS TO IGF SECRETARIAT (SEE ANNEX 2)**

AMS that are also IGF members can request technical assistance to the IGF. Technical assistance is requested through a request form provided by the IGF Secretariat at the time of the request.



## ANNEX 1. SCHEDULE

	Action	2022		2023		2024	
		JAN-JUN	JUL-DEC	JAN-JUN	JUL-DEC	JAN-JUN	JUL-DEC
1. Events	ASEAN-IGF Forum during JWG Meeting	■		■		■	
	ASEAN-IGF Forum during ASOMM		■		■		■
2. Policy dialogue with IGF as key speaker	During ASOMM or AMMin		■		■		■
3. Studies and analysis on barriers on certain AMS	MPF Assessment		■			■	
	ESIA Diagnostic	■					■
	Strategy for ASM management		■				
	Mine closure legal and policy framework analysis				■		
	Environmental management Diagnostic			■			
4. Joint research	Innovation in mining		■	■			
	Stakeholder engagement best practices			■	■		
	Circular economy in the mining sector			■	■	■	■
	Global trends in artisanal and small-scale mining					■	



## ANNEX 2.IGF AND IISD: ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

The Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF) is a member-driven UN Type II Partnership of 79 member countries. It was founded in 2005 after the South Africa and Canada proposal was accepted at the UN 2002 Environmental Summit. Canada operated the Secretariat until September 2015 after which it entered into an agreement with the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) becoming host and operator, with core funding available until 2022. Recently, both The Netherlands and Canada have indicated their interest to sustain and fund IGF and its work beyond current funding.

The IGF works with other international and regional organizations such as PanAfGeo, UEMOA, and EALA in Africa, and CAMMA in Latin America, and has recently conducted or collaborated on regional workshops on mine closure, ASM, financial benefit optimization and implementation of our Guidance for Governments. IGF is increasing its work with the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes as well.

The IGF Mining Policy Framework (MPF) was developed and adopted by members in 2013; it covers six (6) thematic areas:

- Legal and policy environment
- Financial benefit optimization
- Socioeconomic benefit optimization
- Environmental management
- Post-mining transition
- Artisanal and small-scale mining

IISD is an independent research institute with a mission to promote human development and environmental sustainability through sound policy-making. IISD's staff of over 120 people, supported by more than 50 associates and 100 consultants, come from across the globe and operate in multi-disciplinary teams. IISD provides the knowledge to act, works in nearly 100 countries, and proudly hosts the SDG Knowledge Hub and the Earth Negotiations Bulletin (ENB) as well as Secretariats for the IGF and the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network.





[IGFMining.org](https://www.IGFMining.org)  
 [@IGFMining](https://twitter.com/IGFMining)

©2022 International Institute for Sustainable  
Development

February 2022

**For more information about the IGF please  
contact the Secretariat:**

220 Laurier Avenue West, Suite 1100  
Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1P 5Z9  
Email: [Secretariat@IGFMining.org](mailto:Secretariat@IGFMining.org)

Secretariat hosted by



Secretariat funded by



Kingdom of the Netherlands