

# Biodiversity, health, traditional medicine: ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) Initiatives

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# Biodiversity in the ASEAN Region

3% of the world's surface area

25% of all known plants and animals

Endemic to the ASEAN region 37%

173,000 km shorelines



# Global Commitment alignment of One Health



## KUNMING MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

#### Biodiversity and Health

The framework is to be implemented with consideration of the **One Health Approach**, among other holistic approaches that are based on science, mobilize multiple sectors, disciplines and communities to work together and aim to sustainably balance and optimize, the health of people, animals, plants and ecosystems.

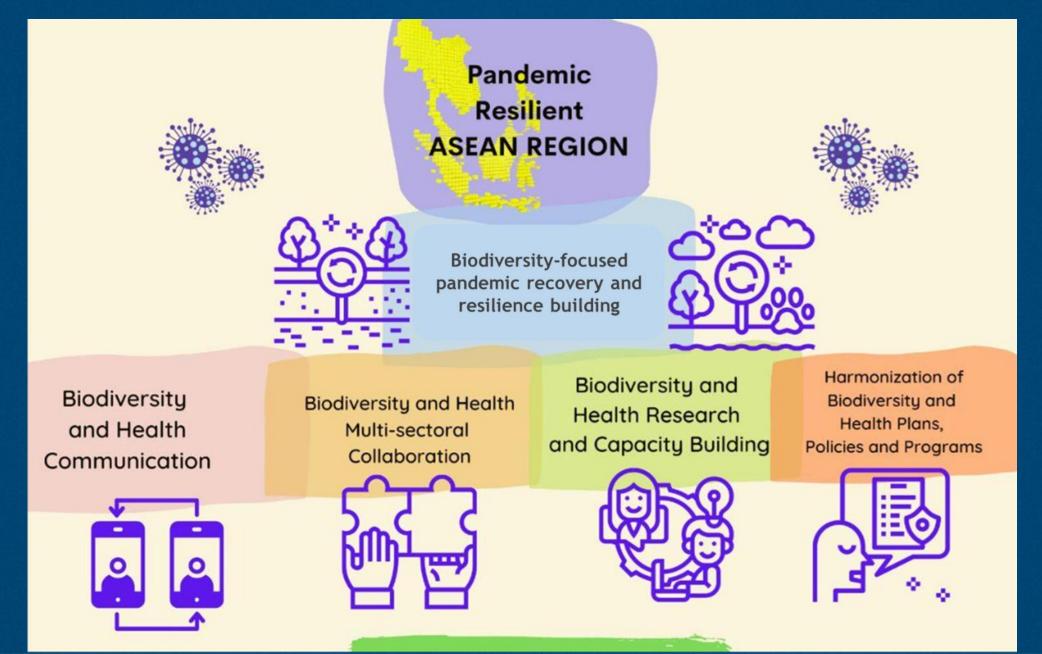
#### ASEAN and the COVID-19 Health Crisis



One landmark document adopted during the 37th ASEAN Summit in November 2020 was the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework (ACRF) which serves as the consolidated exit strategy for ASEAN to emerge resilient and strong from the COVID-19 crisis

The Framework now acts as our regional blueprint for crosssectoral and cross-pillar collaboration for recovery and resilience building.

#### ACB Framework of Action for recovery and building resilience to future pandemics



#### **BIODIVERSITY:**

#### **Addressing and Preventing Pandemics**



Deforestation
Habitat fragmentation / modification
Encroachment
Land use change

## Conserve wildlife and their habitats

Illicit wildlife trade should be addressed. Protected areas should also be increased, while ensuring that existing ones are effectively managed.

## Promote urban and agricultural landscapes to build resilience

Green spaces and agricultural landscapes provide ecosystems services that may improve air quality, promote protection from disasters, and offer havens for various species.

#### Ecosystems' Restoration

Restoring the ecosystems can bring back ecological stability

#### Adopt the "One Health" approach

Experts in health, the environment, and related disciplines should collaborate to address issues like food safety and control of zoonotic diseases.

### Enhance regional and subregional synergies

A crisis with this scale requires enhanced cooperation within the ASEAN region, among nations, and regional organisations.



#### **Biodiversity and Health**

#### Awareness raising and Capacity enhancement and initiatives



Biodiversity for Sustainable Development

#### Parallel Special Thematic Session 6 Health and Biodiversity



17 February 2016 Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre at CentralWorld, Bangkok, Thailand











Welcome to the Webinar

#### **Biodiversity and Preventing Future Pandemics**

20 May 2020 | 10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. (GMT+8)











COVID-19 situation in ASEAN Biodiversity and zoonoses

Health and Biodiversity in the Post-2020 Global



WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND ZOONOTIC DISEASES: HALTING SPECIES LOSS AND TACKLING PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE ASEAN



19 NOVEMBER 2020 | 10:00 (GMT+8) | Via ZOOM











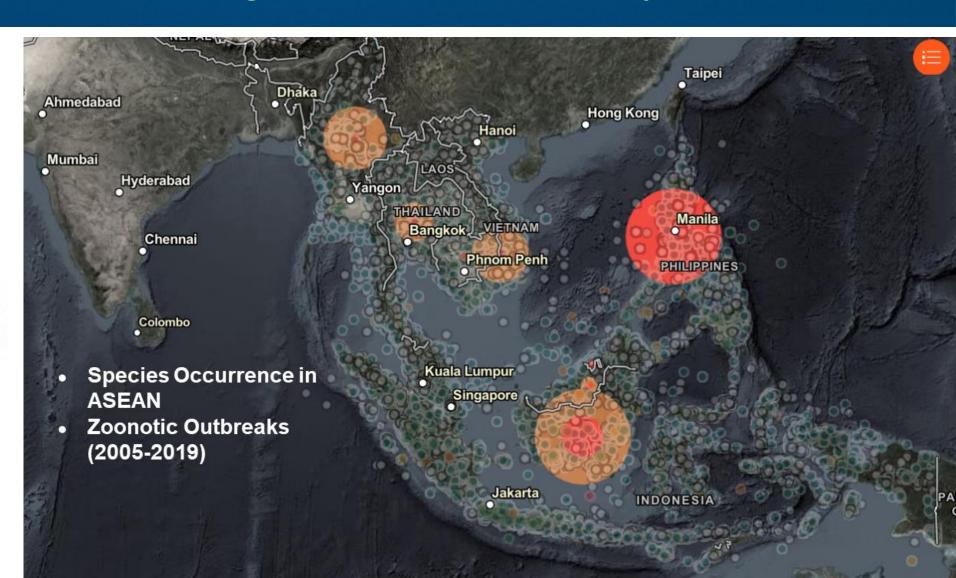
#### **Biodiversity and Health**

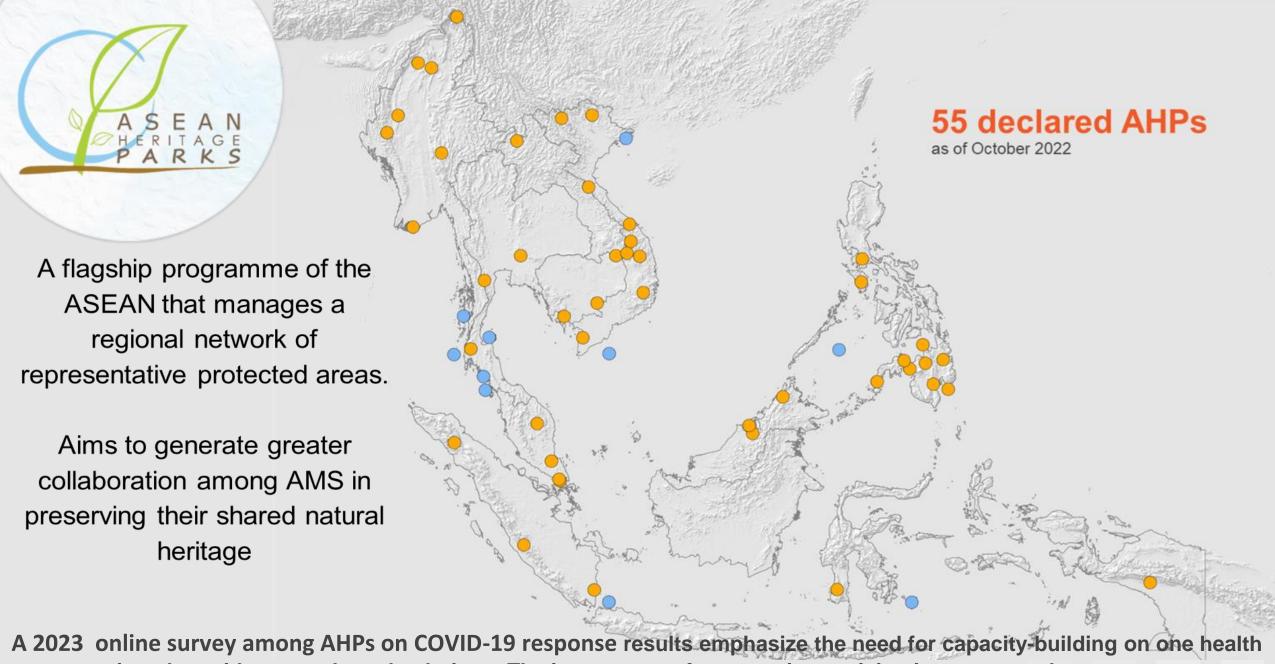
Information sharing and communicating the link between biodiversity and human health

#### ASEAN Biodiversity Dashboard









A 2023 online survey among AHPs on COVID-19 response results emphasize the need for capacity-building on one health programming alongside nature-based solutions. The importance of community participation on natural resource management and awareness-building on zoonoses is also highlighted.



7th ASEAN Heritage Parks Conference (AHP7), 1-3 November 2022

SESSION 1: Protected Areas, Human Health, and Preventing Future Pandemics

#### **Ways Forward**

Encourage the engagement of the environment sector in the One Health paradigm; increase the communication and advocacy efforts on the risks of zoonotic diseases; build resilience on future pandemics; and strengthen the importance of One Health approach and cross-sectoral collaboration among key stakeholders particularly in wildlife trade and in promoting nature-based solutions.



#### **Objectives of the study:**

- Identify current policy priorities and joint implementation possibilities in the Region across the sectors
- Identify best practices relating to knowledge use and implementation that can be appropriately replicated across the Region, with specific attention given to transboundary and collaborative arrangements
- Prepare a Policy Brief highlighting how the ACB may work with relevant ASEAN bodies.

#### **Emerging Themes**

based on the Assessment on Nexus between Biodiversity and Health, Food and Nutrition and Traditional Medicine in the AMS

Biodiversity plays a significant role in human nutrition through food production.

Biodiversity is a major resource for public health in the AMS in consideration of the region's megadiversity and rich cultural practices.

Human activities affects both the structure and functions of ecosystems and altering biodiversity. Non-communicable diseases emerge because of people's limited access to various ecosystem services.

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

An overarching framework to align inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration that integrates the complex relationships between human health, animal health, agriculture, wildlife, vectors, micro-organisms, environment and development.

ONE **HEALTH** 



The COVID-19 crisis underscores the need for future biodiversity planning to recognise the impact of biodiversity to various health and wellbeing needs of populations. This has direct implications on how National Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are designed and implemented and which stakeholder groups are consulted.

**BIODIVERSITY PLANNING AND HEALTH** 







#### **Biodiversity and Traditional Medicine**

Documented occurrence and use of medicinal plants in the ASEAN Region

#### **ASEAN Biodiversity Outlook 3 (ABO 2023)**

- Viet Nam developed a digital map of precious and rare medicinal plants in its central highlands.
- In Cambodia, the medicinal plants knowledge, innovations, and practices of the IPLCs are acknowledged and are regard as key partners essential for sustainable biodiversity management.
- In Indonesia, the Ministry of Agriculture **documented 66 types of medicinal plants among other horticulture products**. Ethnic groups have a diversity of traditional knowledge related to the use and management of biodiversity as food, medicine, and other materials sources.
- In Lao PDR, the Traditional Medicine Center of the Ministry of Health defined more than 16 areas for medicine
  plants preservation and management. Some provinces have developed a book collection of medicinal plants.
- In Peninsular Malaysia, traditional knowledge documentation among indigenous communities and the Malay people has been undertaken.
- Myanmar updated its biodiversity country profile for 1,540 medicinal plants. A recent publication on the medicinal
  plants of Myanmar by DeFillips and Krupnick (2018) highlighted the importance of plants as traditional medicines.
- Thailand has over 1,400 species of medicinal plants used in traditional medicine.





# Consultative Meeting for the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on One Health Initiative Bali, Indonesia / 15-17 March 2023

**ASEAN Leaders Declaration on One** Health Initiative, adopted last 10 May 2023 at the 42nd ASEAN Summit in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia (10 - 11 May 2023) noted the the devastating and multidimensional impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as other emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases including zoonoses, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and emphasised the importance of building upon successful experiences, best practices, and the progress made thus far in One Health initiatives and projects in ASEAN.

## Consultation Meetings for the Operationalisation of ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on One Health Initiative

5-7 July and 25-28 July

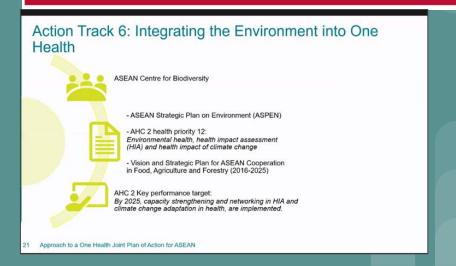
- Participation in the virtual Consultation Meeting - initial discussion on the planned ASEAN One Health Network and Joint Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on One Health Initiative
- Follow on discussions on these two important documents, an in-person Consultation Meeting is scheduled on 25-28 July 2023 in Bali, Indonesia

#### ONE HEALTH NETWORK PURPOSE\*

Cross-sectoral coordination mechanisms exist under ASEAN, more prominently in disaster management and humanitarian assistance, transboundary haze, ASEAN connectivity, and economic integration. The ASEAN Leaders' Declaration stated the commitment of AMS to establish ASEAN One Health Network supported by ASEAN secretariat. The ASEAN One Health Network will be established to enhance cross-sectoral communication, coordination, cooperation, and collaboration between Member States:

- a) Implementation and evaluation of ASEAN One Health Joint Plan of Action in AMS; and
- b) Facilitate and support coordination and collaborative activities related to One Health implementation in Southeast Asia.

\*As indicated in the ASEAN Leaders' Declaration (ALD) on One Health Initiative endorsed at the 42nd ASEAN Summit



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