



# Strategic Dialogue on Advancing Future Cooperation on Environmental Challenges in Southeast Asia

27-28 May 2026, Kawasaki, Japan

## SEACAI: Southeast Asia Climate & Clean Air Initiative



implemented by:

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra  
  
Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC



# SEACAI: Southeast Asia Climate & Clean Air Initiative)



## Countries:

ASEAN Countries

## Strategic partners:

- ASEAN
- Implementation partners include Departments of Pollution Control in cooperating selected countries.

## Timeframe:

2025 – 2028

## Overall Budget:

BMZ 4.0 million EUR and SDC 2.0 million EUR

## Objectives:

SEACAI works to enhance solution approaches to reduce climate-relevant air pollutants across ASEAN, with particular focus on the Greater Mekong Subregion.

## Approaches:

- **Policy support to ASEAN-wide SLCP cooperation (Regional Level)**
  - Strategic inputs for implementing ASEAN Haze Free Roadmap.
  - Knowledge inputs for an ASEAN SLCP mitigation process.
- **Promotion of SLCP mitigation at GMS level (Sub-regional Level)**
  - Support for regional committee on air quality management
  - Guidelines for cross-sector cooperation on SLCP mitigation
  - Concept for cross-country (emission) data management
- **Support packages at country level (National Level)**
  - Lessons learnt from demonstration pilots for region-wide knowledge exchange.
  - Up-scaling strategies for successful SLCP mitigation approaches.
  - Applied capacity development packages.

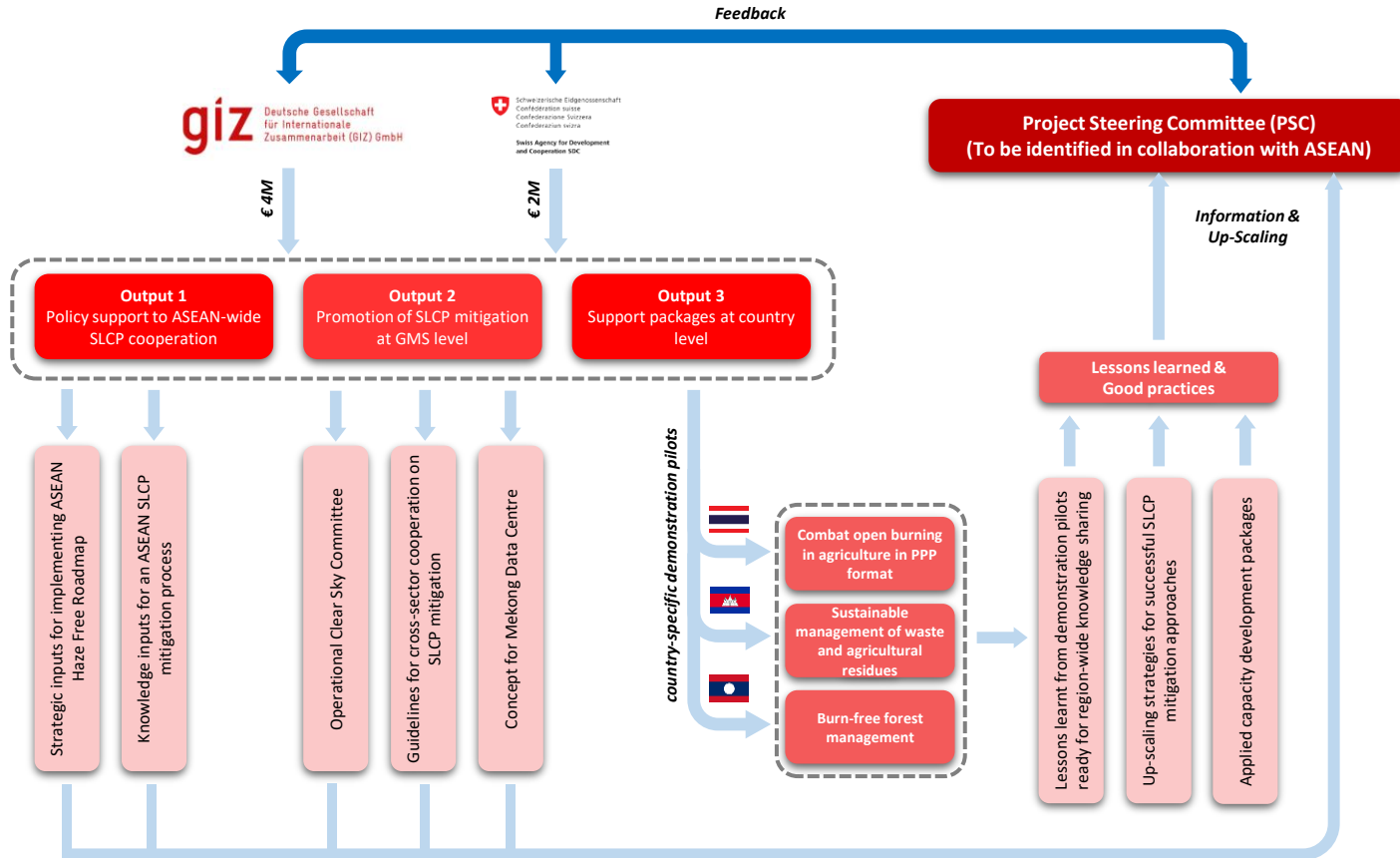


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# Structure of GIZ & SDC of ASEAN project

## “SEACAI: Southeast Asia Climate and Clean Air Initiative”



(Draft)

## Output 1: Policy support to ASEAN-wide SLCP cooperation



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Objective

ASEAN is supported on key approaches for SLCP mitigation.

### Activities

- Implementation support to ASEAN Haze-Free Roadmap 2023-2030 by alignment with selected support measures and lessons learnt from GMS (outputs 2 and 3).
- Implementation support through enabling access to finance from ASEAN Investment Framework (AIF) and from climate financing.
- Support to approaches for revising the Haze Free Agreement with a view to strengthening national implementation.
- Support of a Task Force process on SLCP mitigation with a cross-sector approach and with involvement of stakeholders from different ASEAN Working Groups. Providing knowledge inputs (best practices, studies etc.) to this process.
- Knowledge exchange with other Asian countries (JPN, KOR, CHN), and initiatives (RAPAP (UNESCAP), Global Methane Pledge (CCAC)) on experiences for SLCP mitigation.

### Partners

- ASEC
- ASEAN Working Groups
- CCAC
- Various Asian countries
- UNESCAP

Key  
Outputs

- Strategic inputs for implementing ASEAN Haze Free Roadmap.
- Knowledge inputs for an ASEAN SLCP mitigation process.

(Draft)

## Output 2: Promotion of SLCP mitigation at GMS level



Objective

Implementation-oriented processes for SLCP mitigation in GMS are strengthened.

### Activities

- Support establishment of a committee for Clear Sky Strategy implementation, including e.g. draft forest-fire roadmap.
- Support GMS cooperation process on SLCP mitigation (e.g. Guidelines for cross-sector cooperation, Declaration, “Zero-Burn-Strategy”, Roundtable).
- Establish Knowledge Hub on SLCP mitigation including science inputs, knowledge exchange from pilot demonstrations and training.
- Support programmes for awareness raising, e.g. regional activities for the International Day of Clear Air for Blue Skies and Social Media Campaigns
- Develop concept on Mekong Data Centre (MDC) for advanced data management and use (monitoring, inventories, daily reporting, forecasting, modelling, data sharing, data use for decision-making) including strategy for sustainable operation of MDC.

➔ Implementation support will require co-financing.

### Partners

- National agencies from GMS
- Knowledge providers
- Training institutions
- Community stakeholders
- Media operator
- Agencies and donors involved in monitoring and data processing / management (e.g. UNESCAP)

Key  
Outputs

- Operational Clear Sky Committee
- Guidelines for cross-sector cooperation on SLCP mitigation
- Concept for Mekong Data Centre

(Draft)  
**Output 3: Support packages at country level**



Objective

Experiences from country specific demonstration pilots are synthesized for ASEAN wide knowledge sharing.

Activities

- Conduct country-specific demonstration pilots: TH: combat open burning in agriculture in PPP format, LA: Burn-free forest management, KH: Sustainable management of waste and agricultural residues.
- Evaluate demonstration pilots and synthesize lessons learnt for up-scaling and ASEAN-wide knowledge sharing.
- Provide country-specific packages on multi-stakeholder capacity development: Awareness raising, trainings / curricula improvements, campaigns, knowledge inputs, up-scaling strategies.
- Support approaches for cooperating countries to include BC and methane into NDCs.

Partners

- Case specific Implementation partners in coop. countries.
- Knowledge providers.
- Training institutions, media.
- NGOs

Key  
Outputs

- Lessons learnt from demonstration pilots ready for region-wide knowledge sharing.
- Up-scaling strategies for successful SLCP mitigation approaches.
- Applied capacity development packages.

# PILOT COUNTRIES of GIZ SDC SEACAI



## GIZ SDC SEACAI

Strengthening the Implementation of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution through Collective and Actionable Initiatives

### PILOT COUNTRIES OF GIZ SDC SEACAI

-   THAILAND
-   LAOS
-   CAMBODIA



implemented by:



# PILOT COUNTRIES of GIZ SDC SEACAI

## Thailand

### Nakhon Nayok

Floating-rice straw & stubble burning

#### Approaches

- Burning management
- Sustainable agriculture
- Value-added to rice straw&stubble



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# PILOT COUNTRIES of GIZ SDC SEACAI

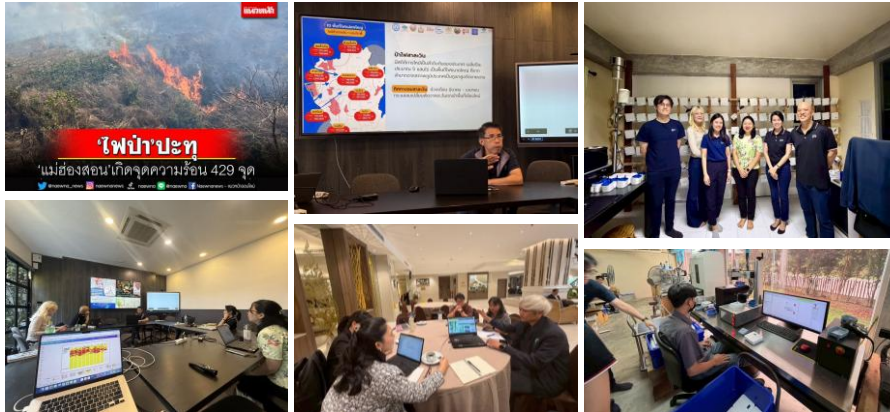
## Thailand

### Mae Hong Sorn

Forest fire

#### Approaches

- Firebreak
- Community-based solutions
- Sustainable agricultural promotion
- Others



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## Potential Ideas:

Pilot Area Identification in 6 provinces in Northern Lao PDR

Conduct a **qualitative field study** on agricultural cultivation and burning practices in 100+ villages (incl. Lao border districts to Thailand.)

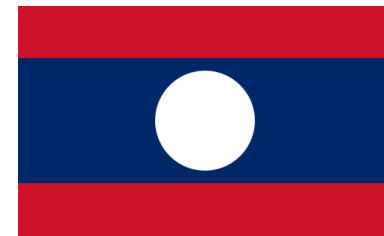
Collect insights on villagers' **burning practices, impacts, coping strategies, and incentives** to reduce burning (GIZ SEACAI).

Combine study findings with **PM2.5 sensor data and fire-pattern mapping** to identify pilot villages for SEACAI implementation (DOE, BEI)

Community Awareness & Behaviour-Change Measures

Roll out **campaigns on agricultural burning impacts** and alternatives (based on study findings, e.g. local authorities, RECOFTC, private sector)

Organise **village-level trainings** on practical no-burn techniques and **fire prevention**, including firebreak maintenance and community fire-response mechanisms (e.g. GIZ CliPAD)



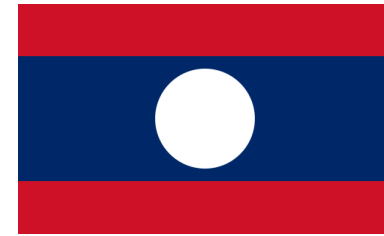
## Potential Ideas continued:

### Private-Sector Engagement on Crop Residue Management

Initiate partnerships with companies to develop and test alternatives to residue burning.

Pilot silaging, mulching, composting, and other residue-valorisation models (e.g. fodder, organic fertiliser, simple processing).

Explore market-based options for residue collection, transport, and utilisation in collaboration with early private-sector contacts (e.g. OFI)



## Potential Ideas continued:

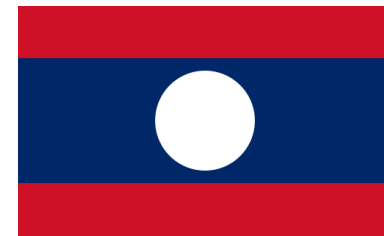
Government Capacity on Monitoring & Air Quality Management

Support Department of Environment (DoE) and the Biotechnology & Ecology Institute (BEI) in improving PM2.5 monitoring operations, data quality, and modelling capacities.

Provide technical inputs for the National Clean Air Action Plan, particularly on agricultural burning and SLCP mitigation.

Facilitate alignment with ASEAN Haze Agreement processes and strengthen Lao participation.

Explore options for black carbon integration into Lao MRV systems and future NDC updates, and support implementation of ASEAN Guidelines on the Reduction of Crop Burning.



## Potential Ideas:

Focus area: Reduce SLCPs by curbing open burning of household waste and agricultural residues.

Geographies (TBD): Rural districts in north-western provinces

Community engagement and youth involvement:

Objective: Shift norms from “burn” to “no-burn”

Approach: Co-designed village no-burn commitments, community-based solutions, school/pagoda involvement, simple household guidance and community trainings, youth participation in village meetings: Youth as driving force

Expected results: Increased awareness, early reductions in visible burning, stronger community ownership



## Potential Ideas continued:

Waste segregation and valorization:

Objective: Waste segregation and sustainable residue management

Approach: Composting on household and community level, convert agro-industrial wastes into value added products, explore premiums and traceability where feasible

Expected results: Measurable diversion of organic waste streams to dumpsites and reduction of open burning, reduced methane/black carbon risk



## Potential Ideas continued:

Health-led awareness campaign:

Objective: Using healthcare workers and midwives as trusted messengers.

Approach: Dedicated training to HCW and clinic counseling, simple air-quality boards, health-related cartoon/comic book for distribution in hospitals, information material for midwives for dissemination

Expected results: Increased trust and message recall, mothers-to-be as multipliers



# GIZ SDC SEACAI Project implementation July 2025 - June 2026

Activities during GIZ SFF AQM&CC project

April 2023

Trilateral Consultation on Transboundary Haze Pollution



May 2023

GIZ SFF AQM&CC had organized CLEAR Sky Strategy WS in Chiang Mai, Thailand



July 2023

Submitted the draft of "Joint Plan of Action - CLEAR Sky Strategy (2023 - 2030)"



Oct 2024

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of Natural Resources and Environment of Thailand, Lao PDR, and Myanmar Join Hands in Launching the Joint Plan of Action - CLEAR Sky Strategy

Aug 2025

To support CLEAR Sky Strategy WS in Chiang Rai by PCD and TEI



Nov-Dec 2025

- To organize a session at CLEAN AIR WEEK  
- To contribute policy insights during the regional dialogue on tackling transboundary haze in ASEAN.



Jan 2026

CLEAR Sky Strategy TF meeting in Vientiane, Lao PDR



Feb 2026

Potential pilot-area visit in Nakhon Nayok



March 2026

- Better Air Quality 2026  
- GAP & Traceability WS under CLEAR Sky Strategy for Lao PDR in Luang Prabang



April 2026

Thailand & Cambodia National Planning Workshop + Site visit in Cambodia



May 2026

GAP & Traceability WS under CLEAR Sky Strategy for Myanmar in Chiang Mai, Thailand

June 2026

Lao PDR National Planning Workshop  
Regional Planning WS in Vientiane, Lao PDR

Upcoming activity



implemented by:

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



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# SEACAI

## Southeast Asia Climate & Clean Air Initiative

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