Approved by the PSC on 17 September 2026

SEA-MaP
SOUTHEAST ASIA REGIONAL PROGRAM ON COMBATING MARINE PLASTICS

Synthesis Document and Implementation Roadmap

Synthesis Document of Key Recommendations prepared by the SEA-MaP Project

Date: September 2026

An ASEAN project supported by the World Bank

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Executive Summary

Program Scope

The Southeast Asia Regional Program on Combating Marine Plastics (SEA-MaP) is a five-year initiative (2022-2027) implemented by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with support from the World Bank. SEA-MaP produced twelve technical deliverables spanning resource mobilization for plastics circularity, financing mechanism for solid waste management, extended producer responsibility (EPR), single-use plastic (SUP) phase-out, packaging standards, plastic waste trade, marine debris baseline assessment, common monitoring frameworks, behavior change, training, knowledge sharing and regional innovation and investments.

This *Synthesis Document and Implementation Roadmap* consolidates findings across all twelve work streams into a single, actionable framework to support the ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME) and ASEAN Member States (AMS) in implementing the ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris (RAP) beyond 2025. The Implementation Roadmap offers specific, measurable, actionable, reasonable, and time-bound (SMART) recommendations for ASEAN as a regional body and for each ASEAN Member State, depending on their current readiness tier, over the next 5 years post SEA-MaP to continue progress on the RAP and to advance beyond it based on the consolidated and streamlined recommendations of all SEA-MaP outputs. Beyond supporting continued implementation, the Synthesis Document is also intended to inform the future direction of the RAP: it consolidates the evidence, the consolidated recommendations and the lessons generated under SEA-MaP so that they can feed directly into ASEAN's consideration of a successor or next-phase Regional Action Plan for the period beyond 2025.

Five Strategic Themes

Across the twelve SEA-MaP deliverables, 210 recommendations were analyzed and organized into five strategic themes and 28 subgroups. These themes reflect the systemic conditions required for sustainable plastic management across the full lifecycle of plastic products and provide a framework for prioritizing future regional and national actions.

- **Build Systems Over Projects**: Invest in governance, data, and delivery systems, including infrastructure, monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), adaptive policy[1], and behavior change as key operational priorities.
- **Systems-level Governance:** Build cross-ministerial coordination, enforcement, and policy coherence architecture as a precondition for the effective delivery of all other themes.
- **Systems-level Finance**: Align financing across the full delivery chain — from capital investment through operations, enforcement, and long-term sustainability.
- **Inclusive Systems**: Treat the integration of informal sector workers, women, micro-small-medium-enterprises (MSMEs), and vulnerable communities as a system performance requirement — not an equity add-on — because inclusive systems achieve higher collection coverage and more durable compliance.
- **Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally**: Collaborate on regional public goods that reduce compliance costs and generate collective market scale no single AMS can achieve alone, such as harmonized standards, shared data, mutual recognition frameworks, and comparable monitoring.

[1] "Adaptive policy systems embed structured review mechanisms, evidence-based adjustment authority, and dynamic sequencing into the design of regulatory and governance frameworks — ensuring that policy remains effective as implementation evidence accumulates and conditions change." OECD (2019). *Regulatory Policy Outlook*

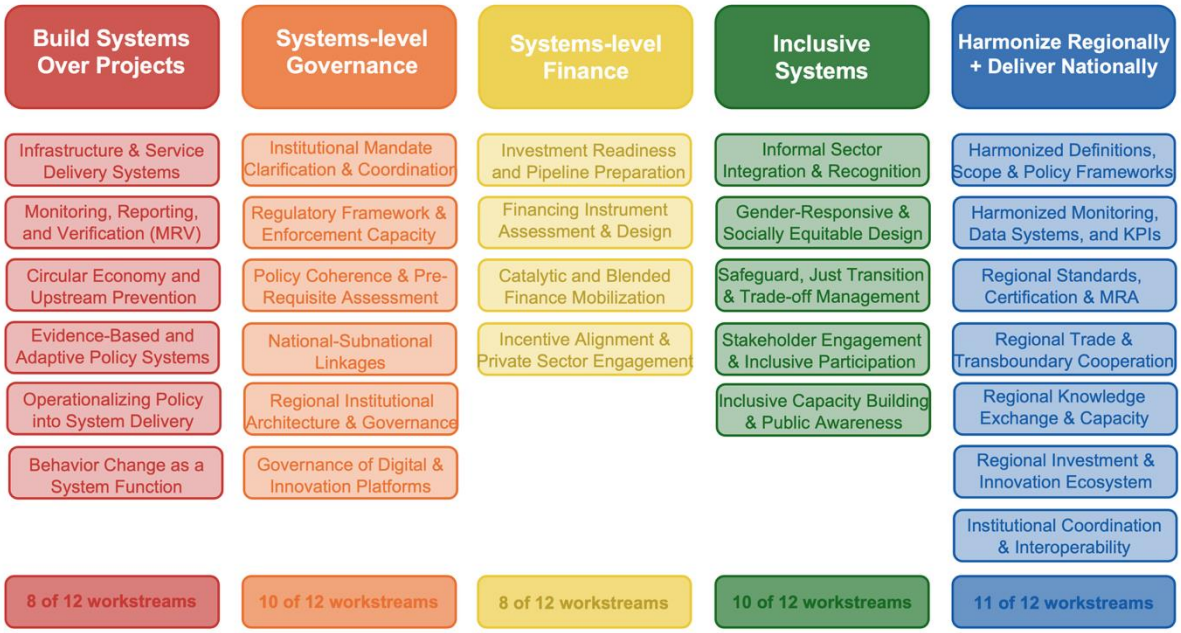


Figure 1 Five Strategic Themes and 28 Sub-Groups of the Proposed Synthesized Framework of SEA-MaP Recommendations

Three Headline Findings

The analysis has resulted in three critical findings that may help shape future regional and national efforts to address plastic marine debris.

1. Nationally adapted plans are central to a regional agenda.
2. Three enabling interventions can provide the structural backbone to accelerate delivery of all other recommendations.
3. SEA-MaP strengthens and advances the ASEAN policy agenda.

1. Nationally adapted plans are central to a regional agenda. SEA-MaP has developed a differentiated implementation framework that responds to the unique contexts of AMS. Drawing on six criteria[2] — policy and institutional foundations, delivery capacity, enforcement and compliance, monitoring and data systems, financing conditions, and ability to scale beyond pilots — three distinct national implementation approaches are recommended that reflect current institutional capacity and the actions most likely to unlock system change at that stage.[3]

- ***Foundational Approach:*** Early RAP alignment. Emerging cross-ministerial coordination. Limited waste service coverage. Heavy dependence on donor financing. *Foundational governance actions have the greatest potential for positive impact.*
- ***Transitional Approach:*** Strong policy intent. Many pilots at municipal level. Partial enforcement systems. Limitations in converting successful pilots into programs. *Systems integration actions have the greatest potential for positive impact.*
- ***Advanced Approach:*** Clear policy mandates. Functioning enforcement. Strong data systems. Ability to scale successful models and lead regionally. *Finance mobilization and regional leadership actions have the greatest potential for positive impact.*

[2] National implementation assessment criteria have been drawn from the methodology adopted in the SEA-MaP Resource Mobilization Strategy to ensure coherence between the two workstreams.

[3] National implementation Approaches reflect system functionality at the time of assessment.

2. Three enabling interventions can provide the structural backbone to accelerate delivery of all other recommendations. These interventions apply across all national implementation Approaches, all strategic themes, and all SEA-MaP deliverables. Addressing these three areas through sustained, collective governance is the single highest-return action available to ASEAN and its Member States — and the foundation on which all other SEA-MaP recommendations depend.

- ***Cross-ministerial coordination:*** Developing mechanisms for collaboration across environment, finance, trade, and local government bodies creates the institutional and operational cohesion through which all other recommendations can be consistently planned, resourced, and delivered.
- ***Lifecycle financing:*** Aligning financing across the full delivery chain — from capital investment through operations, enforcement, and monitoring — ensures that systems continue to function after project cycles end.
- ***Local capacity building for service delivery:*** Strengthening the governance linkages, technical skills, and operational systems that connect national policy commitments to local government delivery is the mechanism through which regional agreements become real services for communities and measurable reductions in marine plastic pollution.

3. SEA-MaP strengthens and advances the ASEAN policy agenda. The SEA-MaP Strategic Recommendations Framework is designed not as a standalone instrument but as a delivery vehicle for commitments ASEAN has already made. By consolidating 210 recommendations into five strategic themes, the Framework gives AMS a structured, phased means of advancing the **ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris (2021–2025)** beyond its initial period — translating the RAP's value-chain actions on reduction, collection and value creation into sequenced, nationally adaptable approaches. The Framework contributes to the operationalization of all five strategic priorities of the **ASEAN Framework for Circular Economy for the AEC**, particularly its priorities on harmonised standards, circular trade facilitation, and sustainable finance. In protecting coastal and marine ecosystems from plastic leakage, it advances the resource-value and ecosystem-resilience objectives of the **ASEAN Blue Economy Framework**, and its emphasis on cross-pillar governance connects the marine plastics agenda to the Blue Economy's integrated, cross-sectoral approach. Taken together, these contributions position the Framework as a concrete expression of **ASEAN Community Vision 2045** and its accompanying Strategic Plans, which elevate sustainable growth "on land and in water" and cross-pillar cooperation as defining features of the Community — demonstrating that combating marine plastics is not only an environmental undertaking but an economic and community-building one.

Beyond the region, the knowledge, tools and implementation experience generated under SEA-MaP — spanning EPR design, harmonized definitions and monitoring, and financing mechanisms — position ASEAN to contribute practical, evidence-based perspectives to ongoing international discussions on plastic pollution, including the Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee (INC) towards an international legally binding instrument (ILBI) on plastic pollution.

This *Synthesis Document and Implementation Roadmap* is organized into five sections: Section 1 describes the scope of work and analytical approach. Section 2 presents the coherency mapping of SEA-MaP deliverables. Section 3 presents the national implementation Approaches, followed by Section 4 on regional priority actions. Section 5 details means of implementation including budget and financial sustainability; monitoring, evaluation and verification; risk assessment and mitigation measures; communication and stakeholder engagement; and institutional anchoring.

1 Table of Contents

1. 8

1.1 8
1.2 9
1.3 9
1.4 9
1.5 10

2 11

2.1 12

3 13

3.1 14
3.2 14
3.3 16
3.3.1 16
3.3.2 19
3.3.3 21
3.4 23
3.5 24

4 25

4.1 25
4.2 26

5 28

5.1 28
5.2 31
5.3 33
5.4 34
5.5 37
5.6 43
5.7 47

ADDENDUMS **48**

TABLES

TABLE 1 SEA-MAP DELIVERABLES INCLUDED IN THE COHERENCY MAPPING AND SYNTHESIS 12
TABLE 2 SEA-MAP SYNTHESIS OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS BY KEY THEME AND SUB-GROUP 13
TABLE 3 NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACHES 14
TABLE 4 NATIONAL PRIORITIZATION FRAMEWORK 15
TABLE 5 NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACHES SUMMARY BY PHASED PROGRAMMING 16
TABLE 6 FOUNDATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH - IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS. 17
TABLE 7 FOUNDATIONAL NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH 18
TABLE 8 TRANSITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH - IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS. SEE TABLE 1 FOR SEA-MAP WORKSTREAM ID 19
TABLE 9 TRANSITIONAL NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH 20
TABLE 10 ADVANCED IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH - IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS. SEE TABLE 1 FOR SEA-MAP WORKSTREAM ID 21
*DETAILED GUIDANCE AND LINKAGES TO THE ORIGINAL SEA-MAP DELIVERABLE FOR EACH ACTION IS PROVIDED IN ADDENDUM B. TABLE 11 ADVANCED NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH 22
TABLE 12 IMMEDIATE (PHASE 1) AND STRATEGIC (PHASE 2) PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EACH NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH 23
TABLE 13 REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH - PHASE 1 PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS 25
TABLE 14 REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH 27
TABLE 15 REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACHES CONSIDERING HIGH- AND LIMITED- RESOURCE SCENARIOS 29
TABLE 16 SUMMARY OF BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION SCENARIOS 29
TABLE 17 PHASED FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY APPROACH 30
TABLE 18 UPTAKE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK 31
TABLE 19 ILLUSTRATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR REGIONAL OUTCOMES AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 32
TABLE 20 RISK ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK 33
TABLE 21 TOP 10 RISK FOR SEA-MAP UPTAKE 33
TABLE 22 KEY MESSAGES BY PROGRAM THEMES 35
TABLE 23 CONSOLIDATED STAKEHOLDER MAP 36
TABLE 24 ASEAN POLICY COHERENCY MAPPING 38
TABLE 25 POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR ASCC AND AEC COLLABORATION 42
TABLE 26 POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR STRENGTHENED INTER-BODY ASEAN COORDINATION 45
TABLE 27 ILLUSTRATIVE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS BY NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH 46
TABLE 28 POST-PROJECT INSTITUTIONAL ANCHORING 47

Figures

FIGURE 1 FIVE STRATEGIC THEMES AND 28 SUB-GROUPS OF THE PROPOSED SYNTHESIZED FRAMEWORK OF SEA-MAP RECOMMENDATIONS 3
FIGURE 2 RAP REGIONAL ACTIONS SUPPORTED BY SEA-MAP 8
FIGURE 3 RECOMMENDATION FOR PRIORITIZATION OF STRATEGIC THEMES BASED UPON NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACHES 16
FIGURE 4 IMPLEMENTATION SEQUENCING BY NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH 24
FIGURE 5 INTEGRATION OF SEA-MAP RECOMMENDATION FRAMEWORK INTO ASEAN INSTRUMENTS 40

ACCRONYMS

ACCSQ	ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality
ACTF-BE	ASEAN Coordinating Task Force on Blue Economy
AEC	ASEAN Economic Community
AMS	ASEAN Member States
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AWGCME	ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment
CAPEX	Capital Expenditure
DRS	Deposit Refund System
e.g.	Exempli gratia (for example)
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility
FG-CE	Focal Group on Circular Economy (ASEAN)
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points
i.e.	Id est (in other words)
ILBI	International Legally Binding Instrument
INC	International Negotiation Committee
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MRV	Monitoring, reporting and verification
MSMEs	Micro, small and medium enterprises
N/A	Not Applicable
NGO	Non-governmental organization
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OPEX	Operational Expenditure
PRO	Producer Responsibility Organization
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SUP	Single Use Plastics
USD	United States Dollar

1. Introduction and Analytical Framework

1.1 Program Context

SEA-MaP aims to support the implementation of the ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris (RAP) 2021–2025, as demonstrated in Figure 3. The RAP comprises fourteen *Regional Actions* categorized into four Framework Components (i) policy support and planning; (ii) research, innovation and capacity building; (iii) public awareness, education and outreach; and (iv) private sector engagement.

SEA-MaP produced twelve technical deliverables over five years. Each deliverable addressed one or more *RAP Regional Actions*. Each deliverable generated its own stakeholder engagement plans, communications materials, and implementation guidance. By the close of the program, these outputs collectively constitute a comprehensive technical evidence base for the ASEAN region — but one that requires synthesis to be used coherently, outlined in Figure 1.

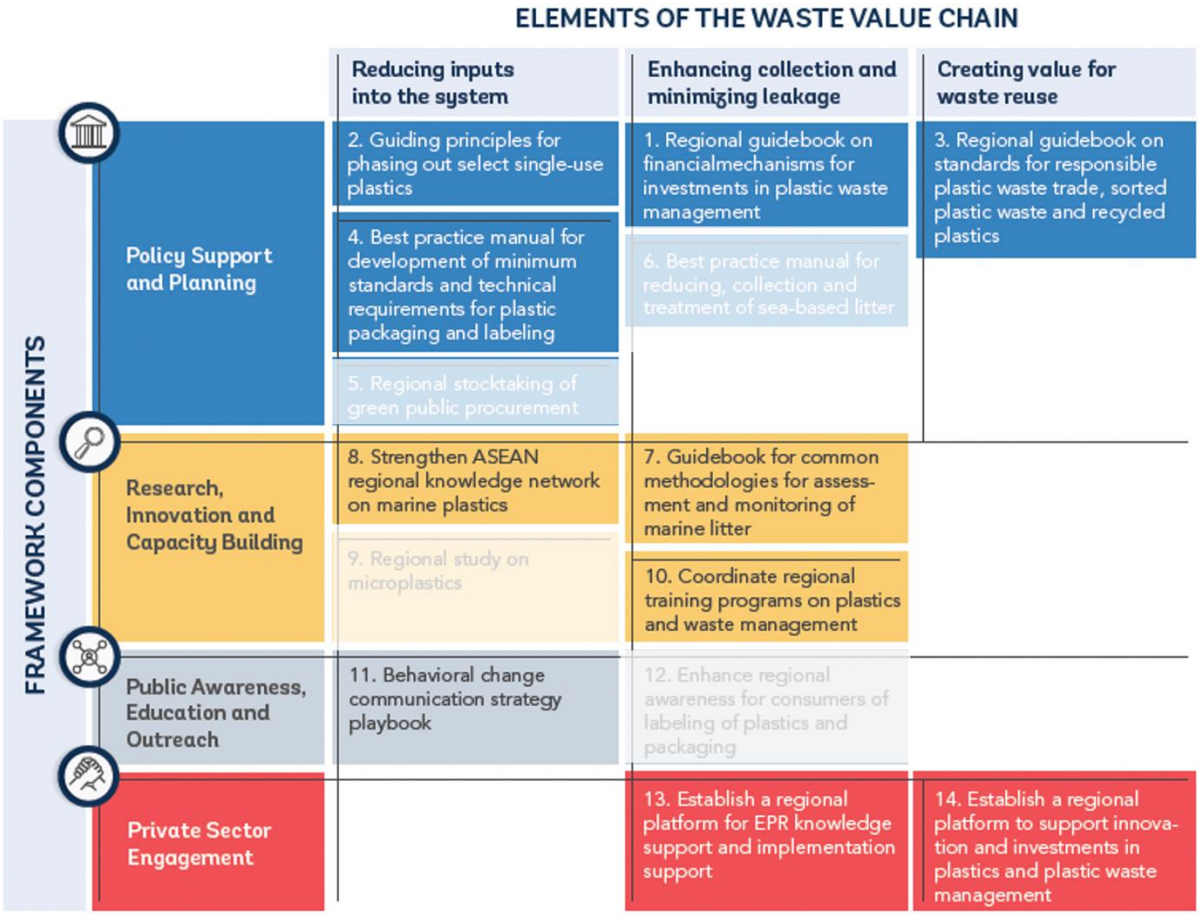


Figure 2 RAP Regional Actions Supported by SEA-MaP

1.2 Objective of the Synthesis Document of Key SEA-MaP Recommendations

The objective of the *Synthesis Document of Key SEA-MaP Recommendations* is to provide a coherent and streamlined framework to guide the long-term uptake, integration, and lasting impact of SEA-MaP deliverables in a streamlined and coordinated manner, beyond the project's completion.

The assignment is structured around two interrelated deliverables: (1) a *Landscape Analysis and Risk Assessment* and (2) a *Synthesis Document*. The two deliverables are not standalone outputs but critical analytical and consultative inputs. They represent successive steps in a two-phased development process. Findings from the *Landscape Analysis* and guidance received during Stakeholder Consultations and written comments provided to the *Landscape Analysis* and the draft *Synthesis Document* will directly inform and be fully integrated into the final *Synthesis Document and Implementation Roadmap*.

This *Synthesis Document* aims to ensure that the knowledge products and outputs developed under the SEA-MaP are utilized and accessible to AMS, and that its uptake is supported and maintained operationally including an institutional arrangement.

The aim is to support AMS to prioritize actions and consider a phased implementation approach based on the aspects that will have the greatest impact and will contribute to multiple objectives and multiple actions of the *ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combatting Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2021-2025).*

1.3 Purpose and Scope of this Document

This *Synthesis Document* has three purposes. First, it consolidates the 210 individual recommended actions from across all twelve work streams into a structured prioritization framework of 28 consolidated actions per national implementation Approaches. Second, it provides indicative budget, M&E framework, risk assessment, and communication frameworks at the national and regional levels to support implementation planning. Third, it maps the recommendation architecture against four regional policy frameworks to assess coherency and identify gaps.

The document is intended as a reference for AWGCME, development partners, and donor agencies planning the post-2025 phase of ASEAN's marine debris agenda.

The development of the *Synthesis Document* has been guided by the recommended Sustainability Approach under the SEA-MaP *Project Operations Manual*, which places emphasis on strengthening coordination across AMS (discussed in section 5.6 Governance and Institutional Anchoring); building on existing ASEAN institutional arrangements (discussed in section 5.5 Policy Coherency Mapping); institutionalizing regional platforms within the existing ASEAN structure and strengthening ASEC capacity to sustain the platforms (addressed by the two platform specific workstreams); and developing capacity for partnership-building and fundraising (addressed in the Resource Mobilization Strategy). In this way, the Synthesis Document aims to provide a sustainability strategy for carrying the recommendations of the SEA-MaP project forward within existing ASEAN structures.

1.4 Methodology

The Synthesis Document was developed through a structured, evidence-based process designed to consolidate the full body of technical work produced under SEA-MaP into a single, coherent framework. The analytical approach was informed by an accompanying Landscape Analysis and Risk Assessment and coherency mapping exercise that reviewed the program's 12 technical deliverables and their 210 recommendations, grouping them into five strategic

themes and 28 supporting subgroups, based upon a heat-map approach to identify common trends and frequency of topics and terms. Each consolidated recommendation was assessed for its applicability to differing national contexts, calibrated against three system profiles — foundational, transitional and advanced — to reflect the varying capacities of ASEAN Member States.

The Synthesized Recommendation Framework was assessed for alignment with key ASEAN frameworks including the ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris, the ASEAN Frameworks for Circular and Blue Economy, and ASEAN Community Vision 2045. The methodology drew on primary sources comprising the SEA-MaP deliverables themselves — including work on extended producer responsibility, single-use plastics, plastic waste trade, financing mechanisms, monitoring and behavior change — alongside relevant ASEAN policy instruments and frameworks.

The findings were refined through an iterative series of stakeholder consultations with the Project Steering Committee and PSC-nominated national experts, representatives of ASEAN Member States, and the ASEAN Secretariat, with the World Bank participating as observer and the Project Management Unit and Regional Implementation Support Unit providing technical facilitation; feedback gathered through interactive polling, guided discussion and written submissions at each consultation was systematically incorporated into successive drafts to ensure the framework's relevance, feasibility and alignment with national and regional priorities.

1.5 Document Structure

This *Synthesis Document and Implementation Roadmap* is organized into five sections that follow the logical analytical framework used in the synthesization process. Sections 3, 4 and 5 are intended as reference and decision-support sections rather than prescriptive plans. At the regional level in particular, their content is offered as areas for further ASEAN consideration — supporting discussion and planning, identifying implementation considerations and lessons from SEA-MaP, and highlighting potential implications for broader regional cooperation on marine debris.

Section 1 — Introduction and Analytical Framework The introduction establishes that SEA-MaP's twelve technical deliverables, each produced by different teams for different primary audiences, collectively constitute a strong evidence base that risks remaining fragmented without synthesis.

Section 2 — Coherency Mapping of All SEA-MaP Recommendations The synthesization process began by identifying five key themes and 28 sub-groups that all 210 individual recommendations produced under SEA-MaP have been mapped to. The result is a coherent and actionable framework for consolidated effort that collectively responds to the common requirements surfaced across deliverables.

Section 3 — National Implementation Approaches The central insight of this section is that national implementation of SEA-MaP recommended actions is highly contextualized on national circumstances and therefore adaptive over time. Six assessment criteria (policy and institutional foundations, delivery capacity, enforcement and compliance, monitoring and data systems, financing conditions, ability to scale beyond pilots) were [4] to define three national implementation Approaches: foundational, transitional, and advanced.

[4] National implementation Approach assessment criteria were adopted from the SEA-Map Resource Mobilization Strategy to ensure coherency between the two workstreams.

Section 4 — Regional Priority Actions A regional prioritization framework was adopted based upon existing regional commitments and AMS guidance on the post-RAP agenda. Six flagship priorities demonstrate capacity to produce public goods that no single AMS can generate alone and whose value increases with the number of participating AMS. Of these, harmonized definitions are the most significant.

Section 5 — Means of Implementation: describes the interdependent mix of financial resources, technology development and transfer, capacity-building, inclusive and equitable trade, regional integration, and the enabling environment required to implement the recommended implementation Approaches. This includes:

- **Budget and Financial Sustainability:** An indicative budget framework is provided for each national implementation Approach to ensure sustained investments into coordination, enforcement, monitoring, and operations and maintenance functions that drive system performance over project outcomes. In addition, a two-scenario budget framework is presented for regional priority actions: (i) a high-budget scenario with each AMS providing funds for regional coordination and (ii) a low-budget scenario with each AMS offers in-kind contributions toward the regional harmonization agenda.

- **Monitoring, Evaluation, and Uptake Assessment:** An uptake framework is provided to measure the progression of influence and impact that a SEA-MaP deliverable may have at the regional and national levels. The framework assesses access, adoption, integration, piloting, and scale-up.

- **Risk Assessment and Mitigation Measures:** A risk assessment framework identifies key risks an impact categories, offering practical mitigation measures based on the review of comparable regional programs.[5]

- **Communications and Stakeholder Engagement:** This *Synthesis Document* offers a five-theme message architecture that provides a unified narrative structure for communicating SEA-MaP outcomes, while aligning deliverable-specific messaging into a coherent regional agenda.

- **Institutional Anchoring:** An inter-body coordination architecture is proposed to support inter-ministerial collaboration and joint implementation of key SEA-MaP recommendations.

[5] Regional marine debris programs with publicly available performance assessments were reviewed to draw insights on potential risks. Regional projects considered include (i) Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA); (ii) Marine Environment Protection of the South-East Asian Seas (MEPSEAS); (iii) USAID Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO); (iv) ADB Promoting Action on Plastic Pollution from Source to Sea in Asia and the Pacific; (v) PEMSEA Project on Reducing Marine Plastics in East Asian Seas Region; (vi) GEF ISLANDS Pacific; (vii) WWF Plastic Smart Cities; (viii) EU SWITCH-Asia.

2 Coherence Mapping of SEA-MaP Recommendations

Objective of the coherence mapping of all SEA-MaP project deliverables: consolidate key findings and recommendations into a coherent and streamlined framework.

ID	Deliverable
D1	Resource Mobilization Strategy
D2	Regional Guidebook on Financial Mechanisms for Investments in Plastic Waste Management
D3	Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Handbook and Customized Toolkit
D4	Regional Guidebook on Phasing Out Single-use Plastics
D5	Guidebook on Standards for Responsible Plastic Waste Trade, Sorted & Recycled Plastics
D6	Best Practice Manual on Standards for Plastic Packaging and Labelling
D7	Regional Baseline Report (including on policies)
D8	Guidebook for Common Methodologies for Assessment and Monitoring of Marine Litter
D9	Regional Training Program on Plastic Waste Management
D10	Regional Behavior Change & Communication (BCC) Strategy Playbook
D11	Regional Platform for Knowledge Exchange and Partnerships
D12	Regional Platform for Innovation & Investments in Plastics and Plastic Waste Management

Table 1 SEA-MaP Deliverables Included in the Coherency Mapping and Synthesis

The analysis documents 210 recommended actions generated across the 12 SEA-MaP workstreams. The detailed mapping of all SEA-MaP Recommendations is provided in Addendum A. The first step in the synthesization process organized individual recommendations into key themes:

- **Build Systems Over Projects**: Invest in governance, data, and delivery systems, including infrastructure, monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), adaptive policy[6], and behavior change as key operational priorities.
- **Systems-level Governance:** Build cross-ministerial coordination, enforcement, and policy coherence as a precondition for the effective delivery of all other themes.
- **Systems-level Finance**: Align financing across the full delivery chain — from capital investment through operations, enforcement, and long-term sustainability.
- **Inclusive Systems**: Treat the integration of informal sector workers, women, micro-small-medium-enterprises (MSMEs), and vulnerable communities as a system performance requirement to achieve higher collection coverage and compliance.
- **Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally**: Collaborate on regional public goods that reduce compliance costs and generate collective market scale no single AMS can achieve alone, such as harmonized standards, shared data, mutual recognition frameworks, and comparable monitoring.

2.1 Streamlined Set of Strategic and Actionable Recommendations

Recommendations were further streamlined into 28 sub-groups that collectively present a coherent and comprehensive framework for action on addressing plastic marine debris, as presented below. Detailed definitions for each sub-group and the full mapping of each recommended action to a sub-group is presented in Addendum A.

[6] "Adaptive policy systems embed structured review mechanisms, evidence-based adjustment authority, and dynamic sequencing into the design of regulatory and governance frameworks — ensuring that policy remains effective as implementation evidence accumulates and conditions change." OECD (2019). *Regulatory Policy Outlook*

Summary: Number of Recommended Actions per Sub-Group		SEA-MaP Workstreams Referenced (ID)*												
Sub-Group	**Sub-Group Label**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**# of Actions**
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects														
1-A	Infrastructure and Service Delivery Systems	2		1		1				7		1		**12**
1-B	Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification (MRV) Infrastructure	2	1	1	4			4	2					**14**
1-C	Circular Economy and Upstream Prevention			1			2			6				**9**
1-D	Evidence-Based and Adaptive Policy Systems		1		5				1					**7**
1-E	Operationalizing Policy into System Delivery				1			2						**3**
1-F	Behavior Change as a System Function										7			**7**
Theme 2: System-level Interventions Require Systems-level Governance														
2-A	Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination	1	2		2					5	1			**11**
2-B	Regulatory Framework Strengthening & Enforcement			2	1		4					1		**8**
2-C	Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisite Assessment		3		4			1						**8**
2-D	Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages	1			2			1	1					**5**
2-E	Regional Institutional framework & Governance Bodies						2	3						**5**
2-F	Governance of Digital & Innovation Platforms												5	**5**
Theme 3: Systems-level Finance Across the Full Lifecycle														
3-A	Investment Readiness & Pipeline Preparation	2			1					8				**11**
3-B	Financing Instrument Assessment, Selection, and Design		6											**6**
3-C	Catalytic and Blended Finance Mobilization	1	1				1						9	**12**
3-D	Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement			1	1		1						4	**7**
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance														
4-A	Informal Sector Integration and Recognition					3				8				**12**
4-B	Gender-Responsive and Socially Equitable Design										1			**1**
4-C	Safeguards, Just Transitions, and Trade-off Management		1		2									**3**
4-D	Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation		2		4		1	1			2			**10**
4-E	Inclusive Capacity Building and Public Awareness						2	2	2			1		**7**
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally														
5-A	Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks			3			3	3						**9**
5-B	Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs			2				2	2			1		**7**
5-C	Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition			3		1	4							**8**
5-D	Regional Trade and Transboundary Cooperation			2		4								**6**
5-E	Regional Knowledge Exchange & Capacity Sharing Infrastructure.			1			5	1				1		**8**
5-F	Regional Investment and Innovation Ecosystem	1												**1**
5-G	ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability					1	6	1						**8**
	TOTAL	**10**	**17**	**18**	**27**	**10**	**31**	**21**	**8**	**34**	**11**	**5**	**18**	**210**

Note: SEA-MaP Deliverable IDs are provided in Table 1 SEA-MaP Deliverables Included in the Coherency Mapping and Synthesis **Numbers in cell represent the number of individual actions consolidated in the synthesized sub-group.*

Table 2 SEA-MaP Synthesis of Recommended Actions by Key Theme and Sub-group

3 National Implementation Approaches

Objective of the set of strategic and actionable recommendations for post-project management of SEA-MaP's products and deliverables reflecting ASEAN and AMS priorities and institutional and financial capacities. **These non-binding recommendations** aim to ensure that SEA-MaP deliverables remain functional, accessible, and aligned with regional and national policy agendas beyond the project period, prioritizing actions based on system impact, institutional readiness, and strategic value.

To determine AMS-level actionable recommendations, a three-step methodology was used.

- Firstly, 'National Implementation Approaches' were defined to characterize implementation priorities and capacities based upon national contexts.
- Secondly, a 'Prioritization Framework' was prepared reflecting a logical and strategic progression of priorities over a 5-year window.
- Thirdly, a 'Implementation Sequence Logic' was prepared for each of the 'National Implementation Approaches', grouping a balanced set of recommended actions into a four-phase implementation roadmap.

3.1 System Profile Characterization

Three National Implementation Approaches were defined to represent the broad and diverse situations existing across AMS. The three Approaches are defined based on the current characterization of national plastic waste management systems — not on their level of ambition or commitment. Approaches reflect the starting point for sequenced implementation, not a ranking of performance.

National Implementation Approaches were defined based on the following core dimensions:

- **Policy and institutional foundations** – clarity of mandates, existence of lead agencies, and coordination mechanisms;
- **Delivery capacity** – especially at municipal and subnational level, including service coverage and operational capacity;
- **Enforcement and compliance** – strength of regulatory systems, inspections, and administration;
- **Monitoring and data systems** – coverage, reliability, and institutionalization of MRV;
- **Financing conditions** – ability to mobilize domestic budgets, access longer-term financing, and attract private participation; and
- **Ability to scale beyond pilots** – whether successful initiatives can become part of routine systems.

National Implementation Approach	System Profile
Foundational	(i) **Policy**: Early RAP alignment, (ii) **Delivery**: Limited waste service coverage, (iii) **Enforcement**: Minimal cross-ministerial coordination, (iii) **Monitoring**: Uneven or inconsistent MRV, (iv) **Financing**: Heavy dependence on donor financing, (v) **Scale**: Limited scaling past pilots. ***Key Finding**: Foundational governance actions are top priority.*
Transitional	(i) **Policy**: Strong policy intent, (ii) **Delivery**: Many pilots at municipal level, (iii) **Enforcement**: Partial enforcement systems, (iii) **Monitoring**: Maturing MRV, (iv) **Financing**: Some dedicated funds for operations, but limited in scope, (v) **Scale**: Difficulty converting successful pilots into programs. ***Key Finding**: Systems integration is the top priority.*
Advanced	(i) **Policy**: Clear policy mandates, (ii) **Delivery**: Reliable waste services equitably available across income groups and jurisdictions, (iii) **Enforcement**: Functioning enforcement, (iii) **Monitoring**: Strong data systems, (iv) **Financing**: Revenue generation is paired with consistent government allocations, attracting private sector capital, (v) **Scale**: Ability to scale successful models and lead regionally. ***Key Finding**: Finance mobilization and regional leadership are top priorities.*

Table 3 National Implementation Approaches

3.2 Prioritization Framework

Based on the findings of the *Landscape Analysis*, the 210 individual SEA-MaP recommendations were prioritized into a coherent and streamlined roadmap. To achieve this, a prioritization framework was developed for the assessment of each individual SEA-MaP recommended action according to the national implementation Approach system profiles determined in the previous step, Table 3. The detailed findings of this assessment are available in Addendum B.

The prioritization framework supports the objective and transparent determination of priority and potential impact for each individual action. Highest rated actions are prioritized for the immediate and short-term, while lower rated actions are recommended to be reevaluated in 3- to 5-years once higher priority activities have been accomplished.

Theme 1 – Build Systems Over Projects
(i) Would its implementation generate co-benefits across multiple thematic areas?
(ii) Is it tied to a specific, measurable outcome in the RAP's results framework?
(iii) Does it address a structural driver of marine plastic pollution (production, consumption, waste management, leakage, remediation)?
Theme 2 – Systems-level Governance
(i) Does it support transparency and public accountability in a manner consistent with RAP reporting requirements?
(ii) Can the recommendation be achieved through existing mandates, or does it require new legislation or institutional responsibilities?
(iii) Does it support or strengthen data comparability and transparency?
Theme 3 – Systems-level Finance
(i) Are the financial, human, & technical resources required for implementation commensurate with capacities?
(ii) Would the recommendation lead to improved financing, or result in higher costs?
(iii) Can the recommendation be phased or differentiated to accommodate national realities?
Theme 4 - Inclusive Systems
(i) Does the recommendation include specific provisions for informal workers, women, MSMEs, rural communities, or low-income households?
(ii) Does it include mechanisms to prevent adverse socio-economic impacts from regulatory interventions to the groups mentioned in 4A?
(iii) Does it support equitable distribution of benefits from circular economy or waste system improvements?
Theme 5 - Harmonize Regionally & Deliver Nationally
(i) Would the achievement support improvements for other AMS?
(ii) Does the principle support existing regional coordination mechanisms that are beneficial for local delivery?
(iii) Would its adoption generate co-benefits for other AMS?

Table 4 National Prioritization Framework

A recommended prioritization approach, based on the above assessment framework, is provided below in Figure 3. While all five strategic themes are important for comprehensive mitigation of marine debris, each AMS may choose to prioritize thematic areas and individual actions that will yield the greatest impact in the immediate term and unlock future actions that may be more challenging to achieve based on current system conditions. The diversified approach underscores the importance of targeted interventions at the AMS level most adapted to the current conditions and needs of each AMS. In this way, the prioritization framework simultaneously reflects regional priorities and national priorities for well-defined national implementation Approaches. The fully detailed prioritization framework per national implementation Approach is available in Addendum B.
The below figure offers a recommendation on the level of priority each AMS may give to the five thematic areas – in the immediate term - based upon perceived national priorities and

capacities. As progress is achieved in the foundational Approach, AMS may adapt their approach to better reflect the prioritization of the transitional Approach and then the advanced Approach.

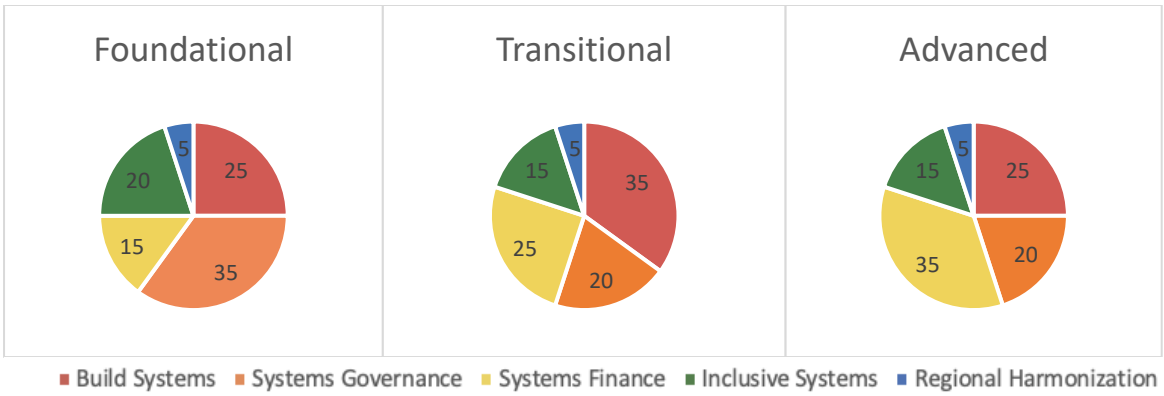


Figure 3 Recommendation for prioritization of strategic themes based upon national implementation approaches

3.3 National Implementation Approaches

Each proposed national implementation Approach presents 25 to 28 consolidated actions organized into four phases. The national implementation Approaches provide a recommendation on which strategic themes to prioritize over time, and further details each of the consolidated actions based on the system profile for each national Approach, presented in Table 3. More detailed guidance for each national implementation Approaches is available in Addendum B, including the priority rationale (why this phase, why now), specific implementation guidance (what this concretely means at this national implementation Approach), a summary of constituent individual actions for traceability, and the source work streams.

Phased Programming	Foundational	Transitional	Advanced	Indicative Timeline
Phase 1: Immediate Program	**8 actions**	**8 actions**	**8 actions**	Within 12 months
Phase 2: Strategic Program	7 actions	9 actions	9 actions	Years 2 and 3
Phase 3: Conditional Program	5 actions	4 actions	7 actions	Years 4 and 5
Phase 4: Sequence-Dependent	8 actions	5 actions	0 actions*	Reconsider after year 5
TOTAL	**28 actions**	**26 actions**	**24 actions**	

***Note:** *The zero Phase 4 actions for Advanced AMS suggests that all sub-groups are achievable within a 5-year horizon for AMS with robust governance, enforcement, and data systems for marine debris management already in place.*

Table 5 National Implementation Approaches Summary by Phased Programming

3.3.1 Foundational National Implementation Approach

Foundational AMS may prioritize governance and inclusion (phase 1) in preparation for systems foundations (phase 2) to unlock the full benefits of regional harmonization (phase 4).

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING (8 actions to consider within 12 months) Governance and inclusion are foundational levers that unlock actions in phase 2.

PHASE 2: STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING (7 actions for consideration in years 2 and 3) Building system foundations while leveraging region harmonization opportunities are strategic priorities and conditional on phase 1 momentum being established.

PHASE 3: CONDITIONAL PROGRAMMING (5 actions to consider in years 4 and 5) Continuing to reevaluate and strengthen performance of systems foundations and governance ensures that early progress achieved in phase 1 and 2 is maintained and that national systems remain adaptive for the transition to phase 4.

PHASE 4: SEQUENCE DEPENDENT (8 actions to be considered after years 5). Building financial sustainability once systems foundations are built, governance is reinforced and inclusion is mainstreamed. Regional harmonization serves as a catalyst across all phases.

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES

Sub-Group	Sub-Group Label	SEA-MaP Workstreams Referenced (ID)* 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	# of Actions
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects														
1-B	**Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification Infrastructure** Establish minimum national MRV capacity: designate a data focal point, collect three baseline indicators, and begin reporting on national progress	2	1	1	4			4	2					14
Theme 2: System-level Interventions Require Systems-level Governance														
2-A	**Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination** Strengthen national cross-ministerial coordination through the establishment of an inter-ministerial coordination working group	1	2		2					5	1			11
2-C	**Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisite Assessment** Conduct a simplified national policy coherence audit identifying the three highest-priority regulatory contradictions and a sequenced reform roadmap		3		4			1						8
2-D	**Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages** Establish harmonized reporting mechanisms with local governments and aggregated at the national level to assess performance on plastic SWM activities & service delivery status	1			2			1	1					5
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance														
4-A	**Informal Sector Integration and Recognition** Recognize informal waste workers in national policy dialogues & conduct national informal sector mapping to inform policy design			1		3				8				12
4-C	**Safeguards, Just Transitions, and Trade-off Management** Conduct socioeconomic impact assessments before all major regulatory interventions and develop basic transition support packages for informal workers and low-income communities		1		2									3
4-D	**Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation** Map all actors in the national plastic waste system — including informal sector workers and vulnerable communities — and establish a structured multi-stakeholder consultation process		2		4		1	1			2			10

4-E	**Inclusive Capacity Building and Public Awareness** Access ASEAN regional training resources and develop a national capacity building plan covering governance, SWM, community engagement in national language & context						2	2	2		1		7

Table 6 Foundational Implementation Approach - Immediate Programming Recommendations.
Note: See Table 1 for SEA-MaP Workstream ID reference.

Contextualized guidance for implementing Phase 1: Immediate-term Programming Activities is presented in Table 6 above. A summary of the full four-phase implementation approach is presented in Table 7 below. Note that contextualized guidance for every recommended action for each of the three national implementation approaches is provided in Addendum B.

		PHASE			
ID	**Sub-Group**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects					
1-A	Infrastructure and Service Delivery Systems			X	
1-B	Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification (MRV) Infrastructure	X			
1-C	Circular Economy and Upstream Prevention			X	
1-D	Evidence-Based and Adaptive Policy Systems		X		
1-E	Operationalizing Policy into System Delivery		X		
1-F	Behavior Change as a System Function		X		
Theme 2: Build Systems-level Governance					
2-A	Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination	X			
2-B	Regulatory Framework Strengthening & Enforcement		X		
2-C	Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisite Assessment	X			
2-D	Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages	X			
2-E	Regional Institutional framework & Governance Bodies			X	
2-F	Governance of Digital & Innovation Platforms			X	
Theme 3: Build Systems-level Finance					
3-A	Investment Readiness & Pipeline Preparation			X	
3-B	Financing Instrument Assessment, Selection, and Design				X
3-C	Catalytic and Blended Finance Mobilization				X
3-D	Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement				X
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance					
4-A	Informal Sector Integration and Recognition	X			
4-B	Gender-Responsive and Socially Equitable Design		X		
4-C	Safeguards, Just Transitions, and Trade-off Management	X			
4-D	Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation	X			
4-E	Inclusive Capacity Building and Public Awareness	X			
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally					
5-A	Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks		X		
5-B	Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs		X		
5-C	Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition				X
5-D	Regional Trade and Transboundary Cooperation				X
5-E	Regional Knowledge Exchange & Capacity Sharing Infrastructure.				X
5-F	Regional Investment and Innovation Ecosystem				X
5-G	ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability				X

TOTAL ACTIONS PER PHASE	**8**	**7**	**5**	**8**

**Note: Detailed guidance and linkages to the original SEA-Map Deliverable for each action is provided in Addendum B*

Table 7 Foundational National Implementation Approach

3.3.2 Transitional National Implementation Approach

For Transitional AMS, Phase 1 immediate programming activities may be system integration initiatives that convert pilots into sustained programs. Progress paves way for additional strategic programming in Phase 2 that deepen governance, financing preparation and institutional strengthening. Phase 3 actions are conditional on the achievement of phase 1 and 2 actions.

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING (8 actions to consider within 12 months) The system integration actions that convert pilots to programs

PHASE 2: STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING (9 actions for consideration in years 2 and 3) Deepening governance, financing preparation, and institutional strengthening.

PHASE 3: CONDITIONAL PROGRAMMING (4 actions to consider in years 4 and 5) Once MRV, enforcement, and pipelines are in place.

PHASE 4: SEQUENCE DEPENDENT (5 actions to be considered after year 5). Achievable but requires Phase 1-2 foundations first.

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES

Sub-Group	Sub-Group Label	SEA-MaP Workstreams Referenced (ID)* 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	# of Actions
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects														
1-B	**Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification Infrastructure** Upgrade the national MRV system to full lifecycle indicator coverage and share with ASEAN partners to support regional coordination	2	1	1	4			4	2					14
1-D	**Evidence-Based and Adaptive Policy Systems** Introduce adaptive management across RAP policy instruments — structured annual review cycles, evidence-based adjustment authority, and cross-level feedback loops		1		5				1					7
1-E	**Operationalizing Policy into System Delivery** Convert the strongest existing pilot models into program-level delivery with dedicated budget lines and institutional ownership beyond the initiating project				1			2						3
Theme 2: System-level Interventions Require Systems-level Governance														
2-B	**Regulatory Framework Strengthening & Enforcement** Strengthen enforcement through audit-based compliance monitoring, graduated penalties, and enforcement capacity building for EPR and SUP regulations			2	1		4					1		8
2-D	**Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages** Build structured vertical governance mechanisms linking national RAP policy to subnational delivery — performance reporting, feedback loops, and subnational capacity support	1			2			1	1					5
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance														
4-A	**Informal Sector Integration and Recognition** Pilot cooperative registration and EPR integration models for informal waste workers, linking their contributions to formal compliance architecture			1		3				8				12

4-D	**Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation** Encourage multi-stakeholder advisory groups and transparent public progress reporting across RAP implementation components		2		4		1	1			2			10
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally														
5-B	**Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs** Share results and experiences from national MRV with the ASEAN partners and integrate shared KPIs as the basis for both domestic policy evaluation and MDB engagement			2				2	2			1		7

Table 8 Transitional Implementation Approach - Immediate Programming Recommendations. See Table 1 for SEA-MaP Workstream ID

Contextualized guidance for implementing Phase 1: Immediate-term Programming Activities is presented in Table 8 above. A summary of the full four-phase implementation approach is presented in Table 9 below. Note that contextualized guidance for every recommended action for each of the three national implementation approaches is provided in Addendum B.

		PHASE			
ID	**Sub-Group**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects					
1-A	Infrastructure and Service Delivery Systems		X		
1-B	Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification (MRV) Infrastructure	X			
1-C	Circular Economy and Upstream Prevention			X	
1-D	Evidence-Based and Adaptive Policy Systems	X			
1-E	Operationalizing Policy into System Delivery	X			
1-F	Behavior Change as a System Function		X		
Theme 2: Build Systems-level Governance					
2-A	Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination		X		
2-B	Regulatory Framework Strengthening & Enforcement	X			
2-C	Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisite Assessment		X		
2-D	Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages	X			
2-E	Regional Institutional framework & Governance Bodies		X		
2-F	Governance of Digital & Innovation Platforms				
Theme 3: Build Systems-level Finance					
3-A	Investment Readiness & Pipeline Preparation		X		
3-B	Financing Instrument Assessment, Selection, and Design				X
3-C	Catalytic and Blended Finance Mobilization			X	
3-D	Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement				X
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance					
4-A	Informal Sector Integration and Recognition	X			
4-B	Gender-Responsive and Socially Equitable Design			X	
4-C	Safeguards, Just Transitions, and Trade-off Management		X		
4-D	Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation	X			
4-E	Inclusive Capacity Building and Public Awareness		X		
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally					

5-A	Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks		X		
5-B	Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs	X			
5-C	Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition				X
5-D	Regional Trade and Transboundary Cooperation				X
5-E	Regional Knowledge Exchange & Capacity Sharing Infrastructure.				X
5-F	Regional Investment and Innovation Ecosystem				
5-G	ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability			X	
	TOTAL ACTIONS PER PHASE	**8**	**9**	**4**	**5**

**Note: Detailed guidance and linkages to the original SEA-Map Deliverable for each action is provided in Addendum B*

Table 9 Transitional National Implementation Approach

3.3.3 Advanced National Implementation Approach

For Advanced AMS, Phase 1 immediate programming activities may be securing sustainable financing mechanisms and fully leveraging the benefits of regional harmonization. Systems integration in phase 2 is followed by strengthened inclusion and governance in phase 3.

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE PRIORITY (8 actions to consider within 12 months) Finance mobilization, MRV leadership, and regional platform activation; the actions advanced AMS are uniquely positioned to lead.

PHASE 2: STRATEGIC PRIORITY (9 actions to consider in years 1 and 2) Systems integration, data leadership, and subnational governance.

PHASE 3: CONDITIONAL PRIORITY (7 actions to consider in years 3 and 4) Deepening inclusion, enforcement, and CE transition; conditional on Phase 1 financing and governance.

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING ACTIVITIES

Sub-Group	Sub-Group Label	SEA-MaP Workstreams Referenced (ID)* 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	# of Actions
Theme 3: Systems-level Finance Across the Full Lifecycle														
3-A	**Investment Readiness & Pipeline Preparation** Package the strongest national models as bankable investment proposals for MDB and private investor co-financing and share investment intelligence with ASEAN	2			1					8				11
3-B	**Financing Instrument Assessment, Selection, and Design** Deploy the full range of financing instruments — sustainability-linked bonds, plastic credits, and performance-based contracts — matched to national system maturity		6											6
3-C	**Catalytic and Blended Finance Mobilization** Design and deploy blended finance packages for plastic waste management — accessing climate finance facilities, green bonds, and co-financing with MDBs	1	1				1						9	12
3-D	**Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement** Implement mandatory EPR with eco-modulated fees, recycled content requirements, and corporate accountability frameworks to drive private sector circular economy transition			1	1		1						4	7
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally														
5-A	**Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks**			3			3	3						9

	Anchor regional harmonization by fully implementing ASEAN common frameworks in national legislation and leading ACCSQ standardization processes			3			4	1						
5-C	**Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition** Lead and anchor the development of Mutual Recognition Arrangements for plastic packaging labels and recycling certification across ASEAN			3		1	4							8
5-F	**Regional Investment and Innovation Ecosystem** Actively participate in and support the Regional Innovation and Investment Platform — connecting national start-ups, corporates, and investors to the ASEAN ecosystem	1												1
5-G	**ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability** Chair or co-chair ASEAN inter-body coordination mechanisms and drive the harmonization agenda across AWGCME, ACCSQ, FG-CE, and ACTF-BE					1	6	1						8

Table 10 Advanced Implementation Approach - Immediate Programming Recommendations. See Table 1 for SEA-MaP Workstream ID

Contextualized guidance for implementing Phase 1: Immediate-term Programming Activities is presented in Table 10 above. A summary of the full four-phase implementation approach is presented in Table 11 below. Note that contextualized guidance for every recommended action for each of the three national implementation approaches is provided in Addendum B.

		PHASE			
ID	Sub-Group	1	2	3	4
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects					
1-A	Infrastructure and Service Delivery Systems		X		
1-B	Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification (MRV) Infrastructure		X		
1-C	Circular Economy and Upstream Prevention			X	
1-D	Evidence-Based and Adaptive Policy Systems		X		
1-E	Operationalizing Policy into System Delivery		X		
1-F	Behavior Change as a System Function			X	
Theme 2: Build Systems-level Governance					
2-A	Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination			X	
2-B	Regulatory Framework Strengthening & Enforcement			X	
2-C	Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisite Assessment				
2-D	Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages		X		
2-E	Regional Institutional framework & Governance Bodies		X		
2-F	Governance of Digital & Innovation Platforms				
Theme 3: Build Systems-level Finance					
3-A	Investment Readiness & Pipeline Preparation	X			
3-B	Financing Instrument Assessment, Selection, and Design	X			
3-C	Catalytic and Blended Finance Mobilization	X			
3-D	Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement	X			
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance					
4-A	Informal Sector Integration and Recognition			X	
4-B	Gender-Responsive and Socially Equitable Design				
4-C	Safeguards, Just Transitions, and Trade-off Management			X	

4-D	Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation		X		
4-E	Inclusive Capacity Building and Public Awareness				
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally					
5-A	Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks	X			
5-B	Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs		X		
5-C	Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition	X			
5-D	Regional Trade and Transboundary Cooperation		X		
5-E	Regional Knowledge Exchange & Capacity Sharing Infrastructure.			X	
5-F	Regional Investment and Innovation Ecosystem	X			
5-G	ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability	X			
	TOTAL ACTIONS PER PHASE	**8**	**9**	**7**	**0**

**Detailed guidance and linkages to the original SEA-Map Deliverable for each action is provided in Addendum B.*

Table 11 Advanced National Implementation Approach

3.4 Immediate and Strategic Priorities

Phase1 (immediate) and Phase 2 (strategic) programming recommended actions for each national implementation Approach is presented in Table 10. More detailed implementation guidance is available for each individual action, as adapted to reflect the specific context and capacity of each national implementation Approach, in Addendum B.

		National Approaches		
ID	**Sub-Group**	**Foundational**	**Transitional**	**Advanced**
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects				
1-A	Infrastructure and Service Delivery Systems			
1-B	Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification (MRV) Infrastructure			
1-C	Circular Economy and Upstream Prevention			
1-D	Evidence-Based and Adaptive Policy Systems			
1-E	Operationalizing Policy into System Delivery			
1-F	Behavior Change as a System Function			
Theme 2: Systems-level Interventions Require Systems-level Governance				
2-A	Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination			
2-B	Regulatory Framework Strengthening & Enforcement			
2-C	Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisite Assessment			
2-D	Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages			
2-E	Regional Institutional framework & Governance Bodies			
2-F	Governance of Digital & Innovation Platforms			
Theme 3: Systems-level Finance Across the Full Life Cycle				
3-A	Investment Readiness & Pipeline Preparation			
3-B	Financing Instrument Assessment, Selection, and Design			
3-C	Catalytic and Blended Finance Mobilization			
3-D	Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement			
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance				
4-A	Informal Sector Integration and Recognition			

4-B	Gender-Responsive and Socially Equitable Design			
4-C	Safeguards, Just Transitions, and Trade-off Management			
4-D	Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation			
4-E	Inclusive Capacity Building and Public Awareness			
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally				
5-A	Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks			
5-B	Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs			
5-C	Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition			
5-D	Regional Trade and Transboundary Cooperation			
5-E	Regional Knowledge Exchange & Capacity Sharing Infrast.			
5-F	Regional Investment and Innovation Ecosystem			
5-G	ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability			
LEGEND				
Immediate Priorities (phase-1, take action within the next 12 months)				
Strategic Priorities (phase-2, take action within the next 1- to 2-years)				

** Detailed guidance and linkages to the original SEA-Map Deliverable for each action is provided in Addendum B*

Table 12 Immediate (phase 1) and Strategic (phase 2) Programming Recommendations for Each National Implementation Approach

3.5 Implementation Sequencing Logic

Implementation sequencing differs systematically by national implementation Approach.

- **Foundational Approach** may prioritize inclusion and governance first in Phase 1, systems building in Phase 2, and finance and regional harmonization in Phase 4.
- **Transitional Approach** may begin with systems integration in Phase 1, finance preparation in Phase 2, governance deepening in Phase 3, and structural inclusion in Phase 4.
- **Advanced Approach** may lead with finance mobilization in Phase 1, systems scaling in Phase 2, governance formalization and deepened inclusion in Phase 3.

This proposed sequencing reflects the evidence from the 'system profile' assessment in section 3.1 that emphasizes the importance of building foundational contexts that prioritize compliance, full-lifecycle asset financing, and community engagement. Implementation sequencing is visualized in Figure 3 as a perpetual circle reflecting the adaptive policy principle[7] that encourages periodic reassessment of system performance and continual adaptation of policy and framework measures as necessary.

Each national implementation Approach move through the five strategic themes of the synthesized recommendation framework. Each AMS may start at different points in the cycle depending on their current system profile, as described in Table 3, which takes into consideration current policy and institutional foundations, delivery capacity, enforcement and compliance, monitoring and data systems, financing conditions, and ability to scale beyond pilots.

[7] "Adaptive policy systems embed structured review mechanisms, evidence-based adjustment authority, and dynamic sequencing into the design of regulatory and governance frameworks — ensuring that policy remains effective as implementation evidence accumulates and conditions change." OECD (2019). *Regulatory Policy Outlook*

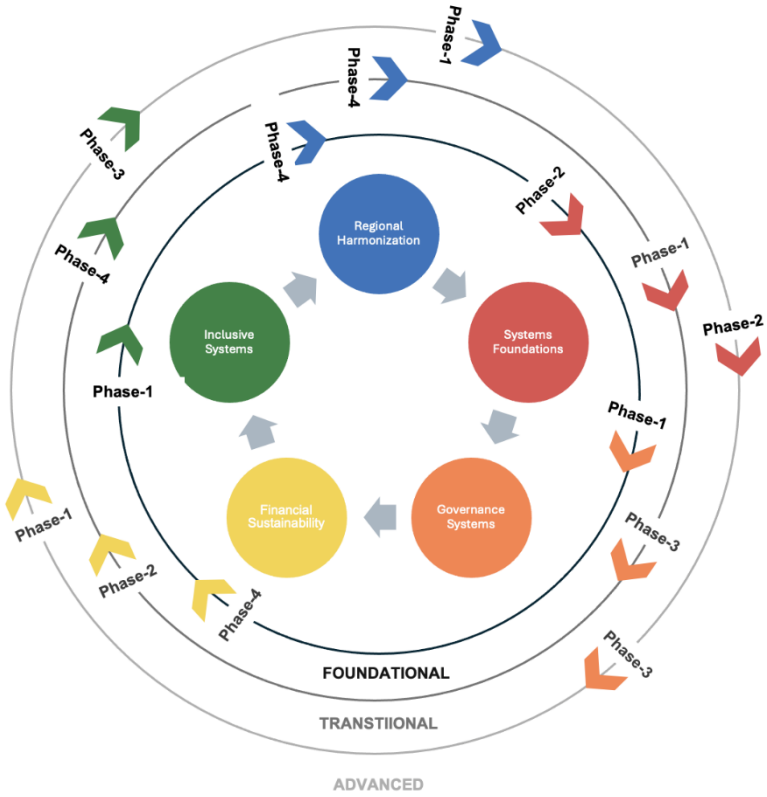


Figure 4 Implementation Sequencing by National Implementation Approach

4 Regional Priority Actions

Objective of the phased five-year Implementation Roadmap outlining a sequenced plan of priority activities, institutional responsibilities, and capacity requirements. Specific next steps for the first-year post-project closure should be highlighted, examining required roles, responsibilities and contributions of key project partners including but not limited to ASEAN, ASEC, AMS, multilateral development banks, and other national and regional stakeholders.

4.1 Criteria for Regional Programming

An action qualifies for regional programming when it produces a public good that no single AMS can generate alone, when its value increases proportionally with the number of AMS that participate, or when regional aggregation multiplies the leverage available from individual national actions. Six consolidated actions meet this standard at the highest level and constitute the Regional Phase 1 Flagship program. Detailed guidance on the Regional Implementation Approach is available in Addendum C.

Regional Implementation Approach – Phase 1: Flagship Program		SEA-MaP Workstreams Referenced (ID)*												
Sub-Group	Sub-Group Label	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	# of Actions
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects														
1-B	**Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification (MRV) Infrastructure**	2	1	1	4			4	2					**14**

	Make available a regional plastic waste baseline, harmonized indicator framework, and ASEAN monitoring dashboard using the Guidebook on Common Methodologies														
Theme 2: System-level Interventions Require Systems-level Governance															
2-A	**Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination** Support ASEAN task forces, focal points, and working group structures for packaging standards, EPR harmonization, and the regional baseline study	1	2		2					5	1				**11**
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally															
5-A	**Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks** Advance common ASEAN definitions, scope criteria, and harmonized policy frameworks for EPR, SUP, and plastic packaging			3			3	3							**9**
5-B	**Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs** Support harmonized EPR data-collection mechanisms, shared KPIs, and reporting formats across AMS to enable regional benchmarking			2				2	2			1			**7**
5-E	**Regional Knowledge Exchange & Capacity Sharing Infrastr.** Market the Regional Platform for Knowledge and Partnerships on Marine Plastics, regional training program, and peer learning among AMS practitioners and regulators			1			5	1				1			**8**
5-G	**ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability** Advance an ASEAN inter-body coordination framework to strengthen collaboration between AWGCME, ACCSQ, FG-CE, ACTF-BE					1	6	1							**8**

Table 13 Regional Implementation Approach - Phase 1 Programming Recommendations

4.2 Regional Implementation Approaches

A four-phase Regional Implementation Approach is recommended that mirrors the National Implementation Approach framework.

PHASE 1: IMMEDIATE PROGRAMMING (6 actions to consider within 12 months) Leverage regional harmonization to strengthen and facilitate national efforts while building governance frameworks to facilitate cross-pillar and inter-ministerial coordination.

PHASE 2: STRATEGIC PROGRAMMING (8 actions to consider in years 2 and 3) Deepening governance, institutional strengthening, and systems building.

PHASE 3: CONDITIONAL PROGRAMMING (7 actions to consider in years 4 and 5) Strengthen inclusion frameworks, behavior change and communication efforts, and mechanisms for building capacity at the local level to implement policies enacted at the national level.

PHASE 4: SEQUENCE DEPENDENT (6 actions to be considered after year 5). Explore opportunities to catalyze financing through strengthened regional coordination.

The recommended timing may be considered as a target for when to initiate an action. Many of the recommended actions may require several years to complete and therefore run across implementation phases. The Regional Implementation Approach responds to the

same 28 synthesized SEA-MaP recommendations. Detailed guidance is offered for the application of these recommendations at the regional level in Addendum C.

ID	Sub-group	PHASE 1	2	3	4
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects					
1A	Infrastructure and Service Delivery Systems		X		
1B	Monitoring, Reporting, & Verification Infrastructure	X	X		
1C	Circular Economy and Upstream Prevention			X	
1D	Evidence-Based and Adaptive Policy Systems		X		
1E	Operationalizing Policy into System Delivery		X		
1F	Behavior Change as a System Function		X		
Theme 2: System-level Interventions Require Systems-level Governance					
2A	Institutional Mandate Clarification & Coordination		X		
2B	Regulatory Framework Strengthening & Enforcement				X
2C	Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisite Assessment		X		
2D	Multi-Level Governance: National-Subnational Linkages			X	
2E	Regional Institutional framework & Governance Bodies			X	
2F	Governance of Digital & Innovation Platforms	X			
Theme 3: Systems-level Finance Across the Full Lifecycle					
3A	Investment Readiness & Pipeline Preparation			X	
3B	Financing Instrument Assessment, Selection, and Design				X
3C	Catalytic and Blended Finance Mobilization				X
3D	Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement				X
Theme 4: Inclusive Systems for Better Performance					
4A	Informal Sector Integration and Recognition				X
4B	Gender-Responsive and Socially Equitable Design				X
4C	Safeguards, Just Transitions, and Trade-off Management			X	
4D	Multi-Stakeholder Engagement and Inclusive Participation			X	
4E	Inclusive Capacity Building and Public Awareness			X	
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally					
5A	Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks	X			
5B	Harmonized Monitoring, Data Systems, and KPIs	X			
5C	Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition		X		
5D	Regional Trade and Transboundary Cooperation	X			
5E	Regional Knowledge Exchange & Capacity Sharing Infrastructure	X			
5F	Regional Investment and Innovation Ecosystem		X		
5G	ASEAN Institutional Coordination and Interoperability	X			

**Detailed guidance and linkages to the original SEA-Map Deliverable for each action is provided in Addendum C Table 14 Regional Implementation Approach*

5 Means of Implementation

Means of implementation refers to the financial, technical, and structural resources required to turn a plan, policy, or goal into reality. Most commonly used in global policy, it encompasses funding, technology transfer, and capacity-building needed to achieve large-scale objectives like the UN Sustainable Development Goals or global climate targets.[8]

This chapter includes:

- Budget and Financial Sustainability
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Verification
- Communication and Stakeholder Engagement
- Institutional Anchoring

5.1 Budget and Financial Sustainability

Objective of the itemized budget and financial sustainability plan for implementing the set of strategic recommendations at the ASEAN and AMS levels to provide an indicative understanding of the financing required to achieve the suite of recommendations captured in the Synthesis Document. Budgetary limitations and priorities were built from findings of the SEA-MaP Resource Mobilization Strategy.[9]

Budget Summary by Scenario and Implementation Approach

Five budget scenarios have been modeled to provide indicative, and order-of-magnitude estimates on financing requirements to achieve the implementation Approaches at the national level (foundational, transitional and advanced) and the regional level (high-resource and low-resource scenarios).

- **National Implementation Approaches**
  - Foundational Approach
  - Transitional Approach
  - Advanced Approach

- **Regional Implementation Approaches**
  - High-resource Scenario
  - Low-resource Scenario

The budget frameworks have been modelled directly from the implementation approaches, estimating relevant expenditures for individual AMS for personnel (additional staff and consultants), capacity building efforts, monitoring technologies and programs, stakeholder

[8] Means of implementation, as defined by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs Capacity Development, https://capacity.desa.un.org/what-we-do/areas-of-work/means-of-implementation

[9] The ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris calls for the development of a "Marine Plastics Resource Mobilization Strategy" (section 5.1.1, pg. 31) to (i) identify committed funds/resources to support RAP implementation, (ii) identify lead implementing agencies/countries/sectors, and (iii) identify shared or joint responsibilities of agencies /actors to (a) ensure there is a clear, coordinated approach to soliciting, acquiring, utilization monitoring and managing of financial inflows and development cooperation support; (b) enhance the effectiveness of development assistance across the ASEAN Region, and improve the relationship and dialogue between the AMS and key development partners and bilateral agencies; (c) improve structures and systems to facilitate better management of resources; potential for a platform to align development partner support to the RAP, priority regional and national actions, systems, structures and procedures; and (d) increase domestic resource mobilization and broaden the resource channels by exploring alternative sources of funding in order to reduce dependence on resources from development partners and to strengthen the ASEAN Secretariat leadership.

engagement, communication and behavior change programs, and regional coordination. Detailed guidance is available in Addendum D.

National Implementation Approaches: National budgets are per-AMS averages. Actual costs will vary by country size, existing institutional capacity, and co-financing arrangements. Detailed budgets are estimated for each national approaches based upon the priorities identified in section 3.3. Detailed results are available in Addendum D.

Regional Implementation Approaches: Two financing scenarios were developed for regional programming, reflecting the range of institutional arrangements available to ASEAN, summarized in Table 12 Regional Implementation Approaches and detailed in Addendum D: Budget Scenarios. These scenarios have been prepared in close coordination with the PSC-endorsed *Resource Mobilization Strategy,* as further discussed at the end of section 5.1 The Resource Mobilization Strategy sets out the institutional framework for implementation — including the respective roles of AMS, the ASEAN Secretariat, development partners and the private sector, and the mechanisms and sequencing for mobilizing domestic and external contributions. This Roadmap adopts that guidance by reference rather than duplicating it.

- **High Resource Scenario:** Reflects sufficient resources and capacities from AMS to advance efforts at the regional level, including mobilization of additional resources from both domestic and external / partner contributions.

- **Low Resource Scenario:** In absence of new resource availability, the scenario focuses on maximizing impact with in-kind contributions from AMS. The focus is on ensuring the technical assistance provided by SEA-MaP is absorbed and meets its intended outcomes and benefits.

Element	High Resource Scenario	Limited Resource Scenario
Institutional framework	2.5 FTE dedicated staff at ASEAN Secretariat — RAP Program Coordinator, Technical Officers (MRV, Standards), Finance Officer, Communications Officer.	0.25 FTE re-allocation of existing ASEAN Secretariat staff. Rotating chair AMS provides secretariat function annually.
4-year total (indicative)	**USD 4–6 million**	**USD 400,000–600,000**
Financing sources	AMS financial contributions to a consolidated fund; bilateral donors; MDB co-financing.	AMS in-kind personnel (primary resource); targeted donor-funded technical assistance.
Delivers[10]	Full suite of Phase 1 (7 regional actions) and Phase 2 (8 regional actions); including MRV development; comprehensive digital infrastructure; and regional investment pipeline.	Phase 1 governance and harmonization actions (6 actions); including minimum viable MRV and knowledge hub; targeted technical assistance on priority deliverables.
Primary risk	Requires sustained AMS political commitment to make contributions for shared ASEAN work at sufficient scale.	Critically dependent on AMS political commitment — no cash buffer to maintain activity during engagement gaps.

Table 15 Regional Implementation Approaches Considering High- and Limited- Resource Scenarios

[10] Reference Table 12 Regional Implementation Approach - Phase 1 Priorities and Table 13 Regional Implementation Approach for details on individual actions.

Key differences between the high-resource and low-resource scenarios are presented in Table 15, above. Indicative budgeting needs over a four-year implementation period for both of the scenarios is presented in Table 16, below. All figures are indicative estimates for planning purposes.

Approach	Budget (USD)					Financing Sources
	TOTAL	Yr-1	Yr-2	Yr-3	Yr-4	
Regional						
High Resource Scenario	**4–6 M**	~1.5 M	~1.5 M	~1.3 M	~1.2 M	AMS financial contributions + Donors
Limited Resource Scenario	**400–600k**	~150 K	~150 K	~140 K	~130 K	AMS in-kind + targeted donors
National						
Foundational (per AMS)	**380–450k**	~75 K	~100 K	~140 K	~110 K	Bilateral donors + AMS in-kind
Transitional (per AMS)	**530–650k**	~120 K	~180 K	~210 K	~160 K	Government + MDB + bilateral donors
Advanced (per AMS)	**550–750k**	~200 K	~230 K	~200 K	~160 K	Government + blended finance + private co-financing

Note: All figures are indicative estimates for planning purposes. Government in-kind contributions are excluded from cash totals but represent significant staff time and institutional resource commitments.

Table 16 Summary of Budget Requirements for Regional and National Implementation Scenarios

Three-phase Financial Sustainability Approach

Financial sustainability requires a deliberate transition from enabling donor-funded activity to domestically owned and market-supported systems. In alignment with the recommendations of the *Resource Mobilization Strategy*, a three-phase structure is described.

Phase	Period	Primary Financing Mechanism	Indicative Scale	Key Sustainability Conditions
Phase 1: Catalytic Investment	Years 1–2	AMS financial contributions; bilateral donors, (eg. GIZ, DFAT, JICA).	USD 2.5–5 M (regional + national combined)	Domestic budget co-contribution to enhance donor support. Governance architecture established before technical assistance begins.
Phase 2: System Scaling	Years 2–3	MDB co-financing (ADB, AIIB); EPR revenue mobilization; domestic budget integration; blended finance for advanced AMS.	USD 50–200 M regional pipeline (MDB); USD 5–20 M annually from EPR revenues	Investment pipeline published. EPR frameworks enacted and revenue ring-fenced for O&M. Domestic budget lines secured for RAP coordination.
Phase 3: Long-term Sustainability	Years 3–4+	ASEAN Sustainable Finance Taxonomy (green/blue bond eligibility); Innovation Platform private capital; Regional Training Fund (AMS contributions + private sector); MRA certification revenue.	USD 10–50 M annually at platform scale; USD 50–500 M climate finance (eg. GCF/GEF)	ASEAN Taxonomy integration enabling ESG labelling. Innovation Platform operational with private fee revenue. Regional training fund self-sustaining through certification services.

Table 17 Phased Financial Sustainability Approach

Structural Financing Recommendations

One of the key findings from SEA-MaP is that interventions focused solely on policy reform or technical assistance, while important, are often insufficient to drive transformational change on their own. Effective progress requires stronger alignment between policy ambition at the national level and implementation capacity at the local level, as well as closer integration among regulatory frameworks, private-sector engagement, innovation ecosystems, and financing mechanisms. To support the sustainability of SEA-MaP efforts post-project, national

and regional financing mechanisms may strengthen focus on systems-level financing. In addition to investments that produce visible outputs — infrastructure built, people trained, policies drafted — sustained budget contributions for systems-building activities such as coordination, enforcement, monitoring, and operational continuity functions will have significant positive impacts on overall program performance.

Alignment With the Resource Mobilization Strategy

The SEA-MaP PSC has endorsed an *ASEAN Marine Plastics Resource Mobilization Strategy* (RMS), which provides a practical regional framework to strengthen investment readiness, facilitate financing engagement, mobilize partnerships, and support implementation of priority actions across ASEAN and AMS. By improving the connection between identified priorities, financing opportunities, and delivery mechanisms, the RMS helps create enabling conditions for more coordinated and sustainable implementation. The development of the RMS included an extensive stakeholder engagement process with key regional actors, including more than 30 regional development partners and multi-lateral development banks.

This *Synthesis Document* was developed in close coordination with the RMS and has adapted key analytical and recommendation frameworks so that the two documents can be utilized in a coherent and integrated manner. For example, both documents describe a regional implementation approach and three national implementation approaches based on readiness tiers: foundational, transitional and advanced. For more detailed guidance on resource mobilization, readers are recommended to consult the *SEA-MaP RMS*.

5.2 Monitoring, Evaluation and Uptake Assessment Framework

Objective of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework to support ASEAN and AMS to assess progress and adjust strategies as needed based upon harmonized sustainability indicators, data sources, and monitoring mechanisms. Provide an uptake assessment framework that can be monitored over time to assess the extent to which AMS has accessed, adopted, integrated, or piloted each of the deliverables into national and sub-national frameworks, and indicate, when appropriate, where and how implementation may happen sub-nationally.

Uptake Assessment Framework

The proposed M&E framework tracks the depth of integration (i.e. 'uptake level') of program outputs — from initial awareness through to operational scale-up. This approach may support ASEAN and AMS to effectively assess the potential and trajectory for long-term success.

Uptake Level	Definition	Example Indicator
Access	SEA-MaP deliverable known by key stakeholder groups, downloaded, or received.	Number of AMS reporting awareness of each deliverable; KPP downloads per country per year.
Adoption	SEA-MaP deliverable formally referenced in national policy, strategy, or regulatory document.	Number of AMS with SEA-MaP deliverables cited in national legislation or implementing regulations.
Integration	Deliverable incorporated in institutional frameworks, budget processes, or operational mechanisms.	Number of AMS with SEA-MaP indicators in national MRV systems; domestic budget lines referencing RAP.
Piloting	Deliverable tested in at least one subnational location or sector with documented outcomes.	Number of municipalities with BCC pilots, &/or using Guidebook methodology; EPR cooperative registration pilots operational.
Scale-up	Deliverable operationalized at system level — national program, legal framework, or regional standard.	Number of AMS with monitoring methodology in national legislation; bilateral MRAs referencing SEA-MaP packaging standards.

Table 18 Uptake Assessment Framework

Regional Strategic Outcomes and Selected Indicators
A summary of illustrative outcomes and supporting indicators is presented in Table 16 Regional Strategic Outcomes and Performance Indicators, below. An example monitoring and evaluation frameworks for each of the Regional and National Implementation Approaches, is accessible at Addendum E: Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks. The below table illustrates the High Resource Regional Implementation Approach. The SEA-MaP PSC may discuss if such a regional M&E framework is appropriate or useful, and if so determine a suitable body or platform for institutional anchoring of the monitoring framework, including data collection protocols. Individual AMS may find added value to participate in regional data collection and reporting efforts to the best of their capacity.

Future-ready knowledge management: AMS may consider consistent metadata, reusable formats, version control, and indicators that measure uptake beyond in creative and comprehensive ways. This could improve the long-term accessibility and discoverability of SEA-MaP knowledge assets and better prepare them for future digital and AI-assisted applications.

Strategic Theme	Output / Deliverable	Uptake Level	Year-4 Target	Data Source
Governance and Institutional Coherence	Inter-body coordination architecture established	Integration	ASEAN inter-body protocols developed	*AWGCME meeting records; ASEAN Secretariat*
Harmonization and Regional Standards	Common ASEAN definitions developed and used by AMS	Adoption	# of AMS formally adopted EPR/SUP/packaging definitions	*National policy review; AWGCME reporting*
MRV and Evidence Systems	Regional monitoring dashboard operational	Scale-up	Dashboard publicly accessible; annual data update	*Dashboard access logs; ASEAN website*
Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange	Regional Platform for Knowledge and Partnerships on Marine Plastics accessed by AMS	Access	# of unique AMS users per year	*KPP analytics*
Investment Readiness and Finance	National pipelines featured on Innovation and Investment Platform	Integration	# of AMS with pipeline registered in IIP	*ASEAN pipeline registry*
Social Inclusion and Equity	Informal Sector Integration Protocol adopted	Adoption	# of AMS adopted Protocol in national framework	*AWGCME survey; national policy review*

Table 19 Illustrative Framework for Regional Outcomes and Performance Indicators

Subnational Delivery as a Cross-cutting Priority
Every indicator in the M&E framework includes a subnational note specifying where and how implementation is needed at the local level, accessible at Addendum E. This reflects a key SEA-MaP finding that has been triangulated with comparable regional programs: national-level policy adoption is dependent on subnational delivery capacity. Building required capacities is enabled by robust MRV frameworks to support regular, transparent and comparable assessment across large areas and diverse communities common across ASEAN.

Subnational reporting is listed as a Phase 1 Immediate Programming recommendation for Foundational AMS and a strategic priority for Transitional AMS. ASEAN can support this cross-cutting strategic outcome by facilitating subnational reporting coverage through the provision of templates and training related to the *Regional Guidebook on Common Methodologies for the Monitoring and Assessment of Marnie Debris* and the possible inclusion of a digital data dashboard linked to the *Knowledge and Partnerships Platform.*

5.3 Risk Assessment

Risks were assessed on a 5×5 likelihood-impact matrix producing scores from 1 to 25. Twenty risks scored in the Critical range (15 or above), eight in the High range (10 to 14), and two in the Medium range (5 to 9). No risks were assessed as Low. This distribution reflects the systemic nature of the barriers to uptake — they are not edge cases but structural features of the regional governance and financing environment.

Rating	Score Range	Count	Interpretation
Critical	15–25	**20**	Immediate action recommended. Risk is likely, highly impactful, and not adequately mitigated by current program design. Escalate to PSC.
High	10–14	**8**	Priority mitigation. Include in AWGCME agenda. Assign responsibility and track at each program review.
Medium	5–9	2	Manage through standard program monitoring. Review annually.

Table 20 Risk Assessment Framework

Top 10 Risks

Of the top 10 critical risks identified, limitations in existing governance and financial systems are highest ranked, followed by risks related to inclusion and establishment of system foundations. Three risks were rated the maximum score (25 points) indicating the highest likelihood and the highest impact. Institutional fragmentation and overlapping mandates, absence of long-term sustainable financing for systems functions, and gaps between national policy and local government capacity and action are structural conditions. These risks apply across all three national implementation approaches, all themes, and all deliverables.

Category	Risk	Score	Rating	Mitigation Measure
Governance	Institutional fragmentation — overlapping mandates preventing policy coherence	**25**	**Critical**	Formal inter-body TORs; cross-ministerial Focal Points; PSC oversight of coordination status.
Financial	Structural financing bias — system functions underfunded	**25**	**Critical**	O&M financing as co-condition; annual investment ratio tracking.
Governance	National-subnational delivery gap — commitments not reaching local government units (LGUs)	**25**	**Critical**	Encourage LGU reporting; subnational officials in training; subnational M&E indicators.
Financial	Donor project-cycle dependency — outcomes reverting at project closure	**20**	**Critical**	Domestic budget co-contribution from Year 1; EPR revenue for O&M.
Financial	Infrastructure without O&M financing — stranded assets	**20**	**Critical**	O&M financing plan as co-condition for all capital investments; tariff/fee structure design.
Inclusion	Systematic exclusion of informal waste workers from EPR frameworks	**20**	**Critical**	ASEAN Informal Sector Protocol; cooperative EPR compliance; PRO-cooperative partnerships.
System	Low awareness among non-environment ministries (finance, trade, industry)	**16**	**Critical**	Executive briefs for non-environment ministries; tabling at inter-ministerial coordination meetings.

Category	Risk	Score	Rating	Mitigation Measure
Inclusion	Political economy resistance from industry delaying EPR and SUP regulation	16	Critical	Graduated approach — voluntary commitments before mandatory obligations; peer learning from PH EPR Act.
System	Policy adoption gap — deliverables remain reference documents, not regulation	16	Critical	Model legislation for direct AMS incorporation; legal adoption status tracked by AWGCME.
System	Training without transfer — knowledge not applied in institutional context	15	Critical	Training-of-trainers cohort model; 90-day action plans; 12-month follow-up tracking.

Table 21 Top 10 Risk for SEA-MaP Uptake

Key Lessons from Comparable Regional Programs

Twelve regional programs[11] were identified with relevance to SEA-MaP based on objective (to address marine debris), leading authority (spearheaded by Ministries of environment), geographical scope (ASEAN-wide) and recency (implemented in the past 10 years). The regional programs were reviewed to ground the risk assessment in documented implementation experience. The detailed assessment is available in Addendum E. Two findings recur across the majority of programs reviewed.

- First, strengthening sub-national-level policy adoption is consistently rated as a leading opportunity to drive lasting sustainability.
- Second, long-term sustainability of individual interventions requires sustained financing and governance that outlasts project cycles.

5.4 Communication and Engagement Strategy

Objective of the communication and engagement strategy is to consolidate, harmonize and streamline messaging across all SEA-MaP deliverables and key beneficiaries so that there is clear and unified communication about the priorities and way forward for ASEAN and AMS. This will build from and streamline the stakeholder engagement strategies developed through the various SEA-MaP workstreams, critically review, consolidate, and compile a comprehensive stakeholder mapping at both ASEAN and AMS levels from a post-project perspective.

The following section briefly introduces an overarching message for SEA-MaP, key messages for each of the strategic themes, a consolidated stakeholder map, and recommendations for post-project sustainability of communications products and engagement strategies. This *Synthesis Document* recommends that communication materials and stakeholder engagement efforts be considered cross-cutting and foundational to all other activities, including but not limited to supporting policy development and uptake, promoting and facilitating knowledge management, partnership development and resource mobilization. More guidance on how to leverage SEA-MaP messaging and stakeholders to advance

[11] Regional marine debris programs with publicly available performance assessments were reviewed to draw insights on potential risks. Regional projects considered include (i) Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA); (ii) Marine Environment Protection of the South-East Asian Seas (MEPSEAS); (iii) USAID Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO); (iv) ADB Promoting Action on Plastic Pollution from Source to Sea in Asia and the Pacific; (v) PEMSEA Project on Reducing Marine Plastics in East Asian Seas Region; (vi) GEF ISLANDS Pacific; (vii) WWF Plastic Smart Cities; (viii) EU SWITCH-Asia.

national and regional activities is detailed in a *Consolidated Communication and Engagement Strategy,* available in Addendum G.

Overarching Message: ***ASEAN is strengthening collaborative efforts to combat marine plastic debris across the region for the benefit of all.***

This message was endorsed by the Project Steering Committee in March 2024, and anchors all SEA-MaP communications. The five strategic themes translate it into audience-specific proof points.

Theme-level Key Messages

Key messaging is suggested for each of the five strategic themes of the SEA-MaP Recommendation Framework considering three primary audiences: government officials, the private sector and investors, and civil society and communities, see Table 24.

Theme	For Governments	For Private Sector / Investors	For CSOs and Communities
T1: Build Systems	ASEAN's collaborative efforts have strengthened the governance, data, and delivery systems that support independent and diverse national programs — not just another pilot project.	ASEAN Member States are actively exploring opportunities to bridge the financing gap required by sustainable plastics management business models. Aiming to make private investments more effective and durable.	ASEAN tools are designed to work at the community level — ensuring that basic services and awareness campaigns reach the people who need them.
T2: Coherent Governance	ASEAN provides a governance framework connecting environment, trade, industry, and local government mandates into a coherent national RAP implementation architecture.	Harmonized MRV and trade frameworks across AMS reduce compliance costs and strengthen operational clarity to support investment decisions.	Decisions about plastic waste management are centered around the people most affected — informal workers, coastal communities, and local governments.
T3: Finance the Full Lifecycle	ASEAN provides investment readiness tools, pipeline aggregation, and MDB engagement frameworks that convert policy commitments into bankable financing packages.	The SEA-MaP regional investment pipeline, anchored in the ASEAN Sustainable Finance Taxonomy, provides the policy certainty and comparable data that institutional investors require.	Sustainable financing for waste systems means communities receive reliable collection services.
T4: Inclusive Systems	ASEAN treats inclusion of informal sector workers, women, MSMEs, and vulnerable communities as a system performance requirement — inclusive systems achieve higher coverage and more durable compliance.	Integrating informal sector workers into EPR compliance frameworks improves material recovery rates and reduces compliance risk for producers.	ASEAN tools recognize your contributions to plastic waste recovery and provide approaches for formal recognition, capacity building, and protection from regulatory harm.
T5: Harmonize Regionally	ASEAN harmonization produces the regional public goods — standards, data, MRAs — that reduce compliance costs and	One set of packaging standards, one set of EPR definitions, and one set of recycling certification criteria across ASEAN reduces	Harmonized definitions and monitoring systems mean community-level plastic pollution data contributes to regional policy — improving the evidence base for

Theme	For Governments	For Private Sector / Investors	For CSOs and Communities
	generate market scale no single AMS can achieve alone.	the compliance burden of operating across multiple markets.	decisions that affect your environment.

Table 22 Key Messages by Program Themes

Consolidated Stakeholder Map

Each of the 12 SEA-MaP deliverables prepared stakeholder maps. This *Synthesis Document* has consolidated all guidance to directly respond to the synthesized framework of SEA-MaP recommendations.

Stakeholder Group	Priority	Primary Communication Channel	Key Engagement Objective
AWGCME / PSC / ASEAN Secretariat	**Critical**	AWGCME meetings; PSC reporting; bilateral engagement	Inter-body coordination architecture
ASEAN Technical Bodies (ACCSQ, FG-CE, ACTF-BE)	**High**	Inter-body coordination meetings; joint task forces	Strengthened coordination on common objectives (e.g. harmonized standards and MRAs)
National Environment Ministries	**Critical**	Regional Platform for Knowledge and Partnerships; bilateral advisory missions	RAP commitments translated into national workplans supported with resources
Finance and Planning Ministries	**High**	Innovation and Investment platform; MDB pre-engagement dialogues	Investment pipelines supported; domestic sources of financing enabled
Local Governments and LGUs	**High**	Regional training program; subnational practitioner networks	Subnational reporting and capacity building supported; BCC campaigns linked to service infrastructure
Producer / Industry Associations	**High**	Annual Technology/Innovation Expo; Innovation Platform	Voluntary EPR commitments in transitional AMS; mandatory EPR in advanced AMS
MDB and Bilateral Donors	**High**	Innovation and Investment platform; pipeline prospectus; financing dialogues	MDB co-financing application under discussion
Informal Sector Organizations	**High (equity)**	CSO networks; cooperative forums; community platforms	Informal sector recognized in policy dialogue; cooperative registration Approaches explored
Academic and Research Institutions	**Medium**	Regional Platform for Knowledge and Partnerships; community of practice; regional peer learning events	SEA-MaP guidance documents cited in national programs and peer-reviewed publications
Civil Society Organizations	**Medium**	CSO communication networks; community events; local media	CSO networks distributing SEA-MaP inclusion messaging through their own channels

Table 23 Consolidated Stakeholder Map

Post-project Communication Sustainability

SEA-MaP has prepared a robust repository of communication assets. These artefacts would benefit from a common home as an integrated toolset. The SEA-Map Project Steering Committee (PSC) hosted at the AWGCME may consider discussing a suitable long-term repository for these assets before program closure. The Regional Platform for Knowledge and Partnerships on Marine Plastics, the Innovation and Investment Platform, SEA-MaP social media channels, e-newsletter subscriber database, and stakeholder network are high-value assets that can continue to deliver positive impact for marine debris management and stakeholder engagement across ASEAN. The PSC may be guided by Institutional Sustainability Strategy which outlines proposed hosting scenarios, minimum viable hosting requirements, handover approach, for the hosting arrangements of the entire suite of SEA-MaP communication products including regional training materials

5.5 Policy Coherency Mapping

In effort to ensure that SEA-MaP recommendations are well aligned with established ASEAN agreements, four ASEAN instruments are reviewed as a singular chain of ASEAN guidance addressing key value chain segments for sustainable materials management.

- ASEAN Community Vision 2045
- ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Strategic Plan
- ASEAN Blue Economy Framework
- ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris 2021–2025
- ASEAN Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Framework
- Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community

ASEAN Framework	Strategic Priorities
ASEAN Community Vision 2045[12] The ASEAN Community Vision 2045 (also known as "Our Shared Future") is a 20-year strategic roadmap adopted by ASEAN leaders to build a resilient, innovative, dynamic, and people-centered region. It establishes ASEAN Connectivity as a fourth official pillar to drive deep economic integration and sustainable growth. Expands the traditional ASEAN community framework by officially elevating **ASEAN Connectivity** as a new community pilar alongside the Political-Security, Economic, and Socio-Cultural pillars.	● **Economic & Digital Integration:** Aspirations to create a seamless single market and production base, supported by a secure digital ecosystem, green/blue economies, and the use of local currency for cross-border transactions. ● **Sustainability & Resilience:** Enhances the region's capacity to tackle climate change, transition to clean energy, and adopt sustainable infrastructure. ● **People-Oriented Society:** A heavy emphasis on social justice, human rights, labor mobility, and a highly skilled workforce. ● **Institutional Strengthening:** enhanced capacity and effectiveness of ASEAN organs, bodies and mechanisms that are more decisive, responsive and timely as well as future-ready in addressing global and regional challenges, supported by a strengthened ASEAN Secretariat, with effective cross-sectoral and cross-pillar coordination, and sufficient ASEAN funding towards realizing the ASEAN Community Vision 2045.
ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Strategic Plan (2025)[13] is the vehicle for the ASCC to implement the ASEAN Community Vision 2045, intensifying efforts to realize resilient, inclusive, relevant, sustainable, innovative, dynamic and people-centered ASEAN by 2045 and strengthen substantive, meaningful, and mutually beneficial partnerships while upholding ASEAN Centrality.	● **Human Potential & Quality of Life:** Ensuring social cohesion, shared prosperity, and leaving no vulnerable group behind. ● **Education & Skills:** Promoting transformative learning to create a competitive workforce and high-quality jobs. ● **Public Health:** Working toward universal health coverage and resilient healthcare infrastructure. ● **Identity & Heritage:** Nurturing regional pride, safeguarding cultural heritage, and promoting cultural industries. ● **Gender & Youth:** Empowering women in decision-making and driving meaningful youth engagement. ● **Environment & Climate:** Building a green ASEAN through sustainable land and ocean-based economies.

[12] https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/ASEAN-2045-Our-Shared-Future.pdf

[13] https://asean.org/the-asean-socio-cultural-community-strategic-plan/

	● **Cross-Cutting Priorities:** Narrowing regional development gaps and strengthening disaster risk resilience.
ASEAN Blue Economy Framework[14] The ASEAN Blue Economy Framework is a regional strategy designed to accelerate sustainable, inclusive economic growth through the holistic management of oceans, seas, and freshwater resources. It positions the blue economy as a new engine for growth across Southeast Asia.	● **Conservation Management:** Promotes nature-based solutions and ecosystem resilience, specifically targeting the protection of mangroves, seagrasses, and peatlands to advance carbon neutrality. ● **Science, Technology and Innovation:** Leverages digital platforms, artificial intelligence, and collaborative research to improve supply chain efficiency and regional knowledge. ● **Emerging / Priority Sectors:** Serves as a catalyst for new industries, including offshore renewable energy, marine biotechnology, and water desalination.
ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris 2021–2025[15] The ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris (2021–2025) is a solution-focused framework adopted by the ASEAN Member States to tackle severe marine plastic pollution. It targets the entire plastic value chain through 14 regional actions focused on reducing inputs, enhancing collection, minimizing leakage, and creating value for waste reuse. The plan prioritizes policy support and planning; research, innovation and capacity building; public awareness, education and outreach; and private sector engagement.	● **Policy Support and Planning:** Phasing out select single-use plastics, development of minimum standards for plastic packaging, green public procurement, financing mechanisms for plastic waste management, treatment of sea-based litter and responsible trade of waste and recycled plastics. ● **Research, Innovation and Capacity Building:** Strengthen ASEAN regional knowledge network on marine plastics, regional study on marine plastics, common methodologies for assessment and mentoring of marine litter, regional training programs on plastic waste management. ● **Public Awareness, Education and Outreach:** Behaviour change and communication strategy, enhanced reginal awareness for consumers of labelling of plastics and packaging. ● **Private Sector Engagement:** Regional platform for EPR knowledge and support, regional platform for innovations and investments.
The **ASEAN Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Framework**[16] is a regional guide launched in July 2023 to promote green growth, sustainable lifestyles, and efficient resource use across Southeast Asian member states.	● **Sustainable Food Systems:** Promotes eco-friendly agricultural and food supply chain practices. ● **Green Products & Lifecycle:** Encourages manufacturing goods that lessen environmental impacts from creation to disposal. ● **Green Public Procurement (GPP):** Catalyses market demand for sustainable goods by making public sector purchases cost-competitive. ● **Sustainable Lifestyles:** Elevates consumer education and awareness to shift habits toward responsible consumption in urban and rural settings
Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community[17] The Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community is a regional strategy designed to drive resource efficiency, waste reduction, and long-term economic resilience. It focuses on harmonizing standards, facilitating green trade, and boosting digital innovation across ASEAN member states.	● **Standard Harmonization and Mutual Recognition:** Creating universally understood and reliable standards for recycled materials, remanufacturing, and second-hand products to facilitate seamless cross-border trade. ● **Trade Openness and Trade Facilitation:** Lowering unnecessary regulatory barriers and promoting the movement of environmental goods and services throughout the AEC. ● **Innovation, Digitalization, and Green Technologies:** Leveraging emerging digital technologies, such as the Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain, to optimize supply chains and track circular material flows.

[14] https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/ASEAN-Blue-Economy-Framework.pdf

[15] https://asean.org/book/asean-regional-action-plan-for-combating-marine-debris-in-the-asean-member-states-2021-2025-2/

[16] https://environment.asean.org/public/uploads/repositories/20230717-asean_scp_framework_summary_final.pdf

[17] https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Framework-for-Circular-Economy-for-the-AEC_Final.pdf

	● **Competitive Sustainable Finance:** Attracting private sector investment and scaling innovative **ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance)** investments. ● **Efficient Use of Energy and Resources:** Focusing heavily on sustainable consumption and production (SCP) by reducing waste and maximizing the lifecycle of materials like plastics and metals.

Table 24 ASEAN Policy Coherency Mapping

Findings of the Coherency Mapping

ASEAN's marine debris, circular economy and blue economy instruments are three sequential interventions in a single material-to-ocean value chain, and ASEAN Community Vision 2045 is the authority under which the plastics material and products value-chain can now be framed as an economic asset rather than an environmental externality.

The *ASEAN Community Vision 2045* sets the regional framework for all programmatic activities. Adopted at the 46th Summit on 26 May 2025, it commits ASEAN to a "resilient, innovative, dynamic and people-centered" community and adds Connectivity as a fourth pillar alongside Political-Security, Economic and Socio-Cultural. The *AEC Strategic Plan 2026–2030* explicitly links economic development to sustainability — envisioning "sustainable growth on land and in water," embracing both green and blue economy. The *ASCC Strategic Plan 2026–2030* operationalizes the *ASEAN Community Vision 2045* within the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, anchoring environmental sustainability, resource efficiency and climate resilience under ASCC — the pillar under which the AWGCME and the RAP align.

The *Regional Action Plan for Combatting Marine Debris*, the *Blue Economy Framework, ASEAN Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production, and the Circular Economy Framework* can be described as four complementary and integrated instruments that govern different steps along the plastic material and product lifecycle.

- ***Regional Action Plan for Combatting Marine Debris* aims to reduce leakage into the marine environment.** 14 regional actions across three value-chain stages — reduce inputs, enhance collection and minimize leakage, create value for waste reuse – include actions that address four of the five CEF strategic priorities and shares a common keyline objective with the BEF – protection of the marine environment.

- **The *Blue Economy Framework* aims to protect the receiving-environment and value natural resources as an economic asset.** The vision is an integrated, cross-sectoral approach creating value from ocean, sea and freshwater resources, built on three strategies including ecosystem protection, resilience and disaster risk management, with enablers spanning infrastructure, institutional setting, cooperation and capacity building, and sustainable finance.

- **The *ASEAN Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)* provides a regional foundation for advancing sustainable materials management** upstream — promoting green products and public procurement, sustainable lifestyles, and resource-efficient production — thereby reinforcing the reduction and circularity actions consolidated in the SEA-MaP Framework. Developed under the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community, which calls for the integration of SCP into national and regional policies, it locates upstream prevention within the same pillar that hosts the marine debris agenda.

- **The Circular Economy Framework aims to close the material loop.** The instrument is organized around five strategic priorities: (i) standards harmonisation and mutual recognition of circular products; (ii) trade openness and facilitation in circular goods and services; (iii) innovation, digitalisation and green technologies; (iv) competitive sustainable finance and ESG investment; and (v) efficient use of energy and resources.

The SEA-MaP Strategic Recommendations Framework is designed not as a standalone instrument but as a delivery vehicle for commitments ASEAN has already made. By consolidating 210 recommendations into five strategic themes, the Framework gives ASEAN Member States a structured, phased means of advancing the **ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris (2021–2025)** beyond its initial period — translating the RAP's value-chain actions on reduction, collection and value creation into sequenced, nationally adaptable pathways. The *SEA-MaP Recommendations Framework* further intersects with ASEAN's wider environmental and cross-sectoral agenda. Because these same actions close material loops, the Framework contributes to the achievement of the **ASEAN Framework for Circular Economy for the AEC**, particularly its priorities on harmonized standards, circular trade facilitation, and sustainable finance. Similarly, it contributes to the **Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production** with a focus on upstream interventions to decouple economic growth from resource uss. In protecting coastal and marine ecosystems from plastic leakage, it advances the resource-value and ecosystem-resilience objectives of the **ASEAN Blue Economy Framework**, and its emphasis on cross-pillar governance connects the marine plastics agenda to the Blue Economy's integrated, cross-sectoral approach. Taken together, these contributions position the SEA-MaP Recommendation Framework as a concrete expression of **ASEAN Community Vision 2045** and its accompanying Strategic Plans, which elevate sustainable growth "on land and in water" and cross-pillar cooperation as defining features of the Community — demonstrating that combating marine plastics is not only an environmental undertaking but an economic and community-building one.

Beyond the region, the knowledge, tools and implementation experience generated under SEA-MaP — spanning EPR design, harmonized definitions and monitoring, and financing mechanisms — position ASEAN to contribute practical, evidence-based perspectives to ongoing international discussions on plastic pollution, including the negotiation of a global instrument.

Figure 5 illustrates how the *SEA-MaP Recommendation Framework* integrates with the ASEAN frameworks that most directly influence its delivery. ASEAN Community Vision 2045 provides the overarching authority and recognizes that key priorities — including plastics and the circular economy — sit within the remit of both the AEC and the ASCC, and that strengthened ASEAN institutional coordination is required to deliver them. The value-chain instruments (the Circular Economy Framework, the Framework on Sustainable Consumption and Production, the RAP and the Blue Economy Framework) are delivered through the SEA-MaP Recommendations Framework's five themes and 28 sub-groups, coordinated across the Economic and Socio-Cultural pillars. The figure therefore identifies the frameworks with the greatest bearing on the SEA-MaP recommendations and offers a model for their integration.

Figure 5 Integration of SEA-Map Recommendation Framework into ASEAN Instruments

The SEA-MaP Recommendation Framework within the ASEAN Policy Architecture

layered view linking ASEAN's environmental and cross-sectoral frameworks to the Synthesis Document structure — 5 strategic themes and 28 sub-groups

VERARCHING AUTHORITY

ASEAN Community Vision 2045 — overarching authority for a resilient, innovative, dynamic and people-centred ASEAN ("sustainable growth on land and in water")

NABLING ASEAN POLICY CONTEXT

AEC Strategic Plan 2026–2030
Green growth on land & in water

ASCC Strategic Plan 2026–2030
Environmental sustainability & resilience

ATERIAL-TO-OCEAN VALUE CHAIN

ASEAN Framework for Circular Economy (AEC)
Close the material loop

ASEAN SCP Framework (2022)
Sustainable consumption & production — upstream

ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris
Reduce leakage to the sea

ASEAN Blue Economy Framework
Protect & value the receiving environment

EA-MaP DELIVERY FRAMEWORK — 5 THEMES · 28 SUB-GROUPS

5 of 28 sub-groups advance both AEC (Circular Economy) & ASCC (RAP) priorities — see Addendum C

THEME 1 Build Systems Over Projects	THEME 2 Systems-level Governance	THEME 3 Systems-level Finance	THEME 4 Inclusive Systems	THEME 5 Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally
-A Infrastructure & Service Delivery	2-A Mandate Clarification & Coordination	3-A Investment Readiness & Pipeline	4-A Informal Sector Integration	5-A Harmonized Definitions & Scope
-B MRV Infrastructure	2-B Regulatory Strengthening & Enforcement	3-B Financing Instrument Design	4-B Gender-Responsive & Equitable Design	5-B Harmonized Monitoring & Data
-C Circular Economy & Upstream Prevention	2-C Policy Coherence & Pre-Requisites	3-C Catalytic & Blended Finance	4-C Safeguards & Just Transitions	5-C Standards & Mutual Recognition
-D Evidence-Based & Adaptive Policy	2-D National–Subnational Linkages	3-D Incentive Alignment & Private Sector	4-D Multi-Stakeholder Engagement	5-D Trade & Transboundary Cooperation
-E Operationalizing Policy into Delivery	2-E Regional Institutional Framework		4-E Inclusive Capacity & Awareness	5-E Knowledge Exchange & Capacity
-F Behaviour Change as a System Function	2-F Digital & Innovation Governance			5-F Investment & Innovation Ecosystem
				5-G ASEAN Coordination & Interoperability

OORDINATION ARCHITECTURE (GOVERNANCE)

Lead AWGCME → ASOEN (ASCC pillar) **Cross-pillar partners – AEC** ACCSQ · FG-CE · ACTF-BE **Chemicals & waste** AWGCW **Secretariat** ASEAN Secretariat (coordination & knowledge hub)

urce: SEA-MaP Synthesis Document & Implementation Roadmap (2026), §5.5 Policy Coherency Mapping and Governance & Institutional Anchoring; detailed framework-to-action linkages in Addendum C. Frameworks: ASEAN Community Vision 2045; AEC & ASCC Strategic Plans 2026–2030; ASEAN SCP amework (2022); Framework for Circular Economy for the AEC; ASEAN RAP for Combating Marine Debris; ASEAN Blue Economy Framework.

Key Finding: Strengthened Collaboration Between AEC and ASCC
Five of the 28 sub-groups of the SEA-MaP recommendations framework are simultaneously implementing the ASCC's RAP priorities and the AEC's CE Framework priorities. These activities would benefit from stronger collaboration between ASCC and AEC. Strengthened cross-pillar coordination can be an impactful governance action for ASEAN in the near term. Specific actions for consideration are summarized in Table 27, below.

POTENTIAL ACTIONS FOR ASCC-AEC COLLABORATION		SEA-MaP Workstreams Referenced (ID)*												
Sub-Group	Sub-Group Label	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	# of Actions
Theme 1: Build Systems Over Projects														
1-C	**Circular Economy and Upstream Prevention** Actions that transition systems from downstream waste management to upstream prevention and circularity — including circular product design, eco-design standards, and circular economy training — shifting the system logic from remediation to elimination.			1			2			6				9
Theme 3: Systems-level Finance Across the Full Lifecycle														
3-D	**Incentive Alignment and Private Sector Engagement** Actions that align economic incentives across the value chain — through eco-modulated fees, tax credits, public procurement standards, EPR obligations, and market signals — mobilizing private sector participation in financing system delivery.			1	1		1						4	7
Theme 5: Harmonize Regionally to Deliver Nationally														
5-A	**Harmonized Definitions, Scope, and Policy Frameworks** Actions that establish common definitions, scope criteria, and policy frameworks across AMS — for EPR, SUP regulation, packaging standards, and plastic waste trade — reducing regulatory fragmentation and creating a coherent foundation for regional compliance and cross-border enforcement.			3			3	3						9
5-C	**Regional Standards, Certification, and Mutual Recognition** Actions that develop, adopt, and operationalize harmonized technical standards for recycling, recycled content, packaging labelling, and eco-labels — including the establishment of Mutual Recognition Arrangements that enable consistent certification and compliance recognition across AMS borders.			3		1	4							8
5-D	**Regional Trade and Transboundary Cooperation** Actions that facilitate safe, transparent, and accountable transboundary movement of plastic waste and recyclable materials — through harmonized trade classifications, port procedures, digital trade platforms, and cross-border recycling hub development.			2		4								6

** Detailed guidance and linkages to the original SEA-Map Deliverable for each action is provided in Addendum C*

Table 25 Potential Actions for ASCC and AEC Collaboration

5.6 Governance and Institutional Anchoring

The opportunity for strengthened governance coherency is the most consistently documented recommendation in the review of ASEAN environmental programs,[18] as discussed in section 5.3. A successful governance model will ensure clear institutional responsibilities, formalized coordination mechanisms, and accountability to resolve cross-sectoral contradictions that may arise.

SEA-MaP's risk assessment (section 5.3) identified institutional fragmentation as a leading risk. The policy coherency mapping (section 5.5) found that all four regional frameworks identify a common opportunity for strengthened governance coherency across sectors. The proposed SEA-MaP Synthesized Recommendation Framework (chapter 2) has a dedicated governance theme (Theme 2) with six sub-groups addressing different dimensions of a potential governance framework.

This section consolidates the governance and institutional anchoring recommendations across all analytical components of the synthesis into a unified framework for ASEAN consideration.

The proposed regional recommendations and governance arrangements provided may be considered as opportunities to strengthen and build upon existing ASEAN mechanisms and coordination platforms, rather than establishing new standalone mechanisms. The aim is to promote coherence, minimize duplication, and ensure consistency with established ASEAN mandates.

The recommendations provided in this section are aimed to support ASEC, AWGCME and each AMS to consider the most appropriate governance and institutional arrangements in their jurisdictions considering the opportunities and constraints identified during the preparation of this Synthesis Document and Implementation Roadmap.

Regional Governance Architecture

The current ASEAN governance architecture for marine debris is centered on the ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME), which reports to the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on the Environment (ASOEN) within the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) pillar. This configuration presents coordination complexities for the implementation of SEA-MaP outcomes.[19] First, implementation of SEA-MaP outcomes depends on decisions made across multiple sectoral bodies without an established coordination mechanism, including trade, standards, and finance. Second, formal mechanism for cross-pillar coordination are limited at the working level between AWGCME and the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ) (the primary standards body), the Focal Group on Circular Economy (FG-CE), and the ASEAN Task Force on Blue

[18] Regional marine debris programs with publicly available performance assessments were reviewed to draw insights on potential risks. Regional projects considered include (i) Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA); (ii) Marine Environment Protection of the South-East Asian Seas (MEPSEAS); (iii) USAID Clean Cities, Blue Ocean (CCBO); (iv) ADB Promoting Action on Plastic Pollution from Source to Sea in Asia and the Pacific; (v) PEMSEA Project on Reducing Marine Plastics in East Asian Seas Region; (vi) GEF ISLANDS Pacific; (vii) WWF Plastic Smart Cities; (viii) EU SWITCH-Asia.

[19] The identified coordination challenges are an analytical finding. Any proposed arrangements remain subject to existing ASEAN mandates and processes.

Economy (ACTF-BE), all which report to the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) pillar.[20] ASEAN Coordination Meeting on Coastal and Marine Environment as potential platform to include relevant sectoral bodies. These coordination considerations are an analytical finding of this Synthesis; any arrangements suggested remain subject to existing ASEAN mandates and processes.

ASEAN Body	Responsibilities	Opportunities for Collaboration on Marine Debris Management[21]	Proposed Coordination Mechanism
ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)	One of the three core pillars of the ASEAN Community, dedicated to realizing the full potential of its citizens. It focuses on human development, social justice, environmental sustainability, and forging a shared regional identity through cooperative, people-centered initiatives.	Acknowledgement of the interconnected nature of environmental, social and economic policy, particularly regarding matters addressing sustainable development and circular economy.	Formal ASEAN-wide engagement to determine suitable coordination mechanisms going forward to accelerate progress on sustainable development goals.
ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on the Environment (ASOEN)	The primary regional committee responsible for coordinating and implementing environmental policies and sustainable development programs across ASEAN.	Senior official engagement with counterparts in the Economic Pillar to advance a formal and strategic collaboration.	Periodic coordination meetings to discuss and advance a senior official level coordination framework.
ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME)	Lead body for marine environment; governs RAP implementation; reports to ASOEN.	Active engagement across all ASEAN pillars to strengthen RAP coordination.	Organization of an inter-body coordination mechanism or KPP.
ASEAN Working Group on Chemicals and Waste (AWGCW)	Leads regional and international cooperation, policy coordination, and technical execution for the environmentally sound management of hazardous chemicals and waste across AMS.	Collaboration with AWGCME in international forums on plastic pollution and responsible trade.	Exploration of a joint AWGCME-AWGCW working group on plastic chemicals and waste.
ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)	One of the three core pillars of the ASEAN Community (alongside ASCC), dedicated to the realization of regional economic integration in Southeast Asia, aimed at creating a single market and production base among its 11 member states. Launched in 2015, the AEC	Collaboration with ASCC on environmental policies and initiatives that are dependent on support from trade and industry.	Periodic coordination meetings to develop, adopt and monitor a joint workplan.

[20] ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ), ASEAN Coordinating Task Force on Blue Economy (ACTF-BE), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME), Focal Group on Circular Economy (FG-CE)

[21] The recommendations are intended to support implementation where consistent with existing mandates and subject to Member State agreement.

	facilitates the seamless movement of goods, services, investment, capital, and skilled labor.		
ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ)	Standards body within AEC. Manages Mutual Recognition Arrangements and sectoral working groups.	Engagement on SEA-MaP key recommendations including packaging standards, EPR definitions, and MRA development.	Exploration of a joint AWGCME-ACCSQ working group on plastics circularity.
Focal Group on Circular Economy (FG-CE)	AEC focal group on circular economy; coordinates CE Framework implementation across AEC.	Strong collaboration on upstream prevention, EPR, and circular economy deliverables as CE Framework outputs.	Consider representation in inter-body coordination.
ASEAN Task Force on Blue Economy (ACTF-BE)	Cross-pillar task force on Blue Economy Framework implementation.	Strong collaboration on marine debris management, MRV, and coastal governance.	Representation in inter-body coordination. Joint programming on marine data systems.
ASEAN Secretariat	Program management; SEA-MaP secretariat function on behalf of AWGCME; knowledge hub governance.	Ongoing support of SEA-MaP outputs uptake.	Resources mobilized to ensure dedicated staff remain available to continue advancing regional cooperation on marine debris management.
ASEAN Coordination Meeting on Coastal and Marine Environment	Coordinates regional policies and partnerships to protect marine ecosystems.	Potential platform to include relevant sectoral bodies	Inclusive participation from ACSS and AEC relevant sectoral bodies in discussions pertaining to circular economy and sustainable plastics management.

Table 26 Potential Opportunities for Strengthened Inter-body ASEAN Coordination

Illustrative Governance Arrangements by National Implementation Approach

ASEAN Member States represent a diverse mix of institutional capacity, financing conditions, delivery systems, enforcement strength, data quality, and ability to scale successful initiatives. Because of this, effective governance frameworks at the national level will also be diverse.

National Implementation Approaches have been proposed to illustrate three possible scenarios consider capacity and priority for planning, financing, delivering, enforcing, and sustaining RAP-aligned actions. These 'Approaches' are not rankings of performance. They are practical groupings based on how systems currently function and what type of support is likely to be most impactful in the near-term.

Given the diversity of national governance systems, three illustrative governance arrangements are presented in Table 29. The illustration provides examples of governance characteristics associated with the three national implementation Approaches. For each AMS, flexibility may be considered for adaptation to national legal and institutional contexts.

Governance Element	Foundational	Transitional	Advanced
Inter-ministerial coordination	Inter-ministerial working group for marine debris management with regularly recurring	Inter-ministerial RAP advisory group supported by secretariat function in lead ministry.	Mandate of the inter-ministerial body is anchored in legislative framework, inclusive of performance

Governance Element	Foundational	Transitional	Advanced
	coordination meetings (e.g. quarterly).		review and accountability measures.
Policy coherence	Review of policy coherency cross the plastic pollution lifecycle; identify top 3 regulatory contradictions; develop reform roadmap.	Comprehensive legal and regulatory mapping; inter-ministerial reform agenda prepared with time-bound milestones.	Annual coherence reviews; priority legislative contradictions resolved expeditiously.
National-subnational cooperation	Encourage annual LGU reporting with harmonized digital form; preparation of consolidated national performance report.	Subnational performance reporting; subnational capacity support program; replication framework.	Real-time subnational performance dashboard; replication protocol for successful subnational models.
Enforcement	Enforcement body designated per key regulation; basic inspection protocol adopted.	Enforcement audit program operational; graduated penalty framework; enforcement report published.	Independent EPR audit function; whistleblower mechanisms; performance-linked enforcement budgets.
M&E and adaptive management	Policies include periodic review clause; first evidence-based adjustment documented.	Regular RAP review cycle with clear adjustment authority; evidence-based adjustments shared with ASEAN partners.	Independent RAP performance review; mechanism established to trigger policy adjustments.

Table 27 Illustrative Governance Arrangements by National Implementation Approach

Post-project Institutional Anchoring

Sustainability was a central consideration throughout the implementation of the SEA-MaP project. Rather than focusing on short-term interventions, the project was designed to strengthen regional institutions, develop harmonized policies and technical guidance, and build long-term capacity within ASEAN Member States to address marine plastic pollution. Post-project institutional anchoring will ensure that the project's benefits extend beyond the life of the project by supporting enduring institutional capacity, improved regional cooperation and the continued integration of environmental, social and gender considerations into future policies and investments addressing marine plastic pollution

The completion of the SEA-MaP program in 2027 presents an opportunity to transition from project-based delivery to sustained regional action. To seamlessly carry forward the progress achieved, sustaining regional ownership is essential. This approach will allow ASEAN's ongoing efforts to combat marine debris to build directly upon the foundation laid by SEA-MaP. Accordingly, this paper proposes three criteria that ASEAN may wish to consider supporting this continued progress.

#	Anchoring Condition	For Discussion	Responsible Body

1	**Inter-body coordination arrangements inclusive of but not limited to AWGCME, ACCSQ, FG-CE, ACTF-BE.[22]**	The appropriate coordination instrument is tabled at relevant AEC and ASCC bodies.	*AWGCME / ASEAN Secretariat*
2	**Regional Platform for Knowledge and Partnerships and the Innovation and Investment Platform are maintained in close coordination with ASEAN Secretariat with confirmed budget and maintenance protocol.**	Platform governance framework documented. At least 2 ASEC staff trained on platform management. Host institution secured.	*AWGCME / ASEAN Secretariat*
3	**SEA-MaP harmonization deliverables tabled at ACCSQ for a coordinated approach.**	EPR definitions, packaging standards, plastic waste trade standards and MRA framework tabled at ACCSQ Working Group.	*AWGCME / ACCSQ*

Table 28 Post-project Institutional Anchoring

5.7 Enabling Regional Recommendations

Six strategic recommendations have been identified that are expected to have a significant positive impact as a catalyst for additional actions at both the regional and national levels. Each recommendation is drawn from the Regional Implementation Approach and supports one or more of the following: it addresses a primary risk identified in the risk matrix; it closes a gap identified in the coherency mapping; or it is assigned to Phase 1 – Immediate Priorities in the Regional Implementation Approach.

1. **ASEAN frameworks:** Advance an inter-body coordination framework linking AWGCME, ACCSQ, FG-CE, and ACTF-BE.

2. **Harmonized monitoring**: Build capacity to implement the *Guidebook on Common Methodologies* indicator framework across ASEAN. Explore modalities to support the development and hosting of a regional database to strengthen regional coordination.

3. **Standards and trade:** Initiate collaboration with ACCSQ and FG-CE to advance trade and standard related activities — EPR definitions, packaging standards, MRA framework, plastic waste trade standards, and upstream CE provisions.

4. **Resource mobilization:** Secure domestic and external financial contributions to sustain momentum on marine debris programming after SEA-MaP closure following detailed guidance provided in the PSC-endorsed *Resource Mobilization Strategy*.

5. **Ownership and continuity:** SEA-MaP leadership may prioritize further clarifying the roles of content owners, platform owners, and technical administrators for the post-project knowledge platforms. Outputs may include a handover protocol covering files, metadata, access, hosting, maintenance, and staff transitions to help safeguard institutional knowledge and minimize knowledge loss after project completion.

6. **People and learning:** Complement formal reports and knowledge platforms with Communities of Practice, peer-learning mechanisms, or other suitable approaches that can capture and facilitate the exchange of practical lessons, including implementation experiences and challenges faced by national and local practitioners.

Detailed guidance on how each recommendation could be taken forward — including possible sequencing and coordination arrangements — is provided in the Phase 1 Immediate Priorities, the risk mitigation matrix, and Addendum C. Consistent with existing ASEAN mandates, the specific arrangements for taking these forward remain for ASEAN to determine.

[22] ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ), ASEAN Coordinating Task Force on Blue Economy (ACTF-BE), ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC), ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment (AWGCME), Focal Group on Circular Economy (FG-CE)

ADDENDUMS

- Addendum A: Recommended Actions by Work Stream, Theme and Sub-group
- Addendum B: National Prioritization Framework and Implementation Approaches
- Addendum C: Regional Prioritization Framework
- Addendum D: Budget Scenarios
- Addendum E: Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
- Addendum F: Sustainability Plan
- Addendum G: Consolidated Communication and Engagement Strategy