

ASEAN Guidelines

on Promoting Responsible Investment in Food, Agriculture & Forestry (ASEAN RAI)

Guidance for private, public, and civil society sectors

Why is the ASEAN RAI important for private sector players?

Ten guiding principles to help investors mitigate financial, operational and reputational risk and increase the likelihood of project success.

- 1 Food security, food safety & nutrition
- 2 Economic development & poverty eradication
- 3 Women & young people
- 4 Land tenure
- 5 Natural resources & forests
- 6 Technology
- 7 Climate change & natural disasters
- 8 Governance & rule of law
- 9 Assessing impacts & accountability
- 10 Regional approaches

Aligned to 9+ Sustainable Development Goals

Adapted from international standards to fit the ASEAN environmental, social and political context

Uncovers opportunities for sustainable financing

Does the ASEAN RAI apply to your investments?

Types of Investments



Domestic, cross-border, greenfield, brownfield, usually land-based

Investments include



Farms or plantations; fisheries; production, processing and packaging facilities and more

Financing structures



Company re-investment; co-investment (blended); third party financed (MDB, impact investor, credit facility, private equity)

Growing interest in responsible investments



Increase in Foreign Direct Investment in agriculture, forestry and fisheries from EU to ASEAN 2015-2019¹

Singapore invests more into ASEAN's agriculture sector than any other single country



Since 2018, agribusiness has received 8 out of 12 (66%) of the sustainability-linked loans issued in ASEAN²



Did you know?

- 1 Investors are looking for companies aligned to existing environmental and social standards.³
- 2 EU regulation⁴ requires investors to disclose how their investments are ESG-aligned.
- 3 The Stock Exchanges of several ASEAN countries require companies to submit ESG reports as a listing rule.⁵

Responsible investments benefit businesses by

Mitigating risk

Social conflicts and environmental disasters cause long-term damage to company reputation and credit ratings



Preparing to comply

ASEAN Member States are integrating RAI Guidelines into existing agri-investment policies



Safeguarding livelihoods

100 million workers are employed by ASEAN's agriculture and forestry sector⁶



Leveraging market demand

By 2030, Asian consumers will spend

USD 8 trillion

on food products a year.⁷

This will create an opportunity to capture

USD 205 billion

in food and agri-investments in Southeast Asia annually.⁸

Join the ASEAN RAI community



Prepare for policy change

Through its adoption by ASEAN Member States in 2018, ASEAN RAI is the de facto guidance for food, agriculture and forestry investment policy. Join the conversation early!



Boost visibility

Build your organization's reputation by demonstrating your responsible practices to regional decision-makers at our high-level events.



Share and learn from experience

Share ideas and learn from others on how to solve common barriers and generate returns when following responsible investing practices.



Receive technical assistance

Participate in our Learning and Accreditation Program and gain practical skills on how to protect your investments by applying responsible practices.



Be part of a local and regional network*

Connect with potential partners, such as financial investors, supply chain actors, policymakers, experts and NGOs at our regional and national-level trainings and events across ASEAN.

To start on your ASEAN RAI journey, visit the [website](http://www.aseanraiguidelines.org)

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Learn more at www.aseanraiguidelines.org

*Grow Asia currently has 580+ partners across its Country Partnerships (50% private sector, 20% public sector, and 30% NGOs and CSOs)

(1) ASEAN Stat (2) ASEAN Sustainable Finance State of the Market 2020 (3) Sustainability Wins as Investors in Southeast Asia Shift Focus (4) EU Green Taxonomy (5) ESG Disclosure and Performance in Southeast Asia (6) Number of employed individuals in the ASEAN region 2017, by industry (7) PwC, Rabobank and Temasek launch The Asia Food Challenge Report (8) Southeast Asia's Green Economy: Pathway to Full Potential