



2 October 2025

AKCF Newsletter


1ST IN-SITU TRAINING COURSE ON CRITICAL MINERALS MANAGEMENT

Key milestones in our commitment for a more resilient ASEAN region.

Welcome to the first AKCF Newsletter!

This newsletter is a platform to highlight key activities from AKCF-funded projects and celebrate the achievements that reflects our shared commitment to a resilient, innovative, dynamic, and people-centered ASEAN.

From July to August 2025, ASEAN-Korea cooperation projects reached significant milestones, from strengthening people-to-people connectivity to advancing regional collaboration.

The ASEAN-Korea Music Festival (ROUND) 2025 in Malaysia Live Broadcast showcased ASEAN and Korean creativity to a global audience.

The 1st Regional Consultative Workshop on the Comprehensive Review of the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Culture and the Arts (2016-2025) and the Development of a New Work Plan and the ASEAN Regional Mine Action Center (ARMAC) Wrap Up Workshop strengthened dialogue and knowledge-sharing in the region.

Meanwhile, the ASEAN Korea Cooperation for Methane Mitigation (AKCMM) Launch in

Malaysia and 1st Methane Reduction Committee (MRC) Meeting kicked-off national-level implementation of this flagship initiative in Malaysia.

On the digital front, the Socialisation Session on Cybersecurity Awareness promoted safer online practices, while the Training for ASEAN Standards and Certification for Experts in Disaster Management (ASCEND) Competency Assessor Batch 3 continued building skilled professionals in the region.

The ASEAN Smart City Professionals Program (ASPP) Short-term Training and the 1st In-Situ Training Course on Critical Minerals Management advanced capacity building for ASEAN's future leaders.

Finally, the launch of ASEAN Secretariat's Electronic Vehicles and Charging Stations underscored ASEAN-Korea partnership in promoting sustainable and greener solutions for the region.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the AKCF Newsletter and look forward to sharing more stories of progress and cooperation in the months ahead.

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ROUND 2025 in Malaysia Live Broadcast in KBS World TV

After a successful ROUND Festival 2025 in Malaysia held on 21-22 June 2025, the festival was also broadcasted live in KBS World TV and KBS World TV's YouTube channel.

The live broadcast was divided into two episodes, showcasing the amazing performances of artists from ASEAN and Korea. It offered viewers the opportunity to experience the vibrant performances and collaborations in real time.

For those who missed the TV broadcast, ROUND 2025 can also be streamed through KBS World TV's YouTube.

In addition, exclusive performance clips are also being released in ROUND's YouTube channels, along with behind-the-scenes video from the performing artists.

By highlighting the diversity of ASEAN cultures alongside Korea's dynamic creative scene, ROUND 2025 continues to strengthen cultural bridges and foster deeper mutual understanding.

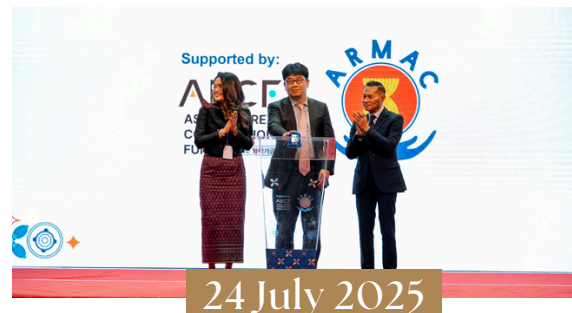
[Watch ROUND 2025 in Malaysia Episode 1](#)
[Watch ROUND 2025 in Malaysia Episode 2](#)



1st Regional Consultative Workshop on the Comprehensive Review of the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Culture and the Arts (2016–2025) and the Development of a New Work Plan

The workshop which was held in the ASEAN Secretariat/Headquarter in Jakarta marked the first of a three-part consultation process aimed at reviewing the current Strategic Plan and gathering external perspectives to discuss the development of a new Work Plan.

[Read more on AKCF website](#)



ARMAC Wrap-Up Workshop

Featuring panel dialogues, an interactive exhibition, and survivor stories, the one-day event highlighted the achievements of the AKCF-supported "Enhance Unexploded Ordnance Victim Assistance Programme in ASEAN Member States" (VA Project) over the years.

The event in Vientiane, Cambodia also serves as a platform for ASEAN Member States and other key stakeholders to reflect on national implementation, lessons learned, and the overall impact of the project.

[Read the news in ASEAN's website](#)



31 July - 1 August 2025

AKCMM Launch in Malaysia and 1st MRC Meeting

The launch event in Langkawi, Malaysia on 31 July 2025, marked the start of Malaysia's national implementation, the third out of nine targeted countries for implementation. It was followed by the 1st MRC Meeting on 1 August, confirming the National Steering Committee on Climate Change (NSCCC) as Malaysia's official MRC, with MyGhG designated as its secretariat.

[Read the news in GGGI's website](#)



12 August 2025

Socialisation Session on Cybersecurity Awareness

The interactive session provides an opportunity for the ASEAN Secretariat's staffs to engage in discussions on key cybersecurity issues. It is part of the AKCF-supported "Enhancing Cybersecurity of ASEAN Secretariat's IT and Network Infrastructure" project, which adopts a comprehensive approach to addressing IT challenges, from the technology to policy, culture, and process.

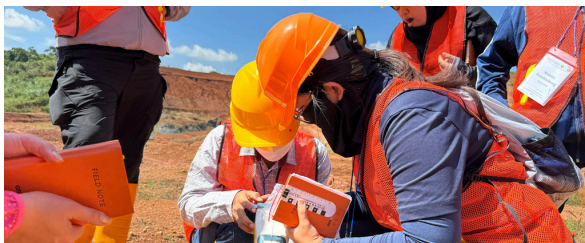


17-21 August 2025

Training for ASCEND Competency Assessor Batch 3

The training in Bangkok, Thailand, brought together 29 participants from National Disaster Management Organisations (NDMOs), partner organisations, and NGOs, including 20 ASCEND certificate holders, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to serve as competency assessors under the ASCEND programme.

[Watch the highlight video](#)



25 August - 4 September 2025

1st In-Situ Training Course on Critical Mineral Management

The in-situ training was designed to enhance the technical capabilities of government officials and experts from ASEAN Member States in practical geological exploration and integrated data management. It was held in West Java and Jakarta, Indonesia.

The training was implemented by KIGAM, as co-implementing agency of the project, with support from Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programme (CCOP) and Geological Agency of Indonesia (GAI) as co-proponents.

[Watch the highlight video](#)



25 August - 5 September 2025

ASEAN Smart City Professionals Program (ASPP) Short-term Training

From 25 August to 5 September 2025, 52 government officials and experts from across ASEAN took part in the ASEAN Smart City Professionals Program (ASPP) short-term training programme at Seoul National University.

This two-week training equipped participants with new insights on smart city planning and implementation. It combined classroom learning with field visits to Seoul and Jeonju City, giving participants first-hand exposure to smart city innovations in action.

[Read more on AKCF website](#)



8 August 2025

Launch of ASEAN Secretariat's Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations

Jakarta, Indonesia, 8 August 2025 - As part of the 58th ASEAN Day celebration activities, Secretary-General of ASEAN, Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, together with the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to ASEAN, H.E. Lee Jang-keun, officiated the launch of the ASEAN Headquarters/ASEAN Secretariat's electric vehicles (EVs) and charging stations.

The initiative is part of an ASEAN-Korea Cooperation Fund (AKCF)-funded project aimed at strengthening the operational capacity of the ASEAN Headquarters/ASEAN Secretariat's through the adoption of clean energy technologies. The ceremony was also attended by members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN. Prior to the launch, the ASEAN Secretariat also held a training for the drivers to familiarise themselves with the EVs.

Over the course of the project, a total of five EVs will be delivered to ASEAN Secretariat and five charging stations will be installed to support the EVs operation.

[Read the news on ASEAN's website](#)

Featured Project

Strengthening the ASEAN Secretariat Operational Function with Clean Energy Technologies

Objectives

Enhancing effectiveness and efficiency of the operationalisation of the ASEAN Secretariat



Budget

USD 344,960



Proponent

ROK Mission to ASEAN



Implementing Agency

Corporate Affairs Directorate, ASEAN Secretariat



Project Period

2024-2027

Thank you for reading

AKCF ASEAN-KOREA
COOPERATION
FUND 한·아세안 협력기금