# Session 1: ASEAN Green and Sustainability Bond Market and Good Practices

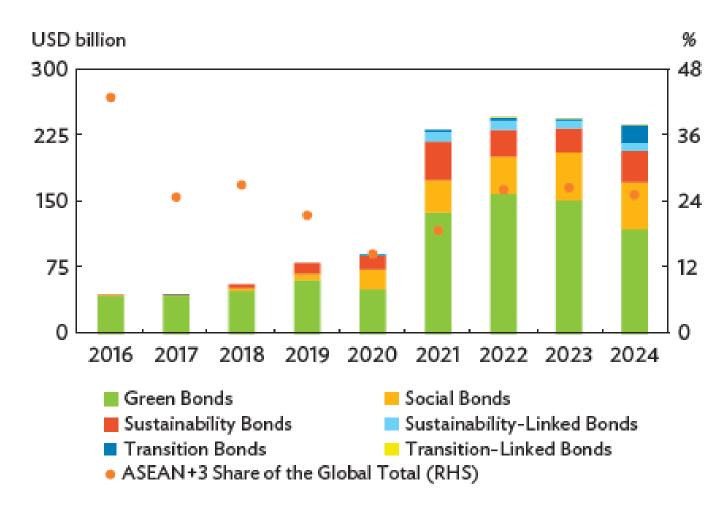
Issuance of Sovereign and Private Sector Green and Sustainability Bonds: Lessons from ASEAN



19 May 2025 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

## **ASEAN+3** Sustainable Bond Issuance and Share of the Global





ASEAN+3 = Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus the People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Japan; and the Republic of Korea; RHS = right-hand side; USD = United States dollar.

#### Notes:

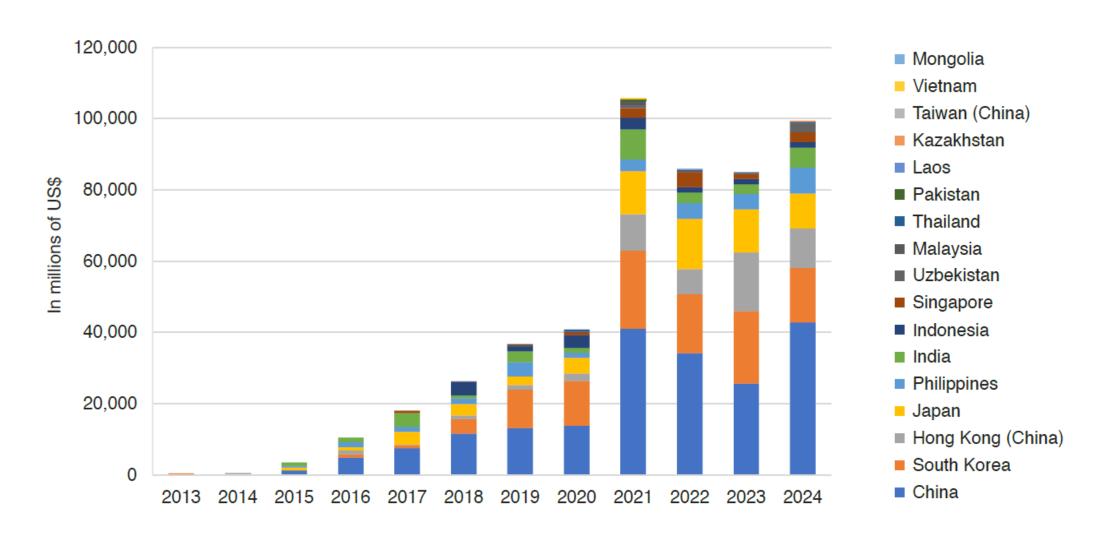
- Data include both local currency and foreign currency issues.
- 2. Sustainability-linked bonds include transition-linked bonds.

Source: AsianBondsOnline calculations based on Bloomberg LP data.

**Total** 

## International Sustainable Bond Issuance in Asia (By deal nationality)





Source: ICMA, The Asian International Bond Markets: Issuance Trends and Dynamics; 5<sup>th</sup> Edition

## Who Had the Highest ratio of Sustainable Issuances in Asia in 2024?

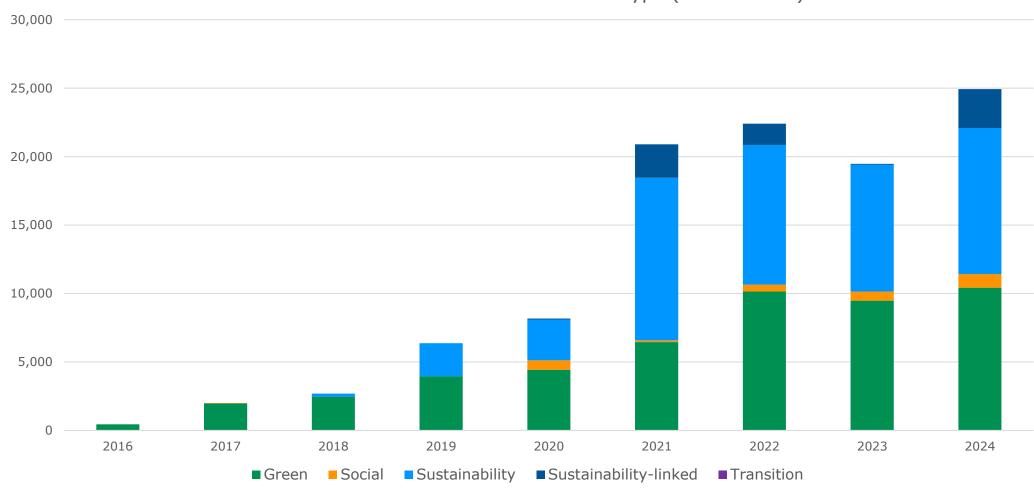


Asia – Top jurisdictions			Average	
#	% (in descending order)		Asia	Global (ex-Asia)
1	Uzbekistan	64% (US\$2.5 billion)	21% (US\$99 billion) (U	
2	India	44% (US\$5.6 billion)		
3	Hong Kong (China)	34% (US\$11 billion)		9% (US\$610 billion)
4	China	30% (US\$42.8 billion)		
5	South Korea	24% (US\$15.2 billion)		

### **ASEAN GSS+ Bond Issuances Per Bond Type**



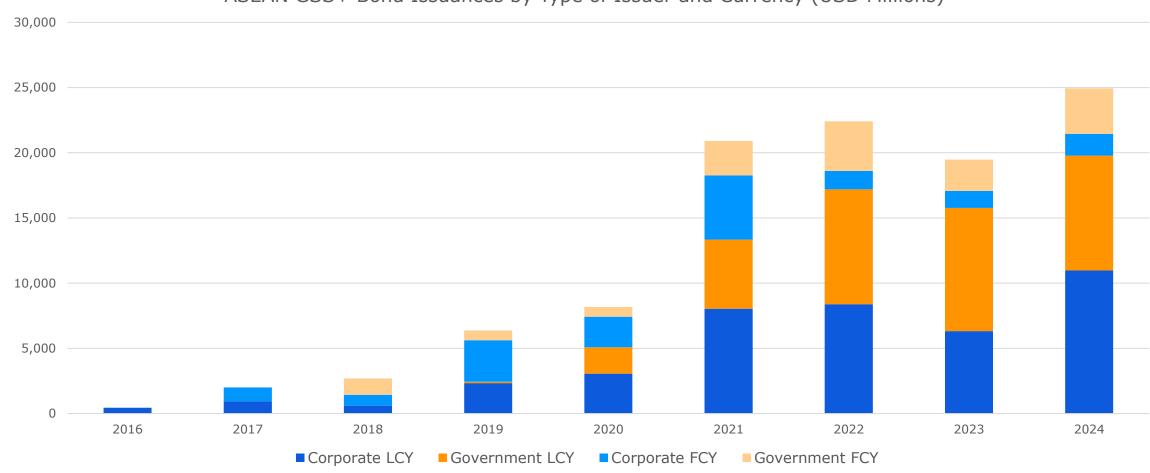




### **ASEAN GSS+ Bond Issuances by Type of Issuer and Currency**



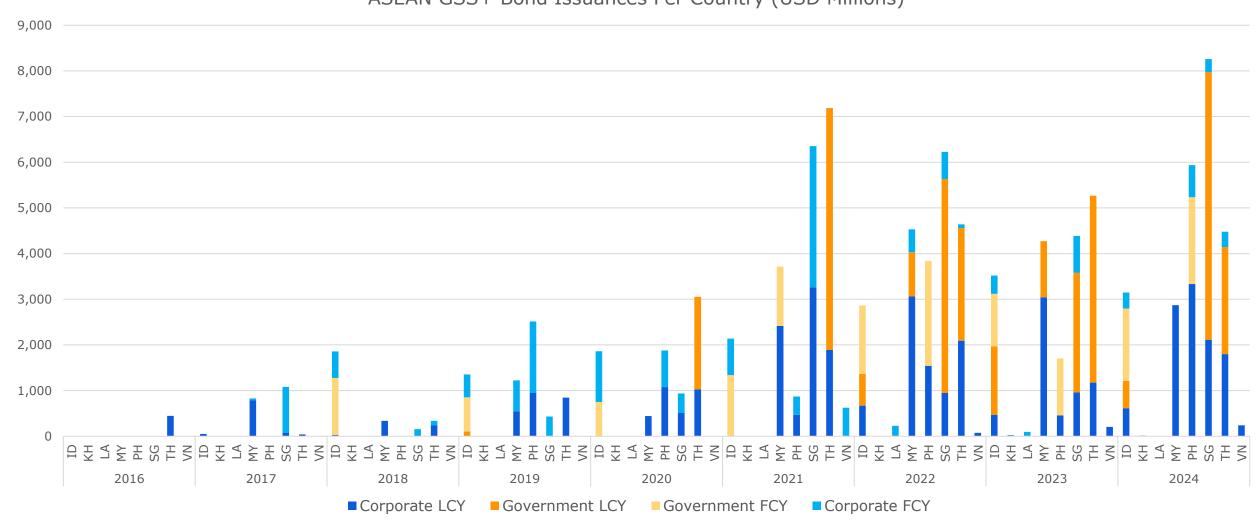




#### **ASEAN GSS+ Bond Issuances Per Country**

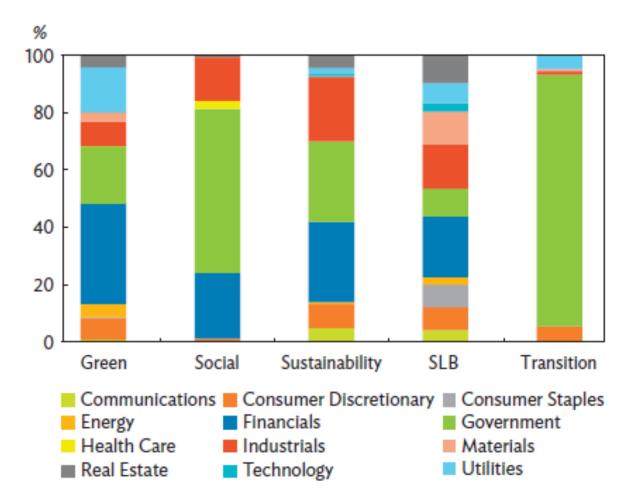






## **ASEAN+3** Sustainable Bond Issuance by Sector in 2024





#### SLB = sustainability-linked bond.

#### Notes:

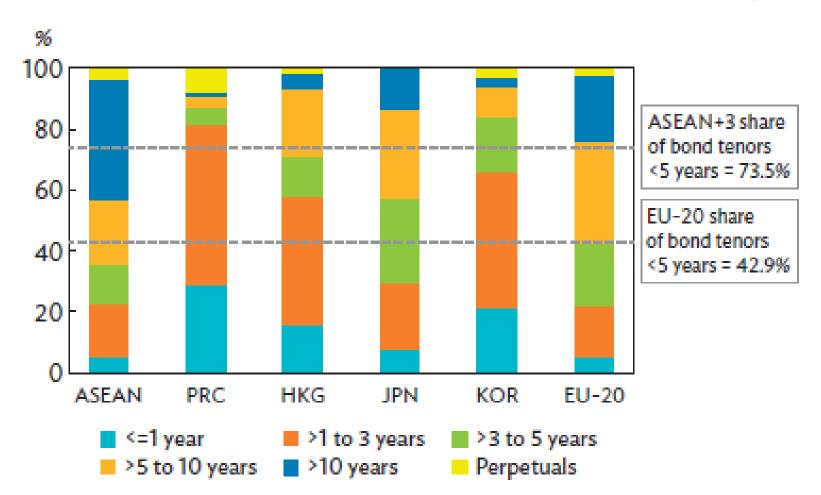
- ASEAN+3 is defined to include member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations plus the People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Japan; and the Republic of Korea.
- 2. Data include both local currency and foreign currency issues.
- SLBs include transition-linked bonds.

Source: AsianBondsOnline computations based on Bloomberg LP data.

## **Maturity Profiles: ASEAN + 3 and EU 20**



Maturity Profiles of ASEAN+3 and European Union 20 Sustainable Bonds Outstanding by Type of Bond at the End of 2024



ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; PRC = People's Republic of China; EU-20 = European Union 20; HKG = Hong Kong, China; JPN = Japan; KOR = Republic of Korea.

#### Notes

- ASEAN+3 is defined to include member states of ASEAN plus the People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Japan; and the Republic of Korea.
- ASEAN comprises the markets of Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam.
- The EU-20 includes European Union member markets Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Spain.
- 4. Data include both local currency and foreign currency issues.

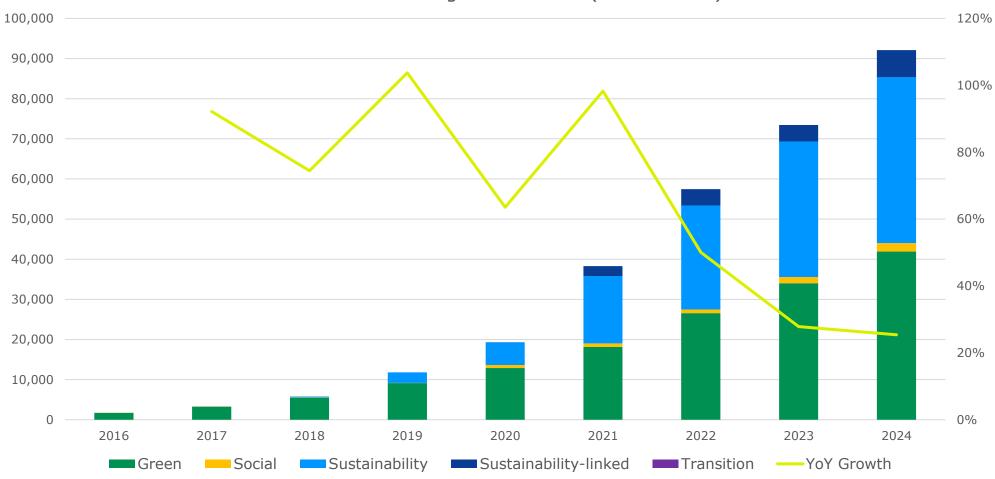
Source: AsianBondsOnline calculations based on Bloomberg LP data.

Source: Asia Bond Monitor March 2025

## **ASEAN Outstanding GSS+ Bonds**





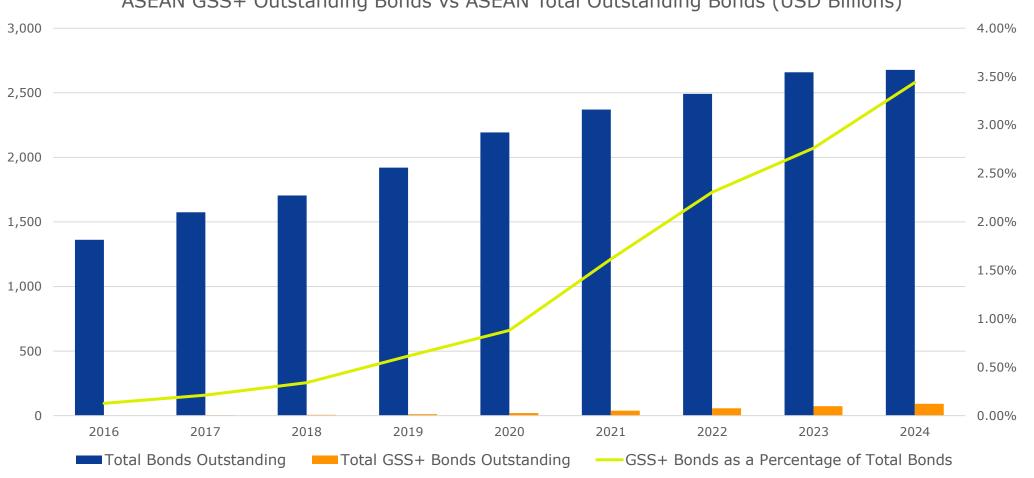


ASEAN GSS+ Bond Market has grown fifty-fold in the last decade

### **ASEAN GSS+ Outstanding Bonds vs ASEAN Total Outstanding Bonds**



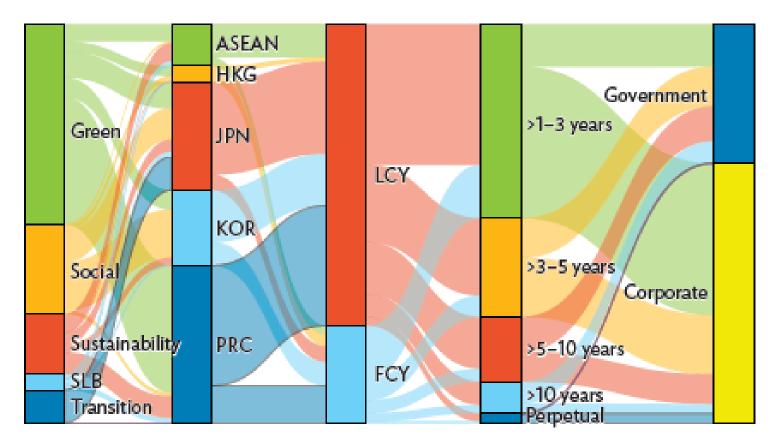




As of end-2024, **ASEAN GSS+ Bond Market** comprises 3.44% of Total ASEAN **Bond Market** 

#### Market Profile of ASEAN+3 Sustainable Bond Issuance in 2024





ASEAN = Association of Southeast Asian Nations; PRC = People's Republic of China; FCY = foreign currency; HKG = Hong Kong, China; JPN = Japan; KOR = Republic of Korea; LCY = local currency; SLB = sustainability-linked bond.

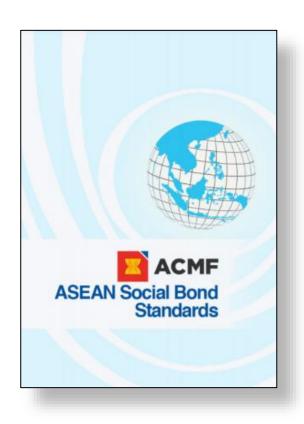
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Source: AsianBondsOnline calculations based on Bloomberg LP data.

#### The ASEAN GSS+ Bond Standards Suite







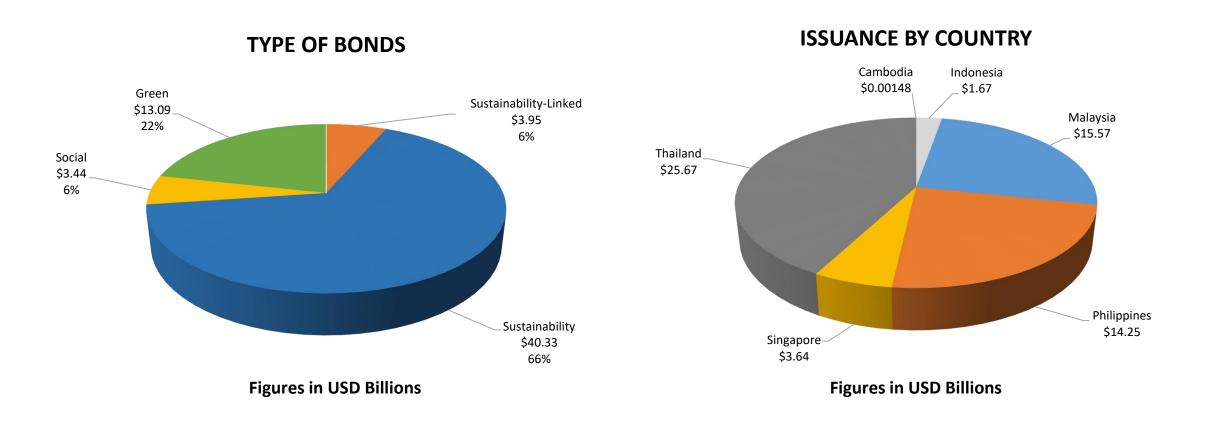




### Issuance of labelled ASEAN Green, Social and Sustainability Bonds



#### Total issuance of USD60.81B as at 13 May 2025 (excluding non-labelled, specifically aligned issuances).



#### The ASEAN SDG Bond Toolkit





#### Case studies from ASEAN countries: Government of Malaysia





Government of Malaysia				
U.S. Dollar Sustainability Sukuk				
Date	April 2021			
Amount	USD1.3 billion			
Tenor	USD800 million 10-year Trust Certificates USD500 million 30-year Trust Certificates			
Subscription	6.4x oversubscribed			
Use of proceeds	Eligible social and green projects aligned to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Agenda			
Framework	Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) Sukuk Framework			
External reviewer	Sustainalytics			
Notable points	<ul> <li>Lowest ever yield and spread for a US-dollar sukuk issuance by Malaysia (at time of issuance)</li> <li>Offering upsized USD1.0 billion to USD1.3 billion</li> <li>55% of the principal amount of the 10-year Sukuk to Asia, 33% to Europe, Middle-East and Africa (EMEA) and 12% to the United States</li> <li>46% of the principal amount of the 30-year Sukuk was distributed to investors in Asia, 33% to EMEA and 21% to the United States</li> </ul>			

#### Case studies from ASEAN countries: Bangkok Expressway and Metro



BEM Sustainable Financing Framework I January 2024





#### **Bangkok Expressway and Metro PLC (BEM)**

#### **Multi-tranche Sustainability Debentures**

Date	February 2024
Amount	THB5 billion
Tenor	5 series with tenor(s) ranging from 3 – 12 years
Subscription	5.2x oversubscribed
Use of proceeds	Refinance debt and/or equity investment in the Blue Line Project
Framework	BEM Sustainable Financing Framework incorporating Thailand Taxonomy and ASEAN Taxonomy
External reviewer	DNV
Notable points	<ul> <li>Priced at lower end for majority of tranches</li> <li>Offering upsized from 3 billion baht to 5 billion baht</li> <li>SPO assessed against DNSH criteria of ASEAN Taxonomy</li> </ul>

#### Case studies from ASEAN countries: Maynilad





Maynilad				
Blue Bonds				
Date	July 2024			
Amount	PHP 15 billion			
Tenor	Series A: 5 Years Series B: 10 Years			
Subscription	2.47x oversubscribed			
Use of proceeds	To finance capital expenditure on sustainable water and wastewater management			
Framework	Maynilad Sustainable Framework			
External reviewer	Sustainaytics			
Notable points	<ul> <li>Priced at the tight end of the corresponding spread range for each series</li> <li>First blue bond in Philippines</li> </ul>			

#### **Key Lessons**



- There is clear and increasing interest but some investors still cannot see the benefits. Returns are still the primary driver for them
- Extra requirements compared to conventional finance disincentivises issuers incentives such as subsidies for SPO helps (eg. Malaysia and Singapore have subsidies for issuers)
- Sustainable bonds are still relatively new there is a lack of common understanding and agreement. This makes it difficult for both issuers and investors. Regulatory and market standards are helping. Taxonomies, especially, can provide clarity. Capacity of issuers, investors, market participants, regulators needs to be strengthened
- Use of credible frameworks and external verification are critical
- Greeniums should not the main goal of issuers a benefit is diversifying investor base
- Investors see the benefit of portfolio diversification and risk management
- Project pipeline and deal supply still lacking hampering a virtuous demand and supply cycle

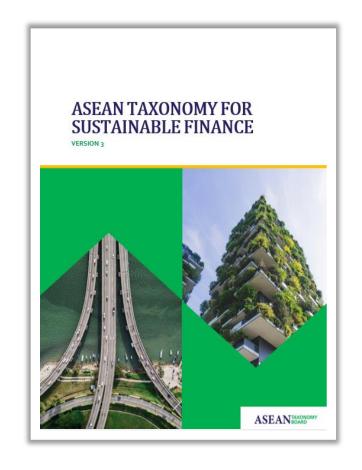
#### Scaling up



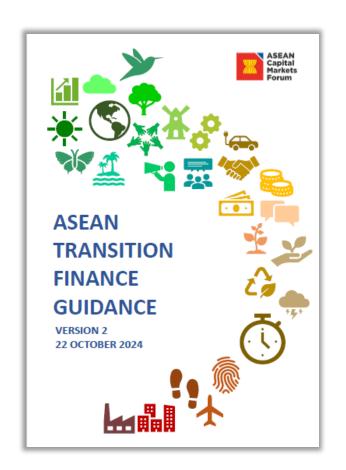
- Regulatory and market frameworks must reinforce each other to provide more clarity, credibility and consistency
- Enable and recognise geographical contextualisation ASEAN Taxonomy and ASEAN Transition Finance Guidance do this
- Intensify capacity building for all stakeholders
- Enable transactions through technical assistance, concessional financing including for de-risking –eg ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility
- Sovereign issuances can help catalyse private sustainable debt markets
- Open up areas where needs are critical transition finance or where thematic investment can take place (SDGs)

#### **ASEAN Transition Finance**









#### **DISCLOSURES**

## **Thank You**