

COMMUNIQUE

3rd Southeast Asia Collaborative Convening of Civil Society Organizations on Just Energy Transition

3-5 June 2025

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



“We, civil society organization (CSO) representatives gathered at the “3rd Southeast Asia Collaborative Convening of Civil Society Organizations on Just Energy Transition” in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, extend our support to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), its Member States, and stakeholder groups in urgently setting ambitious targets that will enable the scaling up of support and financing for gender-just and inclusive energy transition across the region.

For this purpose, we propose the following for the consideration of the 43rd ASEAN Ministers of Energy Meeting (AMEM) in the development of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC) 2026-2030:

1. Include an equitable and sector-driven gender-just and inclusive energy transition as a pillar of APAEC 2026-2030;

2. Enable and assure transparent, substantial, and meaningful inclusion and participation of Indigenous Peoples, impacted communities, youth, people living with disabilities, women, and women's rights organizations (WROs), other marginalized groups, and CSOs in contributing to the development and monitoring the implementation of APAEC 2026-2030 with the aim of enabling cross-collaboration among various stakeholders;
3. Prioritize energy security and equitable access for all and address the persistent gender disparity in the energy sector through a transformative gender-just transition;
4. Ensure alignment with global commitments by urging member states to reflect gender-just and inclusive energy transition principles in their respective Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies, and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) that will then inform APAEC 2026-2030;
5. Urge financial institutions and investors to scale up and accelerate the redirection of finance from fossil fuels to renewable and gender-just and inclusive energy transition, and to provide substantial support and access to finance for community-led sustainable renewable energy solutions and transition programs for Indigenous Peoples, impacted communities, youth, women, and other marginalized groups;
6. Enhance safeguarding, transparency, and accountability in the process of a gender-just and inclusive energy transition and mining of critical minerals; and ensure a transparent and accountable monitoring system in tracking the progress of the transition.
7. Ensure that financial institutions and investors financing and providing technical support for the region's energy transition, particularly in transition/critical minerals mining value chains, comply with international climate, human rights, environmental rights, and gender-transformative frameworks; abide by the highest standards in accountability, including the development, implementation, and compliance of robust safeguards and grievance and remedy mechanisms; respect the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) of Indigenous Peoples and local communities; and engage in transparent and meaningful consultation with project-affected communities and CSOs.
8. Urge its member states in encouraging the delivery of time-bound commitments towards realizing the ASEAN's collective aspiration of net-zero emission by 2050.
9. The APAEC 2026-2030 should be aligned with ASEAN Regional Policy Frameworks and Instruments such as the ASEAN Climate Change Strategic Action Plan and the ASEAN Renewable Energy-Gender Roadmap.

To this end, we, CSOs from across the ASEAN, offer our support to the ASEAN and its member states in enabling a gender-just and inclusive energy transition in the region through the generation of evidence-based research on promoting responsible financing pathways, transparency and accountability, rights-based policies, and just and inclusive energy transition indicators; mainstreaming gender equality, disability, and social inclusion in national energy planning; facilitating social dialogues and supporting the participation of marginalized groups; supporting, demonstrating, and promoting sustainable and renewable energy solutions that are community-owned, youth, and women-led; and creating an enabling environment for financial institutions and investors to accelerate and scale up financing for a gender-just and inclusive energy transition, while preventing and mitigating social and environmental impacts, particularly in the transition/critical minerals value chains.

For us to effectively contribute, ASEAN member states should ensure CSOs' access to transparent and inclusive consultation mechanisms and provide safe spaces that will enable CSOs and communities to substantially and effectively participate in various levels of policy development and implementation.

We, CSOs across the region, are ready to work with the ASEAN and its member states to pilot, model, and promote community-led sustainable, gender-just, and inclusive transition solutions that will safeguard livelihoods and futures to ensure that no one is left behind.”

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