

# ASEAN HEALTH COOPERATION CONCEPT NOTE

## **1. Project Title**

The Training Course on Climate Change and Health for ASEAN Member States

## **2. Background information**

Climate Change affects environmental determinants of health and other environmental factors, such as urbanization, waste generation, and pollution. These factors further amplify the adverse impacts of climate change. There is a very high level of confidence that human health has been affected both directly and indirectly due to climate change. This range of scenarios includes deaths from extremely high temperatures to changes in the patterns of various diseases. Climate change is a significant and emerging threat to public health, leading to increased healthcare expenses and national expenditures.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is one of the region's most susceptible to climate change, experiencing adverse impacts on human health and healthcare systems. The region needs knowledge and tools to effectively manage and mitigate the health risks associated with changing climatic conditions. Additionally, the training needs assessment report provided by Malaysia indicates that ASEAN Member States (AMS) require enhanced capacity in useful tools such as health impact assessment and addressing the challenging issue of climate change and health.

To conform with the training needed, the Work Programme 2021–2025 of ASEAN Health Cluster 2 on responding to all hazards and emerging threats provides for strengthening the capacity of health and relevant sectors on health impact assessment and climate change adaptation in health under Health Priority 12 on Environmental Health, Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and Health Impact of Climate Change, and as a part of project activity 35, the continuation of 'Strengthening Environmental Health Network and Empowering Health Impact Assessment' that contributes to advancing an inclusive understanding of the principles of climate change and health will be beneficial in preparing for risk management and protecting the health of the ASEAN population.

The Training Course on Climate Change and Health is designed to strengthen human resources in public health for ASEAN Member States. The training course will provide a conceptual and practical approaches to understanding the relationship between Climate Change and Health, as well as how to take action to reduce the health risks associated with climate change.

## **3. Objectives**

1. To build the capacity of public health practitioners with knowledge on climate change and health and skills in the management of the health risks associated with climate change.
2. To provide an opportunity for sharing knowledge, experiences and discussion regarding the best practices in the implementation of Climate Change and Health
3. To strengthen Climate Change and Health Network (CCHN) among ASEAN Member States.