



Editor's Note

Asean International Sandbox Conference (AISC) Proceedings

Volume 8, 2026

The Sustainability Imperative – Beyond Borders, Beyond Disciplines

Welcome to Volume 8 of the *Asean International Sandbox Conference (AISC) Proceedings*. As we move further into the latter half of the 2020s, the conversations surrounding global development have shifted from "why" to "how." In this issue, we turn our collective gaze toward the most critical imperative of our time: Sustainability and the integrated application of Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles.

The concept of a "sandbox"—a space for creativity, experimentation, and safe testing—has never been more relevant. The challenges we face today, from climate volatility to socio-economic disparity, cannot be solved by rigid, traditional frameworks. They require the agility to test new models and the courage to implement them. This volume brings together a diverse collection of research that treats the ASEAN region not just as a market, but as a living laboratory for sustainable innovation.

Sustainability is often compartmentalized into environmental compliance, yet the research presented in this issue demonstrates that it is a unifying thread weaving through every fabric of our society.

We explore how the financial sector is pivoting from merely tracking growth to financing resilience. The papers in this section challenge the traditional bottom line, proposing new accounting standards and economic models where "profit" is inextricably linked to "planet" and "people." We look at how ESG scores are influencing capital flows and how emerging economies can foster growth that is both robust and regenerative.

Innovation is the engine of sustainability. This issue highlights breakthroughs in green technology and data analytics that allow us to measure our impact with unprecedented precision. From circular economy engineering to AI-driven resource management, science is providing the tools we need to do more with less.

A sustainable future is meaningless without a healthy population. We examine the intersection of environmental health and public well-being, looking at how healthcare systems can decarbonize while expanding access. The discourse here extends to "social sustainability"—ensuring equitable health outcomes as a pillar of country growth.



ASEAN International Sandbox Conference 2026
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As a region rich in culture and natural beauty, ASEAN stands at a crossroads. The contributions regarding tourism in this volume argue for a shift from mass consumption to regenerative travel—models where tourism actively restores the environment and revitalizes local communities rather than depleting them.

The "Sandbox" is open. The research contained in Volume 8 represents the intellectual bravery required to redefine what growth looks like for our nations. Whether you are a policymaker, an academic, a business leader, or a student of the world, these findings are relevant to you. We are not merely observing the changing world; we are drafting the blueprints for it.

I invite you to delve into these pages with an open mind. Challenge the hypotheses, critique the methodologies, and most importantly, consider how these ideas can be lifted from the page and applied in the real world.

Let us explore how we can be sustainable in every dimension.

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