



PRESS RELEASE

2026 BIMP-EAGA-REPUBLIC OF KOREA COOPERATION FUND (BKCF) OUTREACH AND CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

1. The 2026 BIMP-EAGA–Republic of Korea Cooperation Fund (BKCF) Outreach and Capacity Building Workshop was successfully held on 6 July 2026. The workshop was co-organised by the BIMP-EAGA National Secretariat for Brunei Darussalam, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Republic of Korea. The objective of the Workshop is to strengthen awareness and capacity among stakeholders in Brunei Darussalam to access funding opportunities under the BKCF. More than 30 key stakeholders and representatives from the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Brunei Darussalam, government agencies, academic institutions, the private sectors including the BIMP-EAGA Business Council and the National Chamber of Commerce participated the Workshop.
2. In her opening remarks, Yang Mulia Puan Hajah Norhayati Haji Ismail, Head of the BIMP-EAGA National Secretariat for Brunei Darussalam, expressed appreciation to the Government of the Republic of Korea for its generous contribution and steadfast support towards the development of the BIMP-EAGA subregion through the establishment of the BKCF. She highlighted that the Fund demonstrates the Republic of Korea's strong commitment to fostering regional cooperation and sustainable development.
3. The Workshop served as an important platform to strengthen cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Korea, while supporting shared efforts to promote balanced, inclusive and sustainable development in line with the aspirations of the BIMP-EAGA Vision 2035. Participants gained a better understanding of the BKCF, including its application procedures, eligibility requirements, funding mechanisms and key considerations for developing quality project proposals. The sharing of practical experiences and lessons learned by previous project proponents also provided valuable insights into project preparation and implementation. The Workshop is expected to encourage greater interest and participation from institutions in Brunei Darussalam in future BKCF funding opportunities, while fostering stronger partnerships and collaboration among stakeholders in support of regional development initiatives.
4. A site visit to the paddy fields in Kampong Junjongan was conducted on 7 July 2026 to monitor and review the implementation progress of the project by Centre for Strategic and Policy Studies (CSPS) entitled “Promoting Youth Engagement and Employment in the Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Rice Value Chain: An Action Research on the Rice Value Chain in Brunei Darussalam”. This project was successfully awarded funding under the third BKCF project call and serves as a practical example of the positive impact of BIMP-EAGA–Republic of Korea cooperation in advancing sustainable agriculture, youth empowerment and green economic development in the subregion.
5. Established in 2021, the BKCF focuses on four main priority areas, Tourism, Connectivity, Environment as well as Agriculture and Fisheries. The Fund aims to promote inclusive and balanced growth across the BIMP-EAGA subregion and while strengthening ASEAN connectivity through enhanced cooperation between BIMP-EAGA and the Republic of Korea.

Prepared by: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Brunei Darussalam

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