

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#	Questions	Answers
A. Introductory Questions (Context & Purpose)		
1.	What is ACCEPT?	<p>The All-Countries Common Equivalence Platform for Taxonomies (ACCEPT) is an innovative digital tool to help navigate and compare the different sustainable finance taxonomies (ASEAN Taxonomy, EU Taxonomy, national taxonomies of ASEAN Member States).</p> <p>ACCEPT will address the challenges arising from the proliferation and fragmentation of sustainable finance taxonomies which has created a complex environment for ASEAN's users and providers of capital. ACCEPT will assist them to mobilise the deployment of capital flows within ASEAN and between ASEAN Member States and beyond towards sustainable activities.</p> <p>ACCEPT was most recently mentioned in the Joint Statement of the ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting as a key initiative to support sustainable finance integration across the region. The joint statement can be accessed at https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/08_ADOPTED_12th-AMFGM-Joint-Statement_20250410.pdf</p> <p>ACCEPT comprises two capabilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taxonomy Navigator, which enables users to explore, understand and compare taxonomy requirements; and • Taxonomy Analyser, which provides indicative classification by enabling users to run comparative Activity assessments across taxonomy jurisdictions.

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2.	What is covered in this version of ACCEPT?	<p>This version of ACCEPT currently covers the official taxonomies from ASEAN, European Union, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. ACCEPT is a productivity tool that allows users to increase their awareness on sustainable finance requirements and reduces resources required for assessments, however it does not replace independent assessments by parties such as second party opinion providers.</p> <p>The ASEAN Taxonomy and Thailand Taxonomy (energy and transport sector) has been updated as at November 2025 and other taxonomies as at 31 December 2024.</p>
3.	Is ACCEPT free to users?	<p>This version of ACCEPT is free to users. In the future, where there is demand for enhanced features, separate charges may apply for access to those features. At present, our key priority is to increase the utility of taxonomies and we will monitor usage and needs to ensure that users gain familiarity with taxonomies and how ACCEPT can support that.</p>
4.	Will ACCEPT be enhanced in the future? (for example, making the information more comprehensive, having links to reference documents etc.)	<p>Yes, ACCEPT will undergo continuous improvements and we hope to include new features and content enhancements such as improvements to the taxonomy mappings and expanding the range of taxonomies covered on ACCEPT. Please contact us at acceptenquiries@sfinstitute.asia should you come across any inaccuracies or inconsistencies and we will endeavour to resolve them as soon as practicable.</p>
5.	Are there any recommended guidance or reference documents?	<p>Users are encouraged to refer directly to the source location of the ASEAN Taxonomy or other taxonomies and its related supplemental documents for official guidance. For example, Foundation Framework use cases for SMEs and MSMEs under the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance can be found at https://www.sfinstitute.asia/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/ASEAN-Taxonomy-FF-Use-Cases-20Dec2024.pdf.</p>

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6.	Can links to guidance or reference documents be added? How often are these updated?	<p>Yes. Certain links to relevant guidance and reference documents have already been included on the platform and are regularly monitored for relevance.</p> <p>For example, ACCEPT will continually be updated to reflect the most current version of official taxonomies, such as ASEAN Taxonomy Version 4 that was released by the ASEAN Taxonomy Board on 6 November 2025. In any case, users are advised to refer to the source documents for the most updated information.</p>
7.	What is the ASEAN Taxonomy Board (ATB) and how does it relate to ACCEPT?	<p>The ATB develops, maintains, and promotes the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance. The ATB was established in March 2021 under the auspices of the ASEAN Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors' Meeting (AFMGM) and comprises senior regulators from central banks, capital markets and insurance of all ASEAN Member States.</p> <p>The Taxonomy Navigator and Taxonomy Analyser in this version of ACCEPT includes the ASEAN Taxonomy Version 4 in its coverage of taxonomies.</p>
8.	Does the ASEAN Taxonomy allow for transition pathways or remedial measures?	Yes. The ASEAN Taxonomy includes provisions for transition activities, particularly under the Amber Tier 2 and Amber Tier 3 of the Plus Standard. These activities must demonstrate a credible plan to transition toward sustainability within a defined timeframe and serves as stepping stones for users on their sustainability journey.

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9.	What is the difference between the Foundation Framework and the Plus Standard in the ASEAN Taxonomy?	The Foundation Framework (FF) provides qualitative principles-based assessment of activities that is applicable to all AMS, stakeholders in the financial sector and business enterprises. The FF uses a traffic light system, guided by a sector-agnostic decision flow to classify economic activities and provides guiding questions, decision trees and use cases in the assessment frame. The Plus Standard contains threshold-based and process- or practice-based Technical Screening Criteria (TSC) that provides additional guidance and scope for AMS to further qualify and benchmark eligible green or transitional activities and investments.
10.	What does TSC mean in the ASEAN Taxonomy?	<p>Technical Screening Criteria (TSC) are quantitative or qualitative criteria against which the classification of the Activity is assessed. TSC are used in the Plus Standard of the ASEAN Taxonomy to assess and classify Activities as 'Green' or 'Amber' based on their contributions to environmental objectives. The ASEAN Taxonomy has defined TSC for a range of Activities. The Activities and their associated TSC are set out in Annex 1, page 79 of the ASEAN Taxonomy.</p> <p>The assessment frame to setting the TSC is to address both the principles of credibility and inclusiveness, where the 'Green' Tier is benchmarked to the Paris Agreement ambition and the 'Amber' Tiers promote inclusivity.</p>
B. Platform Functionality Questions (Using ACCEPT)		
11.	How do I use the Taxonomy Navigator and Taxonomy Analyser? Is there a guide?	We have created a User Guide (on the top right of the screen) that is accessible via this link : https://accept.sfinstitute.asia/accept/User_Guide.pdf that offers context and provides clear, step-by-step instructions, and includes examples to help you navigate the Taxonomy Navigator and Taxonomy Analyser.

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12.	Why do the Sector and Activity results in the Taxonomy Navigator differ from those in the Taxonomy Analyser?	<p>In the Taxonomy Navigator, the Sector and Activity names follow the naming conventions specified by the respective taxonomies. However, in the Taxonomy Analyser, we use a universal list of sectors and activities based on the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) to standardise the naming conventions across all taxonomies. As a result, the Sector and Activity names may differ slightly between the Taxonomy Navigator and Taxonomy Analyser.</p> <p>Please select the option that best matches your Sector and Activity.</p>
13.	Can I download or export my assessment input?	<p>At present, assessment inputs are not downloadable. We are exploring future enhancements to allow export functionality where feasible.</p> <p>For this version of ACCEPT, users are able to print the results page of the Taxonomy Navigator and Taxonomy Analyser, or export the results as a PDF by selecting “Save as PDF” from the dropdown list. An enhanced print function is in the improvement roadmap.</p>
14.	How can I report an issue or suggest improvements to the platform?	We welcome your feedback and please contact the ACCEPT support team via email at acceptenquiries@sfinstitute.asia
15.	Why isn't the login link from the email working?	The login link sent to your email expires after 7 days. Please request a new link if the current has expired.
16.	Must users download any applications or configure specific settings on their computers in order to use ACCEPT?	Users only need to have an internet browser with access to the internet in order to use ACCEPT. ACCEPT has been designed to be compatible with commonly used internet browsers such as Microsoft Edge, Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox and Safari. We recommend updating to the latest version of your preferred internet browser and using ACCEPT on a desktop or laptop for the best user experience.

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C. Practical Use Cases		
17.	How can I use ACCEPT?	<p>Users may use the Taxonomy Navigator or the Taxonomy Analyser in ACCEPT depending on their needs. Should users want to understand more about taxonomy requirements across various jurisdictions, they can use the Taxonomy Navigator. If users want to obtain and indicative classification of the Activity they would like to assess, they can use the Taxonomy Analyser.</p> <p>This version of ACCEPT covers the official taxonomies from ASEAN, European Union, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand.</p> <p>The ASEAN Taxonomy and Thailand Taxonomy (energy and transport sector) has been updated as at November 2025 and other taxonomies as at 31 December 2024.</p>
18.	How does a user choose which taxonomy to refer to?	<p>The ASEAN Taxonomy serves as an overarching guide and common language for sustainable finance across the region. Users will need to consider several factors, such as type of Activity, location of Activity, national policy on taxonomy usage, requirements of the financial institution that where financing is sought and other factors. Please email us at acceptenquiries@sfinstitute.asia should you have a specific question in need of clarification and we will do our best to assist.</p>
19.	Are there any precedents or use cases available?	<p>As part of the enhancement roadmap of ACCEPT, we plan to incorporate use cases in future versions. For example, Foundation Framework (FF) use cases for SMEs and MSMEs under the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance can be found at https://www.sfinstitute.asia/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/ASEAN-Taxonomy-FF-Use-Cases-20Dec2024.pdf</p>

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D. Taxonomy Navigator Questions		
20.	How complete is the information provided in the Taxonomy Navigator? Do I still have to refer to the actual taxonomies or seek third party validation?	The Taxonomy Navigator should only be used as a companion tool to the full taxonomy to obtain a high-level comparison. If further details are required, please refer to the official taxonomy and seek third party validation.
21.	Can ACCEPT platform replace the actual taxonomies?	The information provided in ACCEPT is a guide that has mapped the various taxonomies to provide a high-level indication and is not a substitute to replace the actual taxonomies. ACCEPT is intended to be a productivity tool so that users are able to make faster and more informed decisions in convenient manner.
E. Taxonomy Analyser Questions		
22.	Why can't I find the exact Activity name from the taxonomy in the dropdown list?	For the Taxonomy Analyser, we have studied the relevant taxonomies and mapped each Activity accordingly. However, not all activities are similarly named across taxonomies and therefore, we have developed a standardised protocol to ensure that comparable activities can be mapped accordingly. Please select the Activity that best fits your situation.
23.	Why might I encounter activities with very similar definitions when selecting my option and how should I proceed?	When selecting your Activity, you may find similar definitions with slight differences. This has occurred because some taxonomies describe the same concept using different terminologies. Please select the Activity that best describes your situation.
24.	How complete is the information provided in the Taxonomy Analyser? Do I still have to refer to the actual taxonomies or seek third party validation?	The Taxonomy Analyser should be used as a companion tool to the official taxonomy to obtain an indicative classification for Activity assessments. Please note that the equivalent classifications between taxonomies shown are indicative only, and users are advised to seek further validation from an independent external reviewer. The ASEAN Taxonomy and Thailand Taxonomy (energy and transport sector) has been updated as at November 2025 and other taxonomies as at 31 December 2024.

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F. Taxonomy-Specific Clarifications		
25.	Why is the Remedial Measures to Transition (RMT) not applicable under the EU Taxonomy?	<p>The concept of RMT does not exist in the EU Taxonomy. The EU Taxonomy sets out taxonomy alignment using substantial contribution to at least one environmental objective, Do No Significant Harm and compliance with Minimum Safeguards. If an Activity does not meet the requirements of these steps, then taxonomy alignment may not be achieved.</p> <p>Therefore, ACCEPT reflects this by displaying "Not Applicable" for the RMT field if the EU Taxonomy is selected.</p>
26.	Why is the Social Aspects / Minimum Safeguards (MS) not applicable under the Essential Criteria (EC) for the Malaysia (SRI) Taxonomy?	<p>The EC on Social Aspects / Minimum Safeguards is not a mandatory requirement for classifying an Activity under the SRI Taxonomy. Therefore, ACCEPT displays "Not Applicable" for this field.</p> <p>This reflects the fact that Social Aspects / Minimum Safeguards are assessed under a separate component of the Taxonomy and are not used to determine environmental eligibility or classification status within the EC framework.</p>
27.	Why is the Remedial Measures to Transition (RMT) not applicable under the Thailand Taxonomy?	<p>The Thailand Taxonomy only includes Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) and Social Aspects / Minimum Safeguards.</p> <p>Within these criteria, there is a provision allowing a company to be classified under the corresponding category if it submits a plan outlining how it will address any deficiencies. Therefore, RMT is not a standalone requirement and ACCEPT reflects this by displaying "Not Applicable" for the RMT field if the Thailand Taxonomy is selected.</p>

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28.	How is the Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) criteria applied under the Singapore Taxonomy?	<p>DNSH criteria are best efforts disclosures and they are currently best practice under the current version of the Singapore Taxonomy. However, with the evolution of taxonomy, it could potentially be incorporated as a component of eligibility criteria in the future.</p> <p>The Singapore Taxonomy recommends providing a disclosure against DNSH tests and preparing for DNSH requirements should they be mandatory in the future. In the future, a breach of DNSH requirements for the remaining four environmental objectives may result in the activity being classified as Ineligible under the Taxonomy.</p> <p>Therefore, this version of ACCEPT reflects this by including it as one of the guiding questions in ACCEPT's Taxonomy Analyser and please refer to the additional notes on DNSH questions.</p>
29.	Is the Activity "Manufacture of pharmaceuticals and medicinal products" excluded in the ASEAN Taxonomy in ACCEPT?	<p>The Activity "Manufacture of pharmaceuticals and medicinal products" does not contain TSC on substantial contribution against any Environmental Objective (EO) in the ASEAN Taxonomy, which requires compliance to industry regulations, DNSH and Social Aspects.</p> <p>ACCEPT's Taxonomy Navigator and Taxonomy Analyser serve to help users understand in an efficient manner the requirements of the Activity and focuses on the alignment of Activities' TSC compared to taxonomy classification. Hence, ACCEPT does not cover this Activity in the Taxonomy Analyser and Taxonomy Navigator.</p> <p>Please refer to the ASEAN Taxonomy FAQ for more information on this Activity: https://www.sfinstitute.asia/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/ASEAN-Taxonomy-FAQs-November-2025-final.pdf</p>

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30.	Is the Activity “Decommissioning of fossil-fuel power plants” excluded in the Singapore Taxonomy in ACCEPT?	<p>Early and managed phase-out of coal-fired power plants in the Singapore Taxonomy uses hybrid approach and takes into consideration of facility-level criteria, and entity-level criteria. Please refer to Appendix P in the Singapore Taxonomy for more information.</p> <p>Therefore, this version of ACCEPT reflects this by including only a single guiding question for acknowledgement in ACCEPT’s Taxonomy Analyser, as a detailed set of guiding questions would not be appropriate or comparable for this Activity.</p>
G. Data Privacy Questions		
31.	How is my information protected on ACCEPT?	ACCEPT only collects basic information: your email, first name, last name, designation, country of origin, and organisation. We do not track your Activity, and your selections are not stored, ensuring your privacy is always protected. With no confidential information being saved, our platform is designed to be safe and secure. Please refer to the Terms of Use and Privacy Notice for more information.