

# **ASEAN CIVIL SOCIETY CONFERENCE ASEAN PEOPLE'S FORUM**

**2nd Regional Consultation Meeting of  
ACSC/APF 2016  
Vientiane, Lao PDR**

**ASEAN Vision must be for the peoples**

10 May 2016  
by Sinapan Samydorai



# ASEAN: TODAY'S REALITY





CHINA

 MYANMAR

 THAILAND

 CAMBODIA

 SINGAPORE

 INDONESIA

 LAOS

 VIETNAM

 MALAYSIA

 PHILIPPINES

 BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

# ASEAN FACTS (2010 - 2014)

- **Total Population: 540M (now 615 Million)**
- **Working Pop: 262M (now more than 350 million)**
- **Migrant Workers 13.5M. (now 15 million)**
- **5.3 M based within ASEAN.(now 6 million)**
  
- **About 56 % of working pop are in poverty:**
- **148 million earn US\$2 per day and of which over 28.8 million live on less than US\$1.25 per day;**
- **\* close to 60% of working people are in informal work with no social protection.**

**ASEAN countries failed to provide decent jobs to majority of their population. Failed to respond to the needs of the working poor with adequate social protection measures and social security. What the people do for a better life? Migrant to find JOB!**



# ASEAN MIGRANT WORKERS

- Almost **15 million migrant** workers from ASEAN country of which **6 million work within ASEAN**.
- **3 countries host 80 percent of intra-ASEAN migrants** – Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore; **3 countries account for 70 percent of the total number of migrant workers from ASEAN** – Philippines, Indonesia and Viet Nam
- Most migrants in **ASEAN (87%) are engaged in semi-/low skilled jobs** (2012). Low wage migrants are vulnerable to labour exploitation.
- More that **60% of the workforce have no social protection or social security**.



# ASEAN COMMUNITY VISION



# ASEAN 2025: FORGING AHEAD TOGETHER (KUALA LUMPUR DECLARATION)

- Reaffirm the purposes and principles enshrined in the ASEAN Charter that reflect our desire and collective will to live in a region of **lasting peace, security and stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress** .....
- **Recognize** ..... both opportunities and challenges .... to remain relevant as well as to maintain **ASEAN centrality and role as the primary driving force** in the evolving regional architecture;



# ASEAN COMMUNITY'S POST-2015 VISION

- Bandar Seri Begawan Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision in 2013 and the Nay Pyi Taw Declaration on the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision in 2014:
- sets out the future direction for a politically cohesive, economically integrated, socially responsible and a truly **rules-based, people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN**;



# ASEAN COMMUNITY VISION 2025

- *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together* succeeds the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (2009-2015);
- IAI Work Plan III and the **ASEAN Connectivity 2025** to be adopted in 2016 shall be an integral part of the *ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together*;

\*IAI – Initiative for ASEAN Integration



# ASEAN COMMUNITY 2015

## ASEAN COMMUNITY VISION 2025

- **formal** establishment of the **ASEAN Community 2015**
- “4. We resolve to **consolidate our Community**, building upon and deepening the **integration process to realise a rules-based, people-oriented, people-centred ASEAN Community**, where our peoples enjoy human rights and fundamental freedoms, higher quality of life and the benefits of community building, reinforcing our sense of togetherness and **common identity**, guided by the purposes and principles of the ASEAN Charter.”



- “5. We envision a peaceful, stable and resilient Community with enhanced capacity to respond effectively to challenges, and ASEAN as an outward-looking region within a global community of nations, while maintaining ASEAN centrality. We also envision vibrant, sustainable and highly integrated economies, enhanced **ASEAN Connectivity** as well as strengthened efforts in **narrowing the development gap**, including through the IAI.” - Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI)



# ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- **A. RULES-BASED, PEOPLE-ORIENTED,  
PEOPLE-CENTRED COMMUNITY**
- 6. ASEAN political-security cooperation is aimed at promoting ASEAN fundamental principles, shared values and norms as well as principles of international law governing peaceful conduct among States, thereby enhancing regional peace and stability. This cooperation is also aimed at strengthening *ASEAN unity and cohesiveness to build a more democratic, transparent, just, rules-based and inclusive community that shares the values of tolerance and moderation.*



# ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- **A.1.5. Promote awareness of our people-oriented, people-centred community**
  - **A.2. Strengthen democracy, good governance, the rule of law, promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as combat corruption**
  - **A.2.1. Promote principles of democracy**
  - **A.2.2. Instil the culture of good governance and mainstream the principles thereof into the policies and practices of the ASEAN Community**
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# ASEAN POLITICAL-SECURITY COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- **A.2.5. Promote and protect human rights, fundamental freedoms and social justice to ensure our peoples live with dignity, in peace, harmony and prosperity**
- vii. Promote the mainstreaming of human rights across all three Pillars of the ASEAN Community, through consultation among relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies;
- viii. Encourage interaction and consultation, where appropriate, among AICHR, relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies and other stakeholders, including CSOs concerned with the promotion and protection of human rights;



# ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- **II. CHARACTERISTICS AND ELEMENTS OF ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025**
- **A. A Highly Integrated and Cohesive Economy**
- 7. The main objective of this characteristic is **to facilitate the seamless movement of goods, services, investment, capital, and skilled labour within ASEAN** in order to enhance ASEAN's trade and production networks, as well as to establish a more unified market for its firms and consumers.  
**Note: skill labour recognize by MRA benefits 1 % of the workforce.**

## **D. A Resilient, Inclusive, People-Oriented and People-Centred ASEAN**

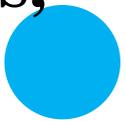
○67. The AEC Blueprint 2025 seeks to significantly enhance the third characteristic of the AEC Blueprint 2015 on “**Equitable Economic Development**” ....

### **○D.1. Strengthening the Role of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises**

○68. MSMEs are the backbone of the ASEAN economies. However, globalisation, advances in technologies and communications, trade liberalisation and the evolution of the production processes pose challenges which need to be better addressed as ASEAN continues to deepen its economic integration.



# ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- 1. .... At the heart of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) is the **commitment to lift the quality of life of its Peoples through cooperative activities that are people-oriented, people-centred, environmentally friendly, and geared towards the promotion of sustainable development.** The ASCC 2025 opens a world of opportunities to collectively deliver and fully realise human development, resiliency and sustainable development as we face new and emerging challenges together.
  - 2. ...to **advance Human Development, Social Justice and Rights, Social Protection and Welfare, Environmental Sustainability, ASEAN Awareness, and Narrowing the Development Gap.**
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## Recognizing Today's Reality

○4. .... more needs to be done to secure the benefits and results of progress. **Tens of millions remain in extreme poverty. Intra-ASEAN migration is on the rise, from 1.5 million in 1990 to 6.5 million in 2013.** Almost 50 percent of international migrants are women, who are increasingly migrating to seek employment opportunities. An estimated one in eight migrant workers is a young person between the ages of 15 and 24. **Public health scourges of communicable and emerging infectious diseases** like drug-resistant malaria and tuberculosis are still a significant presence and threat in a few ASEAN Member States.



- **Millions are still deprived of full primary education** due to the lack of access to schools and high drop-out rates. **Hunger, as reflected in malnutrition,** remains a problem in a significant share of the populace in a few ASEAN Member States. Similarly, a large percentage of the population in a number of ASEAN Member States are very **vulnerable to poverty or sliding deeper into poverty** from significant food price hikes, as the 2007-2008 global food price surge shows. .... A number of ASEAN Member States remain **vulnerable to natural and human-induced disasters,** which tend to disproportionately and **adversely affect the poor and low income populace.** **Pollution and resource degradation** are also increasingly serious problems in a number of ASEAN Member States. ...”



- **A. ENGAGES AND BENEFITS THE PEOPLE**

- 6. The ASEAN Community shall be characterised as one that engages and benefits its peoples, upheld by the principles of good governance.

- 7. It focuses on multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder engagements, including ..... **community engagement, tripartite engagement with the labour sector, social enterprises, government organisation, non-governmental organisation, civil society organisation (GO-NGO/CSO) engagement**, corporate social responsibility (CSR), inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue, with emphasis on raising and sustaining awareness and caring societies of ASEAN, as well as deepening the sense of ASEAN identity.



# ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- **B.1. Reducing Barriers**
- Strategic Measures
- **i. Reduce inequality and promote equitable access to social protection and enjoyment of human rights by all and participation in societies**, such as developing and implementing frameworks, guidelines and mechanisms for elimination of all forms of discrimination, violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect;
- **ii. Provide guidelines for quality care and support for women, children, youths, the elderly/older persons, persons with disabilities, migrant workers, ethnic minority groups, and vulnerable and marginalised groups;**



# ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- **B.2. Equitable Access for All**
- Strategic Measures
- i. **Enhance regional platforms to promote equitable opportunities, participation and effective engagement of women, children, youths, the elderly/older persons, persons with disabilities, people living in remote and border areas, and vulnerable groups in the development and implementation of ASEAN policies and programmes;**
- ii. **Develop regional strategies and enhance institutional capacity for gender mainstreaming in ASEAN policies, programmes and budgets across pillars and sectors;**



# ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY BLUEPRINT 2025

- **B.3. Promotion and Protection of Human Rights**
  - Strategic Measures
  - i. Promote regional inter-sectoral mechanisms towards a holistic and multi-disciplinary approach in enhancing quality care, well-being, gender equality, **social justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially the vulnerable groups**, in response to all hazards and emerging social and economic risks/threats;
  - vii. Enhance regional initiatives and **stakeholder participation to promote the elimination of all forms of discrimination** – institutionalised or otherwise – **exploitation, trafficking, harmful practices, and violence and abuse against children, women, persons with disabilities, youths, migrant workers, the elderly/older persons, and victims/survivors of trafficking in persons, ethnic minority groups, and vulnerable and marginalised groups**
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**ARE THE ASEAN MEMBER  
STATES EFFECTIVELY  
IMPLEMENTING THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
OF THE ASEAN PEOPLES  
- PROMOTION AND PROTECTION  
OF THE RIGHTS?**



**MIGRANT WORKERS ARE NOT  
COMMODITY  
*BUT THEY TREATED AS  
COMMODITY***

**Domestic workers are treated as modern slaves!**

**Respect, Promote, Realize the Fundamental  
Principles and Rights at Work - ILO Core Labour  
Standards for all workers**

<http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:12000:0::NO::>



# ASCC BLUEPRINT C.2. PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE RIGHTS OF MIGRANT WORKERS (2010 – 2015)

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint

Ensure fair and comprehensive migration policies and adequate protection for all migrant workers

**in accordance with the laws, regulations, and policies of respective ASEAN Members States** as well as implement the ASEAN Declaration on the Protection and Promotion of Migrant Workers



# Ratification of Core Labour Standards

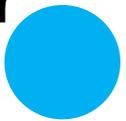
Country	FOA/CB		Forced Labour		Discrimination		Child Labour	
	Conv. 87	Conv. 98	Conv. 29	Conv. 105	Conv. 100	Conv. 111	Conv. 138	Conv. 182
Brunei							2011	2008
Cambodia	1999	1999	1969	1999	1999	1999	1999	2006
Indonesia	1998	1957	1950	1999	1958	1999	1999	2000
Lao			1964		2008	2008	2005	2005
Malaysia		1961	1957	den.	1997		1997	2000
Myanmar	1955		1955				XXX	2013
Philippines	1953	1953	2005	1960	1953	1960	1998	2000
Singapore		1965	1965	den.	2002		2005	2001
Thailand			1969	1969	1999		2004	2001
Viet Nam			2007		1997	1997	2003	2000

## ASEAN SOCIO-CULTURAL COMMUNITY

- Is ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community able to create and deliver decent working and living conditions, social protection, and protection of rights of all including migrant workers?



# PRINCIPLES

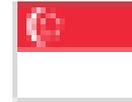
- 1) ASEAN Framework Instrument on Migrant Workers should be a binding agreement among all ASEAN states
  - 2) All migrant should be covered by the Framework Instrument regardless of legal status
  - 3) The protection of the rights of migrant workers is a joint responsibility of sending and receiving states
  - 4) Non-discrimination and “national treatment” for all migrant workers
  - 5) Gender-sensitive policies, processes and practices on migration
  - 6) Implement Core ILO Conventions for all workers and Migrant Workers Rights, Social Security, ensure national labour laws governing migrant workers are harmonized with the ILO Standards
  - 7) Ratify the 1990 UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
  - 8) Cooperation with civil society in ASEAN
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# STRIVING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE IN ASEAN

- Is ASEAN Striving for social justice? YesI- in the ALM plan of activities. What is the impact on todays reality?
  - ASEAN has been fast growing and has lifted some out of absolute poverty but it also created gaps in economic and social development – problems of social cost etc
  - challenges relating to uneven economic growth, increasing **informality of jobs, inadequate recognition of work-related rights, (no decent job creation)**
  - Overall **increase in unemployment**, under-employment, vulnerable employment, youth unemployment, and **persistent gender inequality**
  - **56 % of working pop are in poverty, 60% of working people are in informal work with no social protection.**
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ASEAN : A COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITIES



*Thank you very much!*

**TF-AMW**

Task Force  
On ASEAN  
Migrant Workers

