



ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)



**one vision
one identity
one community**

ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)

The ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) is one of the three pillars of ASEAN Community. 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 to face new and emerging challenges in ASEAN.

The ASCC is committed to opening a world of opportunities to collectively deliver and fully realise human development, resiliency and sustainable development through Member States' cooperation on a wide range of areas such as:

- Culture and Information
- Education, Youth and Sports
- Social Welfare and Development
- Women and Gender
- Labour
- Civil Service
- Rural Development and Poverty Eradication
- Environment
- Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance
- Health

Against this backdrop of intensified regional cooperation, the region has witnessed extreme poverty dramatically declining in a number of ASEAN Member States. The region also experienced an expanding middle class, improving health and education, a growing workforce serving regional and global labour needs, a rapidly rising urban population that generates new services, city infrastructure development, and evolving lifestyles.

ASCC Blueprint 2025

Given the complex challenges in the region, the ASCC envisions an ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community where people enjoy the benefits of being part of ASEAN. The ASCC Blueprint 2025 will thus strive for a community that engages and benefits the people, and is inclusive, sustainable, resilient and dynamic.

To do this, the ASCC will work towards:

- A committed, participative and socially-responsible community for the benefit of ASEAN peoples;
- An inclusive community that promotes high quality of life, equitable access to opportunities for all and promotes and protects human rights;
- A sustainable community that promotes social development and environmental protection;

- A resilient community with enhanced capacity and capability to adapt and respond to social and economic vulnerabilities, disasters, climate change, and other new challenges; and
- A dynamic and harmonious community that is aware and proud of its identity, culture and heritage.

Milestones in 2017

Culture and Information

- ASEAN-Republic of Korea (ROK) Cultural Exchange Year 2017
- Policy Dialogue with the ASEAN Media and Information Sector
- ASEAN-UNESCO Forum on Safeguarding Underwater Heritage

Education, Youth and Sports

- Report on the First ASEAN Youth Development Index (YDI)
- ASEAN Statement on Youth Development Index
- First ASEAN University Student Council Union Conference (ASEAN 50th Anniversary Commemorative Activity)
- First ASEAN Student Mobility Forum (ASEAN 50th Anniversary Commemorative Activity)
- Signing of the ASEAN University Network (AUN) Charter
- Formulation of the Proposed ASEAN Fitness Indicators
- First ASEAN Sports Day
- Regional Plan of Action to Implement the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Education for Out-of-School Children and Youth (OOSCY)
- Second and third batches of intra-ASEAN and one batch of ASEAN-Europe scholarships under the ASEAN-EU Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (SHARE) Programme
- Second Phase of Regional Cooperation Programme to Improve the Training of TVET Personnel (RECOTVET)
- Draft Regional Quality Assurance Model for TVET and TVET Personnel in ASEAN
- Establishment of ASEAN Higher Education Working Group (HEWG)

Women's Rights, Women Empowerment and Gender Equality: ASEAN Declaration on Gender Responsive Implementation of ASEAN Vision 2025 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Progress Report on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
- Gender mainstreaming strategies for ASCC pillar

Children's Rights, Social Welfare and Development of Vulnerable Groups:

- High-level Conference on Social Protection
- Cross-regional Roundtable on the Elimination of Violence Against Children
- Baseline Study on Child Protection Systems in ASEAN
- Baseline Study on the Status of Child Participation in ASEAN and Member States

Poverty Eradication and Rural Development:

- Regional Study on Social Entrepreneurship in ASEAN
- Regional Study on Food Security and Price Spikes: Responsive Social Protection Policies for Vulnerable Poor
- ASEAN Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI)

Labour

- ASEAN instrument on the protection and promotion of the rights of migrant workers
- Regional Plan of Action to Implement the Vientiane Declaration on Transition from Informal Employment to Formal Employment towards Decent Work Promotion in ASEAN
- Study on Women Migrant Workers in ASEAN Economic Integration
- ASEAN-ILO Joint Programme

Civil Service Matters

- ASEAN Leaders Declaration on the Role of Civil Service as Catalyst for Achieving ASEAN Vision 2025
- Regional Forum on Civil Service Innovations and the Launch of the Coffee Table Book on Civil Service Programmes and Innovations

Environment

- Fifth ASEAN State of Environment Report
- ASEAN Joint Statement on Climate Change and ASEAN Joint Declaration on Chemicals and Waste
- Establishment Agreement of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution
- ASEAN-EU Project on Sustainable Use of Peatlands and Haze Mitigation under the ASEAN Programme on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems (SUPA)
- ASEAN-EU Project on Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN (BCAMP)
- Full ratification of the Establishment Agreement of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

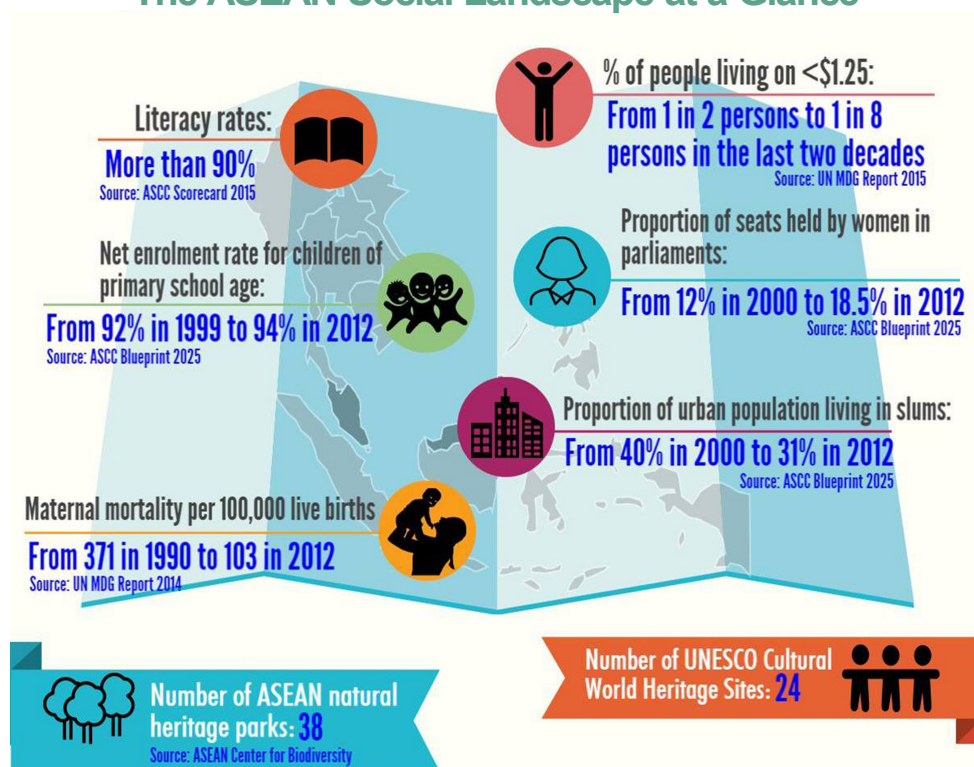
Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance

- Social Protection Guideline during Emergency Response and Recovery Phase
- Second Regional Conference on School Safety
- APEC Climate Centre (APCC) - ASEAN Disaster Management Symposium
- ASEAN Day on Disaster Management Celebration

Health

- ASEAN Youth Dialogue with the Leaders which will include a session on HIV and AIDS (50th Commemorative Activity)
- 2017 ASEAN Breastfeeding Forum and Big Latch on "Hakab Na 2017" (50th Commemorative Activity)
- ASEAN Traditional Medicine Conference with Exhibit and Presentation of T&CM Milestone (50th Commemorative Activity)

The ASEAN Social Landscape at a Glance



- ASEAN Conference on Non-Communicable Diseases (ASEAN 50th Anniversary Commemorative Activity)
- ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Ending All Forms of Malnutrition
- ASEAN Declaration of Commitment on Antimicrobial Resistance: Combating AMR through One Health Approach
- ASEAN Emergency Operation Center Network

Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships

The ASCC continuously consults and partners with a broad range of stakeholders in the government, civil society organisations, multilateral organisations, the private sector, the academe/think tanks and ASEAN Dialogue Partners.

Mechanisms and Platforms under the ASCC

- ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs' Network (AWEN)
- ASEAN Social Work Consortium (ASWC)
- Network of Experts on Inclusive Entrepreneurship in ASEAN
- ASEAN Children's Forum (ACF)
- ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development
- ASEAN Forum on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication
- ASEAN+3 Exchange Programme for Village Leaders
- ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML)
- ASEAN Labour Inspection Conference
- ASEAN-China Environmental Cooperation Forum
- ASEAN Forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production
- ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network

- ASEAN Plus Three Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Network
- ASEAN Plus Three Partnership on Laboratories

ASEAN Centres and Partner Institutions

- ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Partnership Group (www.aadmerpartnership.org)
- ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (www.aseanbiodiversity.org)
- ASEAN Specialised Meteorological Centre (ASMC) (asmc.asean.org/home/)
- ASEAN Resource Centres under ASEAN Cooperation on Civil Service Matters (ACCSM)
- ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (www.ahacentre.org)
- ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety (ARAC)
- ASEAN Risk Assessment and Risk Communication Resource Centre (ARARC)
- China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Centre (chinaaseanenv.org/english)
- ASEAN University Network (www.aunsec.org)
- ASEAN Quality Assurance Network (AQAN)¹
- Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation (CAYC)
- Southeast Asia School Principals Forum (SEASPF)
- Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO)
- ASEAN Youth Forum
- ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Transboundary Haze Pollution²

¹ Education sector

² Permanent centre is to be established. ASEC currently serves as Interim Centre.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

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ASEAN: A Community of Opportunities

Catalogue-in-Publication Data

Fact Sheet of ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)
Jakarta, ASEAN Secretariat, May 2017

360.0959

1.Ethnicity – Welfare – Education

2.ASEAN – Social Community – Cultural Community

ISBN 978-602-6392-37-4

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