

## Connecting with the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity

Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, 17 December 2010



Key stakeholders in the implementation of the recently-adopted Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity met in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam today for a one-day symposium. A core element in implementing the Master Plan is outreach and advocacy, and the symposium marked the first of a number of outreach and advocacy activities that will be undertaken to socialise the Master Plan with stakeholders. ASEAN Dialogue Partners, multilateral development banks and the private sector are among the stakeholders.

"Realising ASEAN Connectivity has to be a collaborative undertaking," said Dr Nguyen The Phuong, Deputy Minister of Planning and Investment of Viet Nam and Chairman of the High Level Task Force on ASEAN Connectivity. "We have worked closely with stakeholders, particularly international organisations, in the development of the Master Plan, and we will continue to do so in the implementation stage."

Joining the Chairman were other members of the High Level Task Force who engaged and interacted with the symposium participants on the key thoughts that went into the development of the Master Plan, the issue of resource mobilisation and the role of private sector.

The Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for ASEAN Economic Community, Mr S. Pushpanathan, also agreed and said that implementation of the Master Plan requires greater coordination and consultation with stakeholders; innovative and new approaches to resource mobilisation; and, a system for monitoring implementation and its impact. "These should exist at the national, sub-regional, ASEAN, and extra-ASEAN levels," he added.

"Working with Dialogue Partners, development partners, donor agencies, multilateral development banks, international organisations and private sector is critical to achieving the goals of ASEAN Connectivity," he also said.

The symposium, themed "From Vision to Action, From Plan to Implementation", was attended by some one hundred and thirty participants comprising representatives from ASEAN Member States, ASEAN sectoral bodies and national agencies, ASEAN Dialogue Partners, multilateral development banks, international aid agencies and organisations, private sector, and media.

The symposium was organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, and co-organised by the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).

The Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity was adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 17th ASEAN Summit on 28 October 2010.

Click [here](#) for the Master Plan.

<http://www.asean.org/25713.htm>