Initiative for ASEAN Integration

Frequently Asked Questions

What is IAI?
IAI is an initiative that contributes to narrowing the development gap in ASEAN.

It does so by helping Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam or CLMV in implementing their commitments towards realising the goals of the ASEAN Community, ensuring that benefits of ASEAN integration are equitably shared.

How does IAI operate?
It is implemented mainly through the IAI Work Plan. The current Work Plan covers the period 2016-2020. The Work Plan III has been developed in close relation with CLMV countries, other ASEAN Member States and stakeholders, and is aligned with the ASEAN Community Vision 2025 and the related sectoral work plans.

The vision of IAI Work Plan III is to assist CLMV countries to meet ASEAN-wide targets and commitments towards realizing the goals of ASEAN Community. The IAI Work Plan III contains five priority strategic areas, namely, food and agriculture, trade facilitation, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME), education, as well as health and well-being.

How is the Work Plan implemented?
It is implemented by designing projects/activities that fulfill the actions prescribed by the Work Plan III. Projects are implemented through financial and technical support from: ASEAN Member States, ASEAN’s Dialogue Partners, development agencies and technical experts

How are IAI projects designed?
In determining which projects to undertake under the IAI Work Plan III, three key criteria must be considered:

1. Align with the ASEAN Community Blueprints, including relevant ASEAN sectoral work plans where possible, and receive support from the relevant sectoral body;
2. Support the implementation of the existing IAI Work Plan; and
3. Benefit all four or at least two CLMV countries as beneficiaries

The project must also be designed around the absorptive capacity of CLMV countries for technical assistance and knowledge transfer, and must be designed to include mechanisms for sustainability of outputs and outcomes.

For more information, you may contact the IAI and NDG Division of the ASEAN Secretariat at IAI@asean.org