ASEAN’s Efforts in Health and Social Welfare Sectors to Address Poverty-related Issues in the Region

The 8th ASEAN-Japan High Level Meeting on Caring Societies
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Ms. Mega Irena & Ms. Jintana Sriwongsa
The ASEAN Secretariat
Demography of ASEAN (2007)

- ASEAN’s population: 584 million
- Sex ratio: 1:1
- Urban population: 44.3%
  - 65-100% (Malaysia, Brunei, Singapore)
  - 50-65% (Indonesia, Philippines)
  - 20-30% (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Thailand)
- Age group: 20 - 54 years old (49.7%)
  > 65 (5.8%)
# Demography of ASEAN (2007)

## Table I.6. Population by Age Group, 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>0-4 ('000) in 2007</th>
<th>5-19 ('000) in 2007</th>
<th>20-54 ('000) in 2007</th>
<th>55-64 ('000) in 2007</th>
<th>&gt; 65 ('000)</th>
<th>Total ('000)</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>0-4 ('000)</th>
<th>5-19 ('000)</th>
<th>20-54 ('000)</th>
<th>55-64 ('000)</th>
<th>&gt; 65 ('000)</th>
<th>Total ('000)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunel Darussalam</td>
<td>34.9</td>
<td>103.7</td>
<td>223.1</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>390.0</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>57.2</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>3.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
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<td>5,209</td>
<td>6,209</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>534</td>
<td>14,364</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>36.3</td>
<td>43.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>62,475</td>
<td>117,228</td>
<td>13,548</td>
<td>11,439</td>
<td>225,642</td>
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<td>27.7</td>
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<td>Lao PDR</td>
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<td>238</td>
<td>214</td>
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<td>8,225</td>
<td>13,072</td>
<td>1,632</td>
<td>1,193</td>
<td>27,245</td>
<td>11.5</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>48.0</td>
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<td>Myanmar</td>
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<td>57,504</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>19.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
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<td>4,767</td>
<td>3,750</td>
<td>88,575</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>32.4</td>
<td>46.1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>457</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>4,589</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
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<td>15,072</td>
<td>36,072</td>
<td>5,356</td>
<td>4,835</td>
<td>66,041</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>22.8</td>
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<td>8.1</td>
<td>7.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
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<td>43,343</td>
<td>4,856</td>
<td>6,113</td>
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<td>28.7</td>
<td>50.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASEAN</td>
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<td>158,167</td>
<td>285,905</td>
<td>36,098</td>
<td>33,544</td>
<td>575,111</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>49.7</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:**
1) Brunei Darussalam Statistical Yearbook 2007; Malaysia monthly statistical bulletin, March 2008; and data submission from the rest of ASEAN Member States

**Notes:**
1) Applying 2008 age structure
2) Applying 2007 age structure of Singapore residents
3) Applying different age structure; 0-9; 10-19; 20-49; 50-59; 60 and over.
### Demography of ASEAN

#### Table IV.3. GDP per Capita at Current market Prices In USD, 2000-2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
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<td>16,839</td>
<td>17,158</td>
<td>18,706</td>
<td>21,863</td>
<td>25,744</td>
<td>29,922</td>
<td>31,582</td>
<td>35,623</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
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<td>295</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>515</td>
<td>601</td>
<td>756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>807</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>1,100</td>
<td>1,105</td>
<td>1,295</td>
<td>1,636</td>
<td>1,009</td>
<td>2,237</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>487</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>645</td>
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<td>918</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
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<td>4,152</td>
<td>4,877</td>
<td>5,281</td>
<td>5,902</td>
<td>6,866</td>
<td>7,092</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>465</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
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<td>916</td>
<td>956</td>
<td>971</td>
<td>1,039</td>
<td>1,158</td>
<td>1,351</td>
<td>1,658</td>
<td>1,844</td>
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<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>23,007</td>
<td>20,670</td>
<td>21,098</td>
<td>22,066</td>
<td>25,791</td>
<td>27,343</td>
<td>30,053</td>
<td>36,440</td>
<td>38,046</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1,976</td>
<td>1,840</td>
<td>2,001</td>
<td>2,233</td>
<td>2,501</td>
<td>2,707</td>
<td>3,151</td>
<td>3,726</td>
<td>4,116</td>
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<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>637</td>
<td>725</td>
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<td>1,606</td>
<td>1,695</td>
<td>2,249</td>
<td>2,582</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
1. Figures are calculated using the exchange rates as used in the IMF-WEO Database of April 2009.
2. The combined GDP of ASEAN is computed as the sum of GDP of ASEAN Member Countries and the GDP per capita as GDP/million of population.
3. Indonesia, Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia are using the new series of 2000 base year.
5. Preliminary.
Demography of ASEAN

Figure 3.1. Poverty Rate, International Poverty Line (%)
ASEAN’s Integration Challenges

Purposes set forth in the ASEAN Charter:

- Building a people-oriented ASEAN in which everyone can participate and benefit from the integration process and community building
- Alleviating poverty and narrowing the development gap in ASEAN
Labour market trends in ASEAN
(Source: ILO, 2008)

• Employment continues to shift towards industrial and services sectors:
  – By 2015, services increase 28 million, industrial increase 17.6m, agriculture decrease 7.1m

• Need for agricultural productivity to put downward pressure on food prices and improve rural incomes

• By 2015, ASEAN’s population:
  – Urban population growth (52% in 2015): Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Philippines, Viet Nam
  – Ageing (Singapore, Thailand) --- increasing demand for migrant workers is anticipated
Labour market trends in ASEAN (Source: ILO, 2006)

• Massive reductions in poverty, but ASEAN still home to nearly 150 million working poor
• Most poor people are working but in low productivity jobs
• Income inequality increasing in some ASEAN countries
• 60% of ASEAN workforce (about 156 million) in informal economy in 2006
• Informal employment is generally a larger source of employment for women than men
Social Protection in ASEAN

- Social protection schemes in ASEAN Member States are in general at an early stage of development.
- Most ASEAN Member States have relatively developed social insurance for public sector employees. But the general public does not enjoy similar coverage.
- Despite having a large number of informal-sector workers, there is lacking of schemes for their social protection.
- In general, ASEAN Member States do not have universal coverage of social assistance and social pension (except in Brunei Darussalam, Thailand)
Poverty is a multi-dimensional issue

Poverty (MDG 1) and Health (MDGs 4-6)
  The link between poverty and health is one of a vicious cycle that often traps poor people in poverty.

Gender (MDG 3) and Health (MDGs 4-6)
  HIV and AIDS, and reproductive health are good examples of the link between gender, health and often poverty.

Environment (MDG 7) and Poverty (MDG 1)
  Environmental degradation can inflict serious damage on the livelihood of poor people. Poverty-constrained options may induce the poor to deplete resources and degrade the environment at rates incompatible with long-term sustainability.

Environment (MDG 7) and Health (MDGs 4-6)
  The health of people is impacted by exposure to various environmental risks. Cramped living conditions and poor household hygiene are responsible for diseases, e.g. TBC, dengue fever, malaria.
Related ASEAN Sectoral Bodies

- SOMRDPE (rural development)
- SOMHD (health)
- SOMSWD (social welfare)
- SLOM (labour)
- SOM-ED (education)
- ACW (women)
- ASOEN (environment)
- AHSOM (statistics)
ASCC Blueprint: Poverty Reduction-related Action Lines

• Develop and implement an ASEAN Roadmap towards realising the UN Millennium Development Goals;
  – Regional Workshop, December 2010, Bangkok
  – Collaborate with UNDP and ASEAN Centre of Excellence on MDGs

• Strengthen ASEAN cooperation in microfinance;
  – Training-for-Trainers Online Certified-Course on Microfinance (World Bank)

• Work towards the establishment of an ASEAN data bank on poverty incidence and poverty reduction programme;
  – Proposed Indicators on Poverty and Well-being of ASEAN Population
  – Support from the ASEAN-US Technical Assistance and Training Facility Phase II
Projects with Dialogue Partners

• ASEAN+3 Human Security Symposium on Women and Poverty Eradication, Japan (2007, 2009)
  – Organised by the Association for Human Rights of Women (AHRW)
• Asia-Pacific Conference / Fourth ASEAN+3 High-Level Seminar on Poverty Reduction, September 2009, Hanoi, Vietnam
• Fourth China-ASEAN Forum on Social Development and Poverty Reduction, July 2010, Guilin, China
  – Topic: Free Trade and Poverty Reduction
• ASEAN-ROK Homecare Project for Older People in ASEAN (Phase III)
  – Coordinated by the HelpAge Korea
Activities under SOMRDPE in 2010

• Regional Assessment on the Social Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis
  – Collaborate with the World Bank and AusAID

• Third ICT Workshop, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 27-29 Sep 2010

• ASEAN Regional Workshop on the Integrated Rural Development, Vientiane, Lao PDR, 25 August 2010

• Workshops for sharing Thailand’s best practices (Planned):
  – Baan Mankong Project
  – Grassroots Economic Development and Poverty Alleviation Project
Moving Forward

Development of new sectoral work programme for 2011-2015:

• SOMRDPE
• SOMSWD
• ACW
Association of Southeast Asian Nations