



# Regional Initiatives on Social Welfare, Health and Labour

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*21<sup>st</sup> ASEAN-Japan High Level Meeting on Caring Societies*

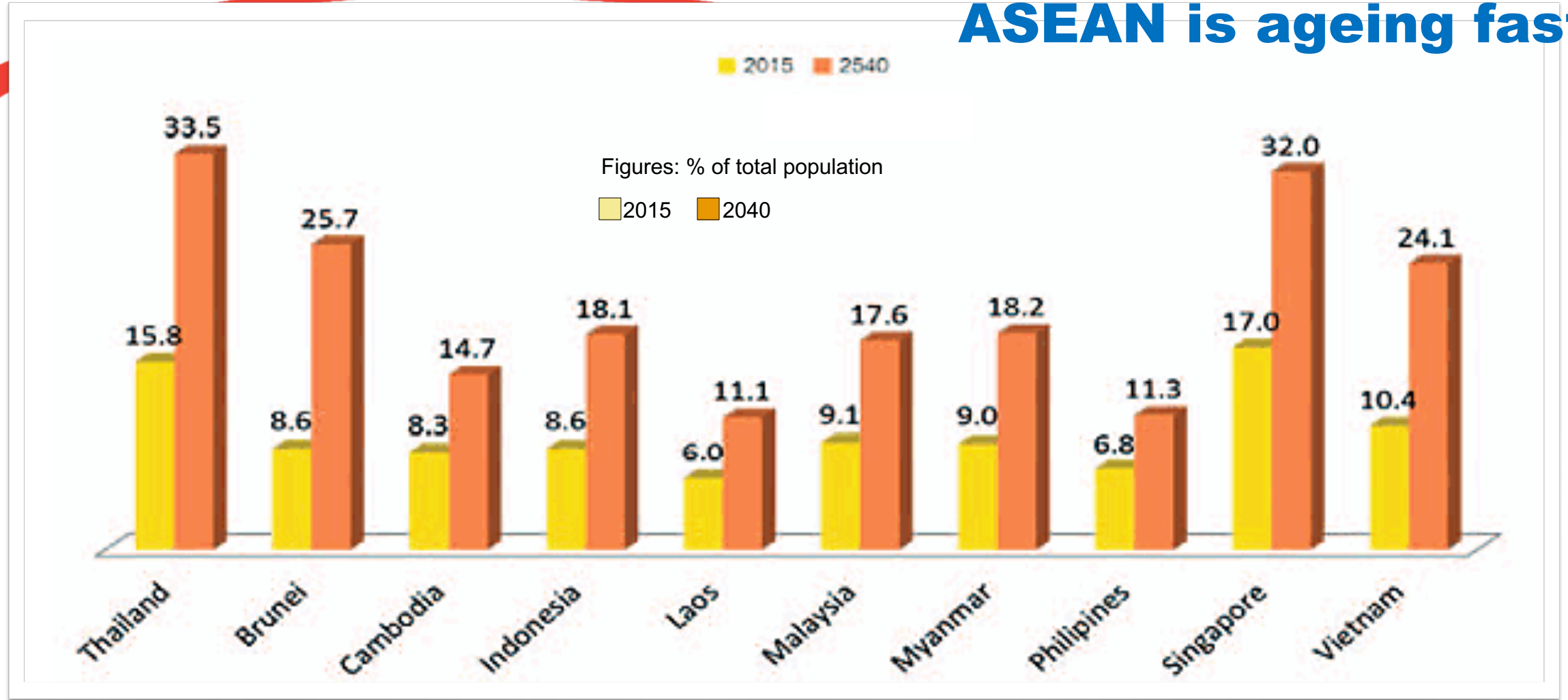
*28-30 November 2023*

*Oita, Japan*

*ASEAN Secretariat*



# ASEAN is ageing fast!

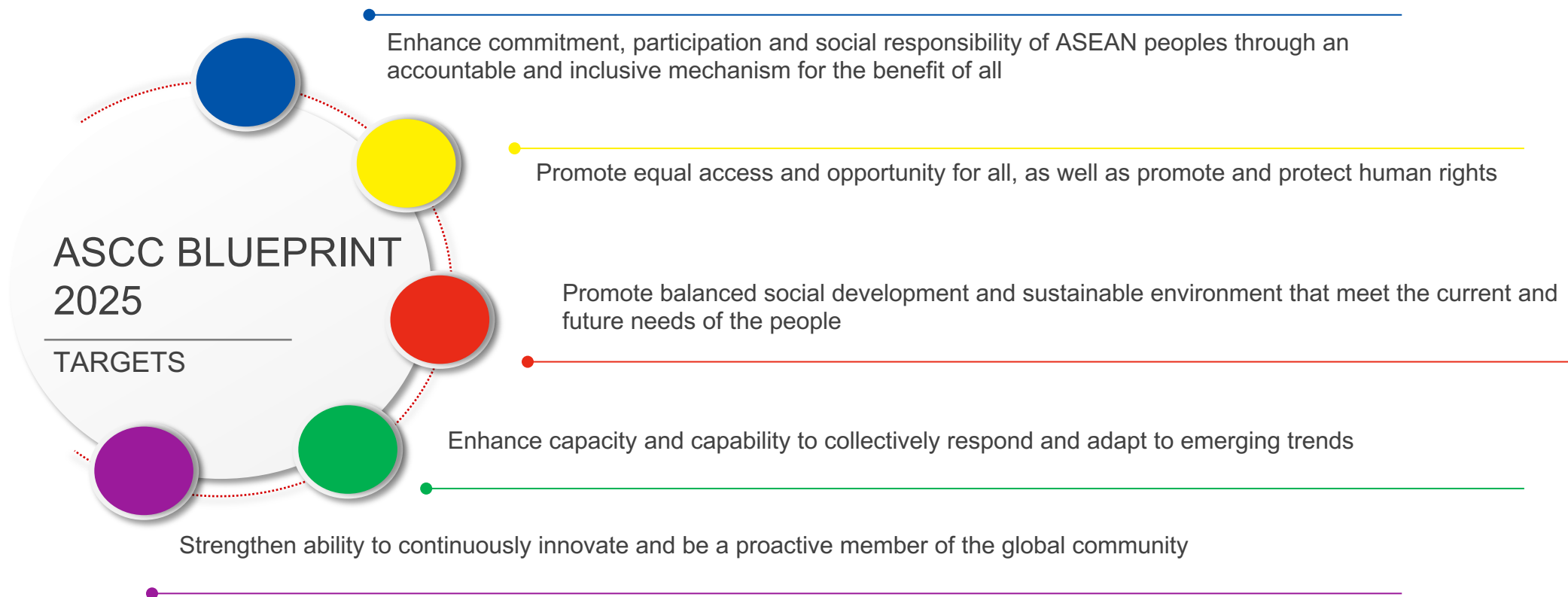


Ageing affects all aspects of the society including health, social security, education, socio-cultural transformation, family life, labour market and economic growth.

There is a need to prepare national economic and social policies, and health systems in responding to increased demand for care, services and technologies by older persons.



# ASCC Blueprint 2025 specifically aims for an ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community that is inclusive, sustainable, resilient, dynamic, and one that engages and benefits the people



# Alignment between regional and international initiatives on population ageing

## Complementary to Sustainable Development

ASEAN Community building initiatives are complementary to the Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development, articulating that no one should be left behind

## ILO Decent Work Agenda

## Existing high-level political commitment

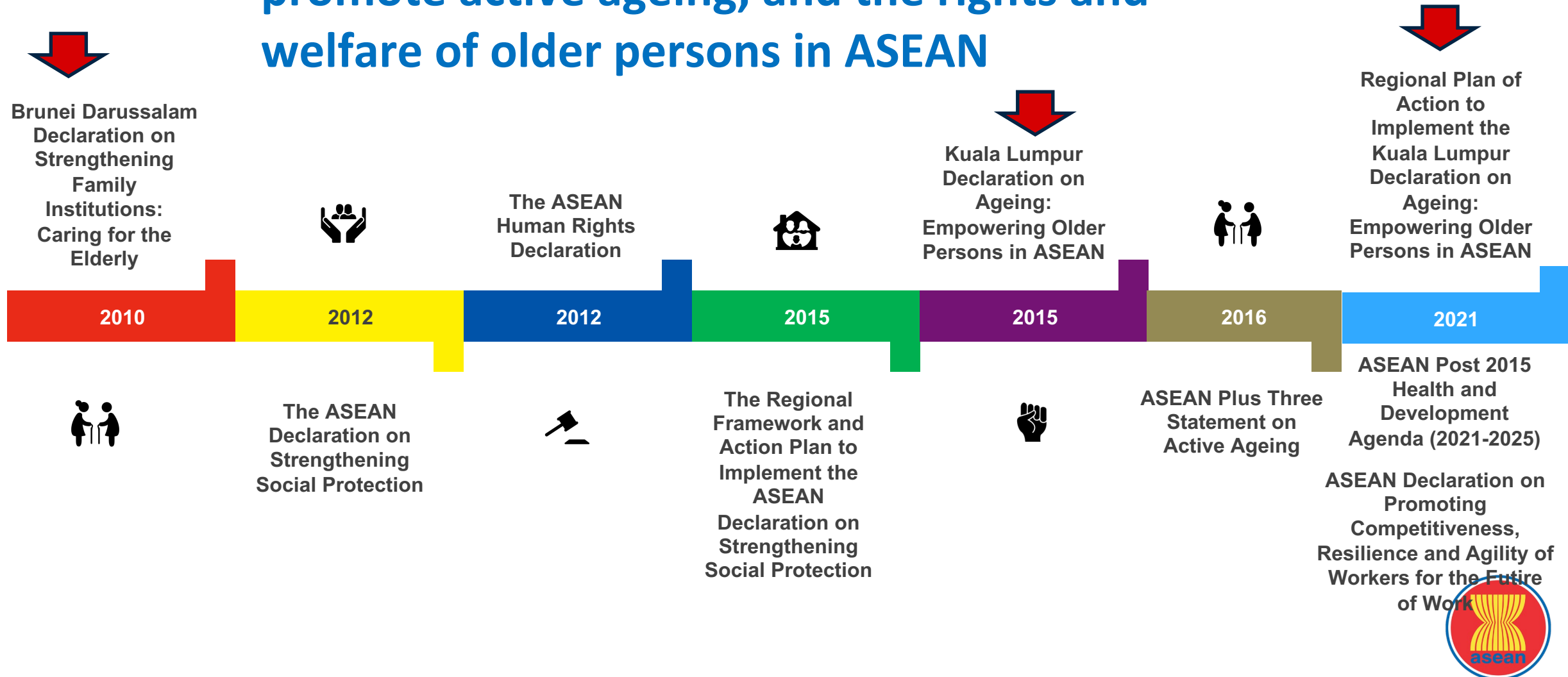
of ASEAN Member States to recognize and protect the rights, ensure and promote the welfare, and programmatically address the needs and realize the potentials of older persons in ASEAN as enunciated in the *Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Active Ageing: Empowering Older Persons in ASEAN*, which was adopted by the ASEAN Leaders on 21 November 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

## Cross-sectoral and intra-pillar cooperation

ASEAN Community provides the impetus for more cross-sectoral and intra-pillar cooperation and collaboration, including on issues relevant to Older Persons in ASEAN

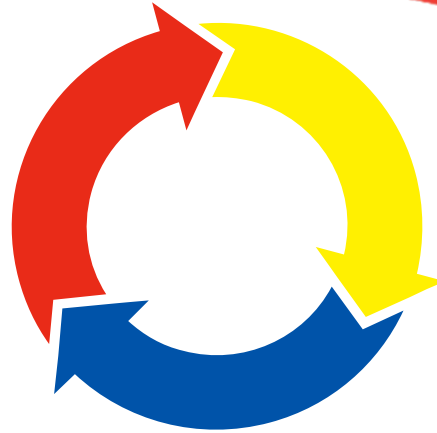


# Key regional instruments which affirm and promote active ageing, and the rights and welfare of older persons in ASEAN



## **Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Ageing: Empowering Older Persons in ASEAN**

*Adopted by the 27<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in 2015*



*Noted by the 38<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Summit in 2021*

## **Regional Plan of Action on Implementing Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Ageing: Empowering Older Persons in ASEAN**

### **10 commitments under Regional Plan of Action**

- Promote shared responsibilities in supporting care givers
- Promote intergenerational solidarity
- Promote rights-based/needs-based and life-cycle approach, and eliminate all forms of maltreatment base on old age
- Mainstream ageing into public policies and national development plans, programmes
- Promote the development of human capital
- Development of reliable, evidence-based, gender-disaggregated data on ageing
- Strengthen capacity of all stakeholders and improve delivery services at all levels
- Encourage development of older people's associations or other form of networking
- Promote age-friendly communities/cities
- Build and strengthen networking and partnership within and among AMS, and with other partners





# Relevant Initiatives of the Social Welfare Sector



## SOMSWD Initiatives on Empowering Older Persons in ASEAN

- Data Sheet on Ageing - 2020 Older persons in ASEAN in numbers (completed)
- Establishment of ASEAN-WIDE Research Network on Ageing (completed)
- Study on Old Age Poverty and Active Ageing: Trends and Opportunities (completed)
- ASEAN+3 Regional Conference on Promoting Inclusive Society for Older Persons (completed)
- ASEAN Act (Active Ageing): ASEAN Regional Impact Research Study Assessment on Active Ageing (completed)
- Research on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Income Security of Rural Older People in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam (ongoing)
- Regional Study on the Impacts of 4IR on Women, Children, Youth, the Elderly Persons, Persons with Disabilities and other Vulnerable and Marginalised Groups (ongoing)

## Multi-stakeholder Mechanisms Established by SOMSWD

- ASEAN Social Work Consortium (ASWC)
- ASEAN Training Centre for Social Work and Social Welfare (ATCSW)
- Network of Experts on Inclusive Entrepreneurship in ASEAN (NIEA)
- ASEAN GO- NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development (annually)
- ASEAN High-Level Inter-Sectoral Conference on Social Protection
- ASEAN Research Network on Ageing
- Public-Private-People's Partnership Forum on the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025







# Relevant Initiatives of the Health Sector



# ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda (2016-2025)

## VISION

*A Healthy, Caring and Sustainable ASEAN Community*

## MISSION\*

*To ensure a healthy, caring and sustainable ASEAN Community by promoting healthy lifestyle, responding to all hazards and emerging threats, strengthening health system and access to care, and ensuring food safety.*

## APHDA GOALS for 2021-2025

ASEAN Health Cluster	APHDA Goals for 2021-2025*
<b>ASEAN Health Clusters 1 on Promoting Healthy Lifestyle</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To achieve health potential of ASEAN Community through promoting healthy lifestyle.</li> <li>2. To ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.</li> </ol>
<b>ASEAN Health Clusters 2 on Responding to All Hazards and Emerging Threats</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To promote resilient health system in response to communicable diseases, emerging infectious diseases, neglected tropical diseases and zoonotic diseases;</li> <li>2. To enhance regional preparedness and response to public health emergencies and ensure effective disaster health management in the region.</li> <li>3. To prepare and respond to environmental health threats and other hazards, including the health impacts of climate change in the region.</li> </ol>
<b>ASEAN Health Clusters 3 on Strengthening Health System and Access to Care</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide the ASEAN Community with universal access to safe, affordable, quality, holistic health care and essential medical supplies, including traditional and complementary medicines; and</li> <li>2. To advance health care deliveries by adapting towards innovation and digital health technology.</li> <li>3. To promote health care delivery to vulnerable population, such as among others, women, children and migrant workers.</li> </ol>
<b>ASEAN Health Cluster 4 on Ensuring Food Safety</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To promote access to safe food.</li> <li>2. To strengthen food safety risk analysis in ASEAN.</li> </ol>

\* Updated Mission and Cluster Goal Statement adopted by the 15<sup>th</sup> AHMM & Related Meetings in May 2022

# ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda

(2016-2025)



\* Updated Mission and Cluster Goal Statement adopted by the 15<sup>th</sup> AHMM & Related Meetings in May 2022

ASEAN Health Cluster	Health Priorities and Initiatives
<p><b>ASEAN Health Clusters 1 on Promoting Healthy Lifestyle</b></p>	<p><b>HP#1 - Prevention and Control of Non- Communicable Diseases:</b> essential NCD services integrated in all levels of health care especially in primary care level</p> <p><b>HP#5 - Promotion of Mental Health:</b> Evidence-based regional tools and guidelines are developed to support mental health activities amongst AMS.</p> <p><b>HP#6 - Promotion of Healthy and Active Ageing:</b> (a) Coordinated multisectoral and multistakeholder mechanisms, actions and initiatives are in place to address priority health for pre aging and active ageing issues, including the promotion of supportive environment for older persons; (b) Guidelines and materials for pre aging, healthy and active ageing in AMS are developed</p> <p><b>HP#7 - Promotion of Good Nutrition and Healthy Diet:</b> Multisectoral policy, programmes, guidelines, minimum standards and cooperation to promote good nutrition and healthy sustainable diets are developed, implemented, monitored, and strengthened</p>
<p><b>ASEAN Health Clusters 2 on Responding to All Hazards and Emerging Threats</b></p>	<p><b>HP#8 - Prevention and control of communicable diseases, emerging infectious diseases, neglected tropical diseases and zoonotic diseases:</b> all AMS through policy advocacy, regional exchange of lessons and information, collaboration, and coordination initiatives</p>

# ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda

(2016-2025)

## ASEAN Health Clusters 3 on Strengthening Health System and Access to Care

### SERVICES FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

**HP#15** - Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health

**HP#16** - Universal health coverage including health financing & health service delivery

**HP#17** - Migrants' health

**HP#20** – Digital health and health information system

- (a) Advocating for improved access to safe, affordable, quality health care and essential medicines and vaccines, traditional and complementary medicine for the ASEAN people, in particular special population;
- (b) Promoting the attainment of vaccine/drug security and self-reliance;
- (c) Promoting the development and utilisation of interoperable and secure health information system and knowledge management system for ASEAN health sector to access health-related knowledge and information;
- (d) Promoting the utilisation of digital health technology, R&D and innovations, in advancing health system and access to care;
- (e) Advocating for adequate levels of health resources, which include Human Resources for Health (HRH) and health financing.

*\* Updated Mission and Cluster  
Goal Statement adopted by  
the 15<sup>th</sup> AHMM & Related  
Meetings in May 2022*



# ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation (ACAI)



*Temporary ACAI office*

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, DMS 6 Building,  
Department of Medical Services,  
Ministry of Public Health, Thailand



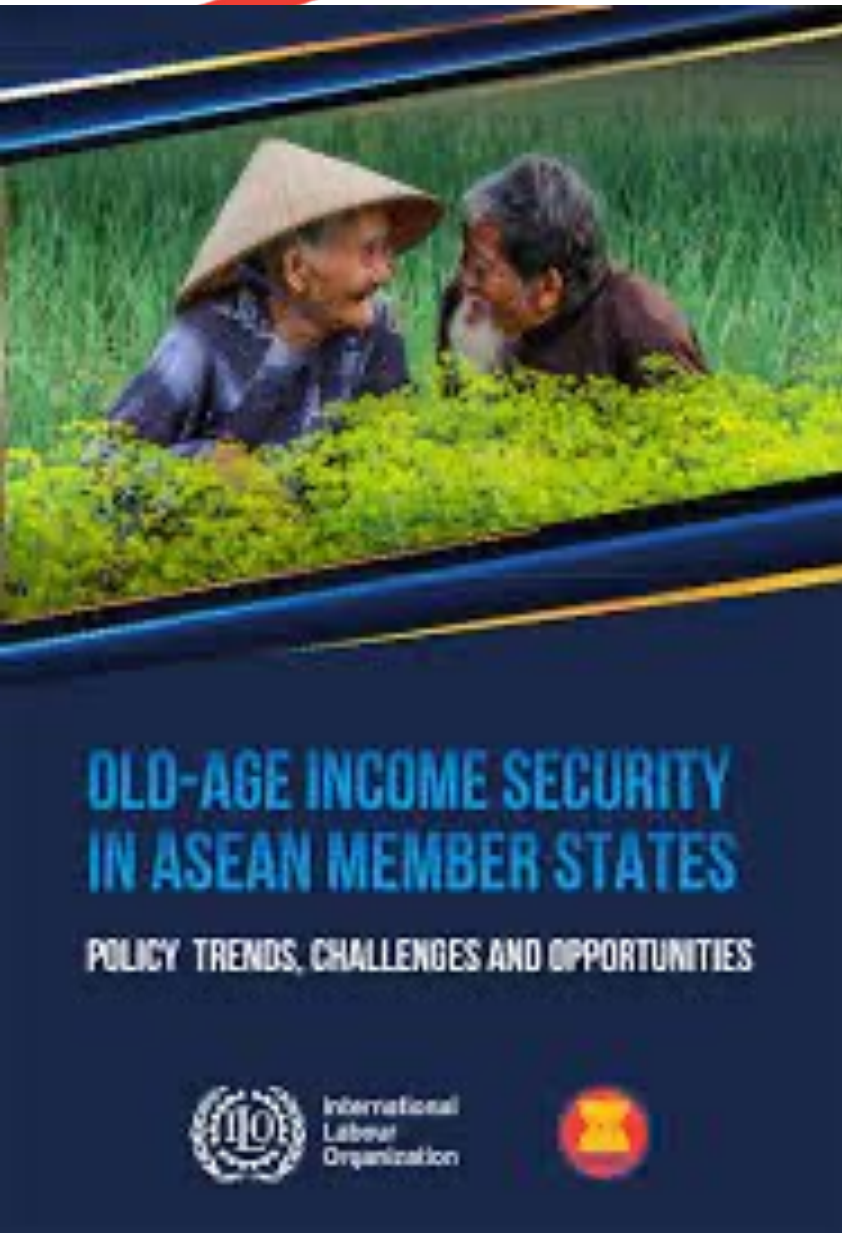
**ACAI**  
ASEAN Centre for Active Ageing and Innovation



# Relevant Initiatives of the Labour Sector



# ***Study on Old-Age Income Security in ASEAN Member States: Policy Trends, Challenges and Opportunities***



- Led by MOLISA Viet Nam, published in 2021
- Analysed responsiveness of AMS' social protection to the old-age population, including pension schemes.
- Highlighted the need for AMS to have a pro-active strategy to extend coverage to all population and to ensure adequacy and the sustainability of old age pension systems.
- Among others, recommended AMS to set common ASEAN targets in terms of pension coverage and for AMS to approach pension policies in a more comprehensive way.
- Followed-up through a series of Capacity Building Webinars on Social Protection for AMS

*First webinar: 15 August 2022 "Integrated approach on extending social protection"*

*Second webinar: 9 October 2023 "Old age pension systems in AMS"*

*Third webinar: 2024*





# The 9<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Labour Inspection Conference

- Hosted by Singapore, 27-28 May 2021 Virtually
- Theme: Strengthening Labour Inspection Capability in the Post COVID-19 Era
- Among others, the Conference called for better support of mental health at the workplace as it is important to both individuals as well as productivity of businesses.

*More specifically, the Conference recommended AMS to:*

- 1. Incorporate mental well-being into companies OSH systems and policies*
- 2. De-stigmatise mental health issues at the workplace*
- 3. Support employers to better manage the well-being of employees.*

*Full recommendations: <https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/Concluded-Recommendations-for-9th-ALIC-FINAL.pdf>*







**ASEAN Declaration on the  
Protection of Migrant Workers and  
Family Members in Crisis Situations and  
Its Guidelines**



## **ASEAN Declaration on the Protection of Migrant Workers and Family Members in Crisis Situation and its Guidelines**

- Led by Indonesia, adopted by the 42<sup>nd</sup> (Declaration) and 43<sup>rd</sup> (Guidelines) ASEAN Summits in 2023.
- Among others, the ASEAN Declaration called AMS to facilitate timely access of all migrant workers affected by crises to psychosocial support
- Provision of psychosocial support is also identified as one of the guiding principles of the Guidelines and as one of the means in supporting ASEAN migrant workers in post-crisis recovery.

*Accessible at:*

*[ASEAN Declaration on the Protection of Migrant Workers Family Members in Crisis-Situation-and-its-Guidelines.pdf](#)*



### **Guidelines on OSH Risk Management for SMEs in AMS**

- Led by Malaysia, adopted by the ALMM in 2020
- Systematic and objective approach to identifying hazards (including health hazard), assessing the risk, controlling the risk and monitoring and reviewing the risk management process and performance to ensure continuous improvement

Accessible at <https://asean.org/guidelines-on-occupational-safety-and-health-osh-risk-management-for-small-and-medium-enterprises-in-asean-member-states/>

### **Workshop to Review Fitness to Work Practices and Opportunities for Alignment – Occupational Health Control in the Workplace and Worker Readiness**

- Led by Brunei Darussalam, convened on 07 – 08 June 2022 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam and virtual.
- Captured the importance of occupational health of workers, covering not only physical, but also mental and social needs.
- Encouraged AMS to promote positive social climate in the workplace to enhance productivity.





**[www.asean.org](http://www.asean.org)**

