

BETTER MONITORING ASEAN INTEGRATION



The ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) is responsible for coordinating and facilitating ASEAN's "community building" agenda. To do this, ASEC needs an effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) capacity to assess ASEAN's progress in developing an ASEAN Community, as well as to promote evidence-based policymaking at the regional and national levels. AADCP II is supporting efforts to strengthen ASEC's capacity by improving M&E tools, processes and products.

AADCP II ACHIEVEMENTS

- AADCP II recognizes the need for ASEC to have in-house capacity to monitor integration, and supported the ASEAN Integration Monitoring Office (AIMO) in the early years of its establishment by funding its key personnel until the positions were able to be funded by ASEC directly.
- AADCP II continues to support AIMO's work and is supporting a collaborative project between ASEC and the World Bank which produced the 2013 **ASEAN Integration Monitoring Report** and will soon publish an **ASEAN Services Integration Report**.
- AADCP II has also supported development of the ASEAN Community Progress Monitoring System (ACPMS) that is overseen by AIMO. Using data from the ACPMS, an **ASEAN Brief and ACPMS Report** were able to be published in 2012. Both documents provide statistical data and analysis on community-building progress across the three ASEAN Community pillars. Training was conducted as part of this project to ensure that ASEC and statistics agencies in the ASEAN Member States (AMS) are able to systematically generate the data required by ACPMS on an ongoing basis.
- AADCP II supports **M&E initiatives** in a number of sectors. This includes support for the mid-term review of the implementation of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan II for Equitable Economic Development and Narrowing the Development Gap, and support to develop an M&E framework for the implementation of the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC).
- A series of **Symposiums**¹ on topics relevant to the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) are being supported by AADCP II. The Symposiums are intended to increase awareness among both government and non-government stakeholders and to encourage participation in decision making in the ASEAN integration process. The first symposium was held in Jakarta in 2012 and a second was held in Yangon in 2014. Both events brought together government and businesses and industries within the region, to discuss issues related to the AEC and identify ways forward so that all stakeholders can benefit from regional integration.

¹ The first symposium was "ASEAN Economic Community by 2015: Private Sector Perspectives" (2012) and the Second was "ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Symposium: Creating Opportunities for Businesses including SMEs in ASEAN" (2014).

ONGOING & UPCOMING PROJECTS IN 2015

ASEAN Economic Community Integration Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Building Program

This project helps ASEAN undertake important data collection, key monitoring and analytical studies, such as the *ASEAN Trade Integration and Facilitation Monitoring and Assessment Report* and the *ASEAN Services Trade Report*. The project has also provided support to develop a database and indicators of actual trade services, and regulations and restrictions in ASEAN priority services sectors. The project includes a series of capacity building activities for ASEC and AMS officials.

Enhancing ASEAN Connectivity Monitoring and Evaluation

This project supports the establishment of indicators to assess the progress and impact of implementing key actions under the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC). A baseline report on ASEAN connectivity will be produced by the World Bank. The new indicators and tools will then be used to analyze the current status of MPAC's implementation and set direction for further action to be taken by AMS.

Facilitating Regional Dialogue on ASEAN Economic Community

Regional public dialogues among government and non-government stakeholders are supported through this project. This enables information sharing and exchange of views on AEC implementation and communication of results of AEC monitoring and evaluation through the ASEAN Economic Community Symposium series. The third and final Symposium is likely to be held in Malaysia in 2015.

Establishing the Mechanism to Enhance National Data Collection, Compilation and Dissemination for the ASEAN Community Progress Monitoring System (ACPMS)

As a follow on to the first ACPMS project, this project aims to establish mechanisms to enhance data collection, compilation and dissemination for the ACPMS, and develop a utilization strategy to generate awareness of the ACPMS and advocate its use amongst its audience.

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