



45 YEARS OF RELATIONS

EU-ASEAN STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Blue Book 2022



**EU-ASEAN
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

Blue Book 2022



EU-ASEAN

45 YEARS OF RELATIONS

THE JOURNEY

The EU-ASEAN 45 Years logo is based on a **depiction of a road** with turns, intersections and roundabouts. It symbolises the 45-year journey of the EU-ASEAN relationship and all its dynamics, obstacles and achievements. At the end of the seamless route, the journey leads to the right, representing the future of the relations: ready for future challenges and to explore goals ahead.

MATURE TRANSFORMATION

The overall colour format forms a transition from light blue to solid blue to red and finally yellow. The transformation of colours represents the evolution of EU-ASEAN relations as they continue to grow, mature and strengthen.

POSITIVE RELATIONS

The core of the logo seamlessly forms a plus shape, symbolising the positive EU-ASEAN relations, and the many advantages of the cooperation.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

04	Forewords
06	The EU Worldwide Partnerships for the future
08	The EU and ASEAN 45 years of partnership
22	EU-ASEAN Development Overview Ensuring a green and sustainable socio-economic recovery
26	Political and Security Cooperation Building strategic trust
44	Economic Cooperation Supporting smart and sustainable investment
60	Green Growth and the Environment Promoting a green and sustainable recovery
86	Safe Migration Ensuring safe migration and mobility of ASEAN migrant workers
94	Education, Research and Capacity Building Investing today for tomorrow
120	Bilateral Cooperation





H.E. Ms Jutta Urpilainen

*EU Commissioner
for International Partnerships*

FOREWORD

BY THE EU COMMISSIONER FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

This year, we celebrate the 45th anniversary of the formal establishment of our relations with ASEAN. I very much welcome the December 2020 decision to elevate our relations to the level of a Strategic Partnership.

For the past 45 years, we have worked together to build ever closer relations based on trust, solidarity and a shared commitment to free and fair trade, sustainable development, multilateralism, peace and security.

Today, these pillars of our partnership are as relevant as ever.

As we fight the COVID-19 pandemic, we are reminded of our interdependence in an increasingly connected world. I am proud that the EU has shown solidarity with its ASEAN partners. Team Europe, consisting of the European Union (EU), its Member States and European financial institutions collectively mobilised over €800 million for ASEAN's pandemic response and recovery.

We now have the opportunity to build back better by creating decent jobs and promoting green and inclusive sustainable development. We need to rethink our approach to development and economic growth in the context of a rapidly warming planet. As we look to the future, we have to listen to the young people, who are often lanterns of hope and drivers of positive change.

Green and inclusive sustainable development and achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals are at the heart of our cooperation with ASEAN for the period 2021-2027. In November 2021, we launched a Green Team Europe Initiative to expand our cooperation with ASEAN on environment and climate action.

We are strong supporters of human development and education, equality – notably gender equality –, peace and security, and human rights and democracy. In line with the EU's new Global Gateway initiative and the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, we are also investing in efforts to promote better trade, economic and people-to-people links between the EU and ASEAN, and within the ASEAN region.

ASEAN is a key partner for the EU. The EU-ASEAN Blue Book, now in its seventh edition, highlights the benefits of our cooperation for the lives of citizens in both regions. In the following pages, I invite you to read stories that provide an inspiring overview of what we can achieve by working together. As we celebrate 45 years of partnership, let us continue to jointly address the great challenges of our time.



H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi

Secretary-General of ASEAN

FOREWORD

BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF ASEAN

This year's edition of the EU-ASEAN Blue Book 2022 is very timely as it is a landmark year for both ASEAN and the EU as we celebrate the 45th anniversary of ASEAN-EU Dialogue Relations as well as the 55th anniversary of the establishment of ASEAN.

The partnership between ASEAN and the EU has expanded rapidly over the past 45 years. Our relations have witnessed a growing number of dialogues and engagements spanning across various areas of cooperation, and our economic cooperation also continues to be robust. According to ASEAN statistics, the EU is the third largest foreign investor and third largest trading partner for ASEAN. The conclusion of the negotiations of the ASEAN-EU

Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (AE CATA) last year will also further contribute to the strengthening of trade, investment and tourism cooperation between our two regions.

As partners in regional integration, we are committed to working together for multilateral solutions, and to jointly address the COVID-19 pandemic as well as recovery efforts. ASEAN appreciated the EU's mobilisation of a "Team Europe" package of over €800 million to address the spread of the disease and mitigate its impact in the ASEAN region among other initiatives.

Furthermore, the EU development cooperation programmes, such as the ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the EU (ARISE Plus), the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA), Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN (BCAMP), as well as the Team Europe Green Initiative for ASEAN and the ASEAN Smart Green Cities programme are highly valued in ASEAN. These programmes contribute significantly to ASEAN integration and address global and regional challenges, including climate change and promote sustainable development.

Lastly, as Strategic Partners, we look forward to not only intensifying cooperation with the EU, but also to strengthening resilience, upholding regional and global peace based on shared values and common interest, restoring confidence in the free trade and rules-based multilateralism, and working towards sustainable development for the benefit of our people.

Thank you.

THE EU WORLDWIDE

Partnerships for the future

The European Union (EU) has evolved significantly since the signing of the two treaties that created the European Economic Community (EEC) and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) in 1957. To date, the political and economic stability offered by the EU has attracted 27 Member States comprising almost half a billion citizens and positions the EU as the third largest economy in the world.

Guided by the Lisbon Treaty, the EU plays important roles on the global stage in promoting diplomacy, championing free and open trade, defending human rights, advancing sustainable development and providing humanitarian aid.

With the help of over 140 diplomatic representations around the world, the EU cooperates closely with its Member States to promote the values and interests of the EU and establish networks and partnerships, promoting multilateral-based solutions to common challenges.

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, the EU, its Member States and European financial institutions, as Team Europe, have pledged a total of €46 billion to support the global response in addressing the emergency and strengthening partner countries' key health sectors and the socio-economic recovery process.



Roberta Metsola

The President of the European Parliament



Charles Michel

The President of the European Council



Ursula von der Leyen

The President of the European Commission

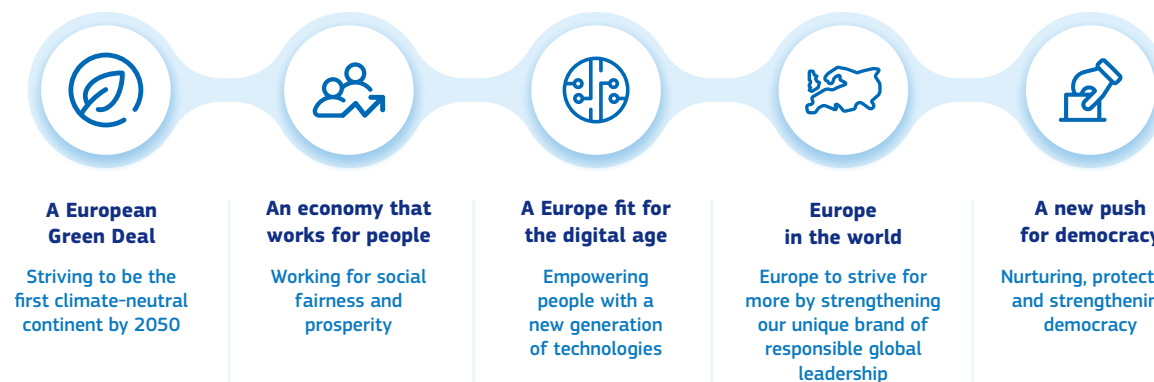


Josep Borrell Fontelles

High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the European Commission



EUROPEAN COMMISSION PRIORITIES 2019 - 2024:



THE EU AND ASEAN

45 years of partnership

The year 2022 marks 45 years of partnership between the EU and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The EU's relationship with ASEAN was elevated to a Strategic Partnership in December 2020.

In 2021, the EU recognised the centrality of ASEAN in the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. The strategy voices the EU's commitment to contribute to the region's stability, security, prosperity and sustainable development, in line with the principles of democracy, rule of law, human rights and international law.

EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell Fontelles, and Executive Vice President of the European Commission for the Green Deal, Frans Timmermans, visited the ASEAN Secretariat in 2021. These high-level visits are one element of the EU-ASEAN Strategic Partnership which is based on shared values and interests, and a common goal to jointly address global challenges.



'I am a strong believer in enhancing the cooperation between the EU and ASEAN. So coming closer together, working together, on shaping our common future is something I am very much looking forward to.'

Frans Timmermans

Executive Vice President of the
European Commission for the Green Deal

Priority areas of the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific :

- Sustainable and inclusive prosperity
- Ocean governance
- Connectivity
- Human security
- Green transition
- Digital governance and partnerships
- Security and defence



EU-ASEAN
45 YEARS
OF PARTNERSHIP

2 NOVEMBER 1995

Visit of the EU Economic and Social Committee Delegation to the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia



© ASEC Resource Centre



© ASEC Resource Centre

27-29
JANUARY 2000

1st ASEAN Senior Economic Officials Meeting with the EU during the 31st ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) Meeting, Jakarta, Indonesia



© ASEC Resource Centre

11-12
DECEMBER 2000

13th ASEAN-EU Ministerial Meeting (AMM), Vientiane, Lao PDR



© ASEC Resource Centre

28 JULY 2005

ASEAN + European Union Post-Ministerial Conference session as part of the 38th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting, Vientiane, Lao PDR



© ASEC Resource Centre

27
NOVEMBER
2020

ASEAN-EU Partnership: "The Untold Story" Online Book Launch and Panel Discussion



© ASEC Resource Centre

2
JUNE
2021

Launch of the ASEAN-WHO-EU Collaboration on Responding to COVID-19 in ASEAN Member States and the opening of the EU Project Office at the ASEAN Secretariat

EU-ASEAN Cooperation

PRIORITY AREAS FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION



Strategic Partnership



Green & Inclusive Sustainable Development



Sustainable Connectivity

Green Team Europe Initiative in partnership with ASEAN/Southeast Asia



Team Europe brings together the EU, EU Member States and development finance institutions for joint actions

Funded through:



GLOBAL EUROPE

Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument

Aligned with:

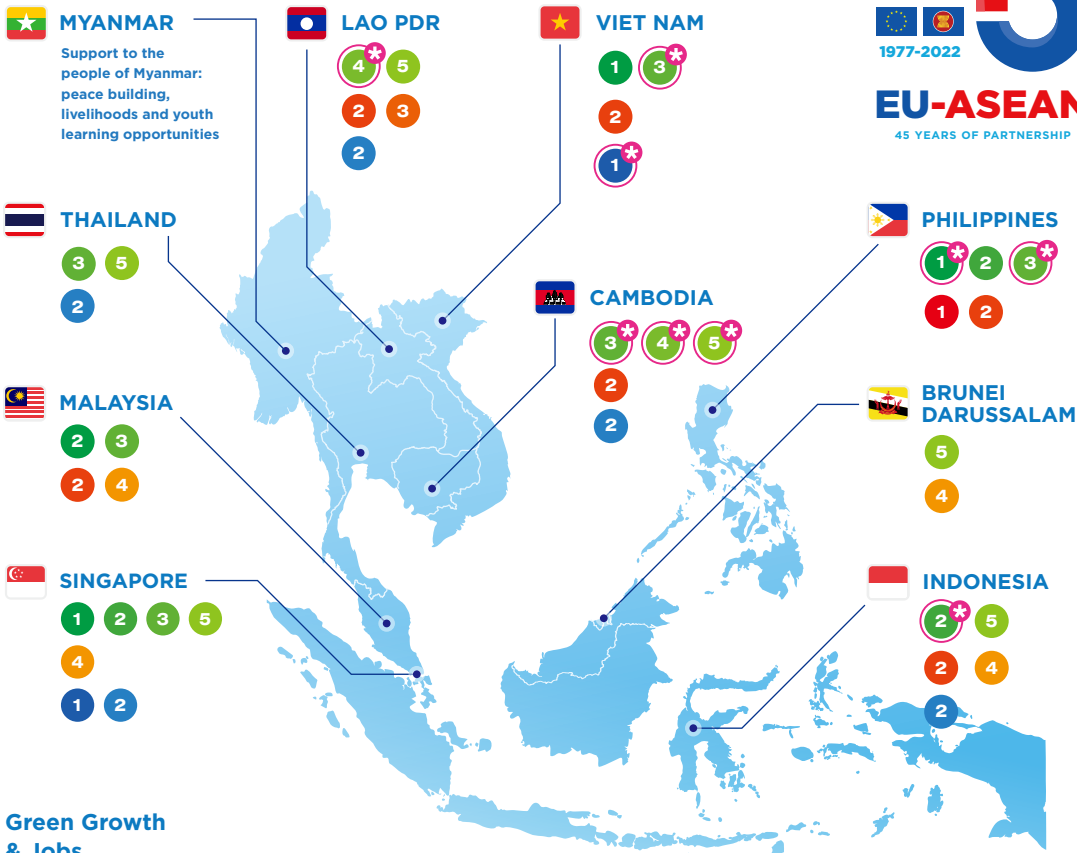
- ★ Indo-Pacific Strategy
- ★ European Green Deal
- ★ Global Gateway
- ★ ASEAN Community Blueprints



Complementary Asia and Thematic Programmes

- Investment for Sustainable Development EFSD+
- Migration
- Peace and Conflict Prevention
- Human Rights & Democracy
- Erasmus+
- Pan-Asia SME Initiative to Deliver Sustainable Consumption and Production

Bilateral Cooperation with ASEAN Member States



Green Growth & Jobs

- 1 Digital
- 2 Climate change
- 3 Circular Economy
- 4 Sustainable agriculture
- 5 Trade & investment

Governance, Peace & Security

- 1 Peace building
- 2 Good governance
- 3 Human rights
- 4 Security

Education & Skills Development

- 1 Entrepreneurship
- 2 Education & research

Team Europe Initiative





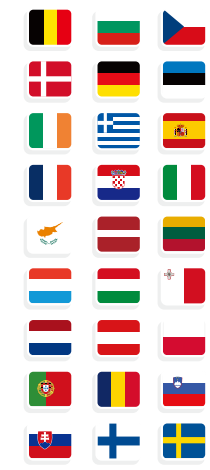
© Shutterstock

EUROPEAN UNION

FOUNDED IN 1957



MEMBER STATES **27**



MOTTO:
UNITED IN DIVERSITY

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES **24**

MILLION POPULATION **447.7**

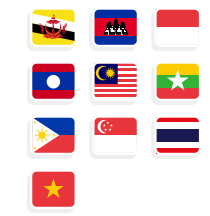
LAND AREA
4 225 127 KM²



ASEAN

FOUNDED IN 1967

MEMBER STATES **10**



MOTTO:
ONE VISION, ONE IDENTITY,
ONE COMMUNITY

01 WORKING LANGUAGE
ENGLISH

661.8 MILLION
POPULATION

LAND AREA
4 500 000 KM²



The EU and ASEAN
are the two most
advanced **regional**
integration initiatives
in the world.



The EU is ASEAN's
most significant
partner in
development
cooperation.



The EU is the **third**
largest external provider
of Foreign Direct
Investment (FDI)
to the ASEAN region.



The EU is an
increasingly **important**
destination for
investment coming
from the ASEAN region.

EU & ASEAN

3

EU-ASEAN cooperation is aligned with the

ASEAN COMMUNITY PILLARS



Political and security cooperation

As a founding member of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the EU is committed to increasing its cooperation with ASEAN on political and security issues. The growing number of visits and dialogue events reflects the mutual goal to increase regional security and stability.



Economic cooperation

The EU is working towards improving trade-related regulatory and policy frameworks, intellectual property rights, standards, customs and transport, and civil aviation. The ultimate objective is to accelerate regional economic integration and improve livelihoods in the ASEAN region.



Socio-cultural cooperation

EU cooperation addresses higher education, health, land use and forestry, disaster management and preparedness, biodiversity protection and the effective management of protected areas, sustainable urbanisation, sustainable agriculture, and improving labour conditions for migrant women.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

23-24 FEB



3rd EU-ASEAN Dialogue on Combatting Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

20 APR



EU-ASEAN Dialogue on Safe Labour Migration
Launch of the Comparative Study on Laws and Policies for the Migrant Workers in ASEAN

2 JUNE



Launch of the EU-WHO Southeast Asia Health Pandemic Response and Preparedness
Official opening of the EU Project Office at the ASEAN Secretariat by EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell Fontelles

12-13 AUG



The 4th ASEAN-EU Cooperation and Scholarships Day

16 SEP



3rd EU-ASEAN High Level Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change

19 OCT



Launch of Smart Green ASEAN Cities programme by the Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for the European Green Deal, Frans Timmermans

16 NOV



ASEAN Youth Town Hall meeting with EU Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen

18 NOV



3rd EU-ASEAN High Level Dialogue on Sustainable Development to advance the ASEAN-EU Partnership for Sustainability
Launch of the Green Team Europe Initiative in partnership with ASEAN/Southeast Asia

EU-ASEAN Dialogues

Environment and Climate Change

Circular Economy

Natural Capital

Sustainable Development

Green Technology

Gender Equality

Safe Migration & Labour Rights

Human Rights

Trade and Business

Digital Economy and Society

Road Transport

Fisheries and IUU

Eurocodes (Construction Standards)

Energy

Maritime Transport

Science and Research

Health (COVID-19)

Transnational Crime & Cyber Security

Maritime Security

Security & Defence

TEAM EUROPE

SUPPORTS ASEAN IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

© Unicef



© Unicef

© Unicef



© Unicef



© Unicef

THE EU AND ASEAN

Team Europe delivered more than 30 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to ASEAN under the COVAX facility.

TEAM EUROPE

COVID-19 GLOBAL SOLIDARITY 2021

OUR COMMITMENTS

DONATIONS BY TEAM EUROPE

Share **250 million** doses directly or through COVAX by the end of 2021

Share **700 million** doses directly or through COVAX by mid-2022

OUR OBJECTIVE

70%

Reach of global vaccination by mid-2022

COVID-19 VACCINE EXPORTS FROM THE EU TO THE REST OF THE WORLD

Over **2.1 billion** doses

to more than **167** countries

Asia & Pacific	1 003 734 164
Europe	343 682 999
Americas	367 976 746
Africa	309 667 221
Middle East (excl. Northern Africa)	145 600 222

as of April 2022

Total EU exports delivered

2 170 661 352

TEAM EUROPE'S HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT TO VACCINATION



Team Europe's humanitarian effort amounts to **€655 million**, of which **€203 million** was used in 2021.



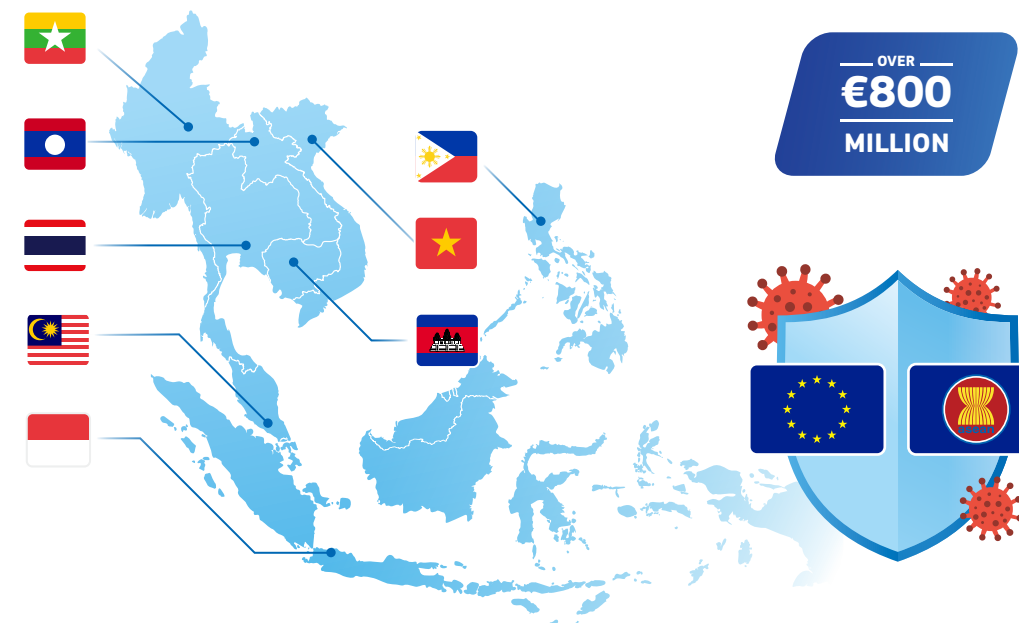
The European Union civil protection mechanism delivered **26 million** doses to **37** countries, and a further **8 million** are on the way.



With **US\$25 million**, Team Europe is the leading donor of humanitarian buffer under COVAX

(funding those excluded from the national vaccination plans, e.g. people living in conflict areas, areas controlled by non-state armed groups, Internally Displaced People (IDP) and refugees)

TEAM EUROPE SUPPORTS ASEAN IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS



EU-ASEAN DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

Ensuring a green and sustainable socio-economic recovery

As strategic partners, the EU and ASEAN share a joint commitment to fostering a fairer, greener, and more sustainable future. The ASEAN region plays a crucial role in enforcing the rules-based international order and in promoting multilateral-based solutions to address global challenges. With a number of new initiatives launched in 2021, the EU aims to increase engagement with the region, to strengthen ties that lay the foundations for a rapid, just and sustainable post-pandemic socio-economic recovery.

The multifaceted EU-ASEAN Strategic Partnership is crucial in implementing the global agenda to support long-term prosperity in the two regions, including the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.



© ILO

GLOBAL EUROPE:

Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI – Global Europe)

The NDICI – Global Europe is the EU's main tool to contribute to eradicating poverty and build partnerships for sustainable development, prosperity and peace, and stability.

**€79.5
BILLION**
2021-2027

GLOBALLY

Geographic Pillar



**€60.4
billion**

Thematic Pillar



**€6.4
billion**

Rapid-Response Pillar



**€3.2
billion**

**€9.5
billion**

to address unforeseen circumstances,
new needs or emerging challenges and promote new priorities.



**Enhanced partnership
and dialogue**



**Eradicating
poverty**



**Environment and
climate change**



**Inclusive
economic growth**



**Good governance
and rule of law**



**Human rights
and democracy**



**Human development,
incl. gender**



**Mobility
and migration**



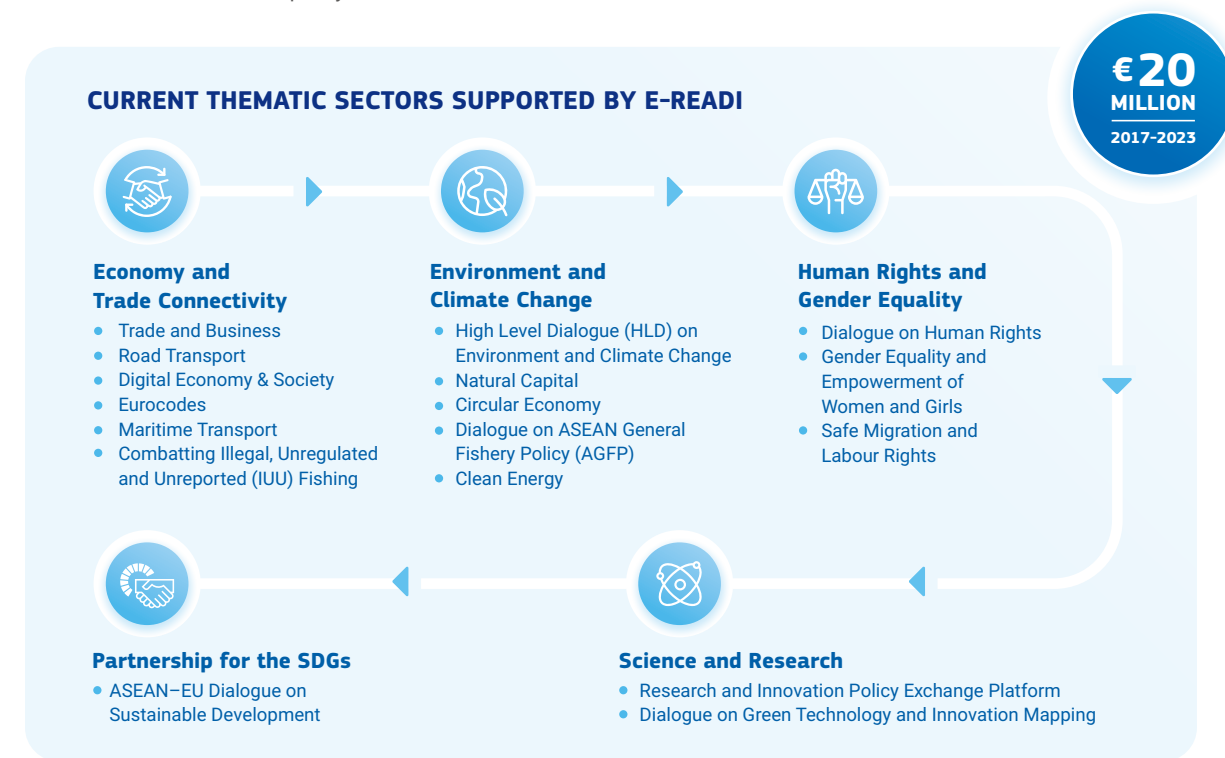
**Security, peace
and stability**



THE ENHANCED REGIONAL EU-ASEAN DIALOGUE INSTRUMENT (E-READI)

E-READI is a demand-driven instrument that supports ASEAN regional integration by strengthening EU-ASEAN networks and exchanging knowledge and experience in policy areas of joint interest. In addition to engaging with policy makers from EU and ASEAN institutions and Member States, it facilitates dialogues with civil society, the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders across various policy areas.

The initiative offers organisational and logistical support to EU-ASEAN meetings, workshops and study visits, which serve to identify common areas of policy dialogues. It can also provide expert studies and analysis in support of sectoral dialogue areas, or other short-term technical assistance.



ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR



POLITICAL AND SECURITY COOPERATION

Building strategic trust

The EU and ASEAN are long standing partners, with shared values, principles and outlook on rules-based international order and effective multilateralism. The elevation to a Strategic Partnership in 2020 marked a new chapter in EU-ASEAN relations. A Commemorative Summit will be organised in Brussels later this year, to celebrate 45 years since the establishment of Dialogue Relations.



EU-ASEAN Think Tank Initiative

EANGAGE



Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence Initiative

CBRN CoE



Critical Maritime Routes in the Indian Ocean II

CRIMARIO II





Political Cooperation

In April 2021, the EU launched its Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific to step up its engagement on strategic and security issues with partners in the region. The strategy is aligned with the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and reaffirms the EU's commitment to the principle of ASEAN centrality.

During the ASEAN-EU Senior Officials Meeting on 8 July 2021, the EU reiterated its support towards the centrality of ASEAN and the multilateral anchor it provides. The two sides also discussed how to further strengthen EU-ASEAN cooperation in a number of areas, ranging from trade, investment and connectivity to sustainable development, security issues and responding to global challenges. Discussions also highlighted the EU's long-standing support for the principles of democracy, the rule of law and good governance, respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, which are enshrined in the ASEAN Charter.

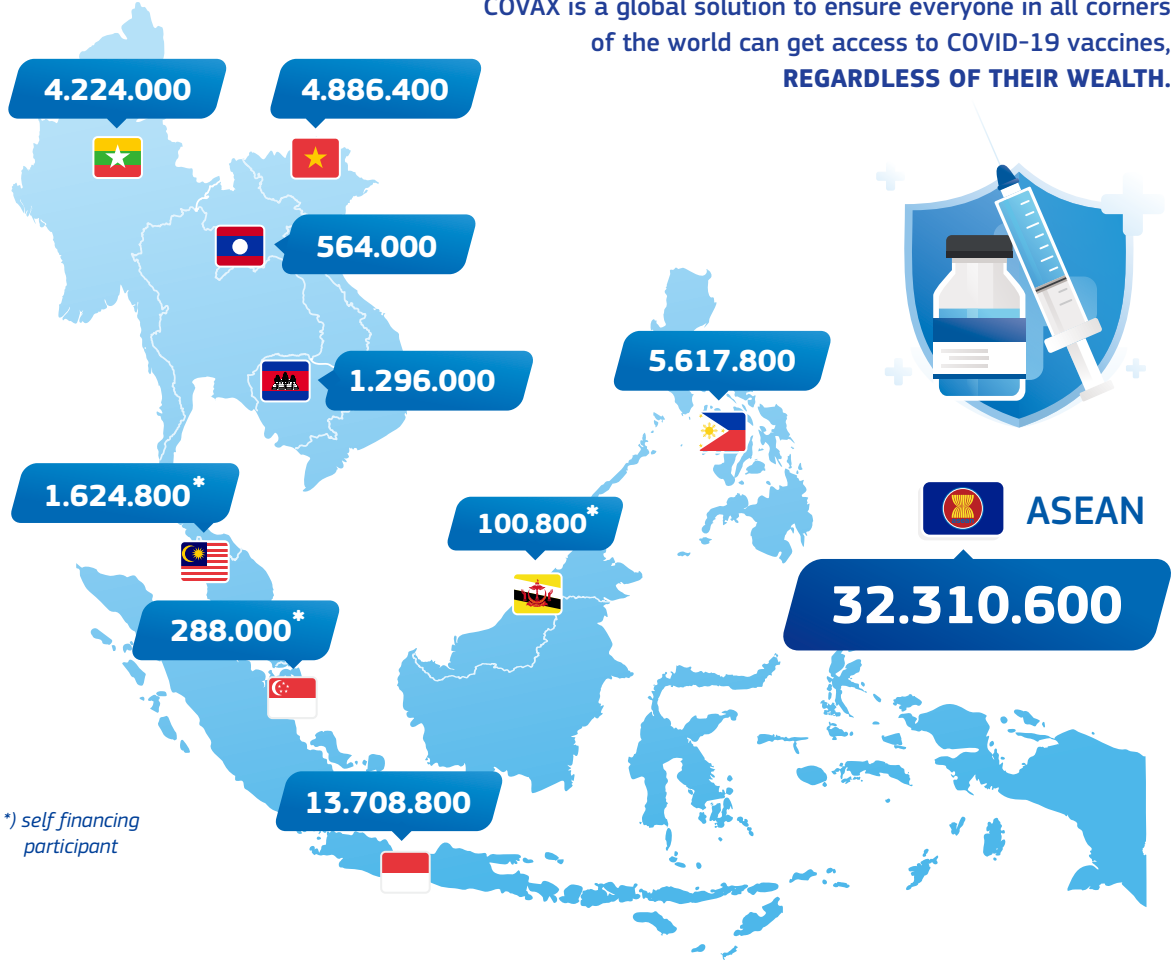


© Lally Radev, Indonesian Presidential Palace

The meeting was co-chaired by the Second Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Singapore, Stanley Loh and Gunnar Wiegand, Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific in the European External Action Service. It was also attended by officials from all ASEAN and EU Member States, as well as representatives from the European Commission and the ASEAN Secretariat.

COVAX FACILITY: COVID-19 VACCINES FOR ASEAN

COVAX is a global solution to ensure everyone in all corners of the world can get access to COVID-19 vaccines, REGARDLESS OF THEIR WEALTH.



#TEAMEUROPE

THE EU, ITS MEMBER STATES, AND THE EIB CONTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THE CURRENT FINANCING TO COVAX

Based on the COVAX Facility Interim Distribution Forecast of 3 February 2021



© Aung Chan Thar

////////

In 2021, the Delegation of the European Union to ASEAN organised the EU4Youth Photo Exhibition, to highlight how the pandemic had affected youth across the region



© Aung Chan Thar

////////

As the COVID-19 pandemic swept across Myanmar, young people were volunteering to help. Captured by a young photographer from Myanmar, Aung Chan Thar, this photo essay won the third place in the EU4Youth Photo Competition



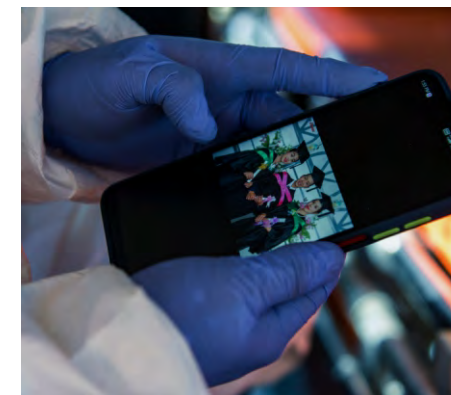
© Aung Chan Thar



© Aung Chan Thar



© Aung Chan Thar



© Aung Chan Thar

THINK NEXT, ACT NEXT



Audrey Liwan spent her childhood days playing in the lush rainforest of Borneo, in the Miri Division of Sarawak, Malaysia, 'Nature is an important part of my life and environmental issues have always been close to my heart'.

Liwan is currently working on her PhD thesis with a focus on environmental economics, 'I think environmental issues need to be seen beyond the national perspective', Liwan said. 'I'm particularly interested in the areas of green technology and sustainability in the ASEAN context'.

Liwan believes in the importance of learning from other countries and engaging with the Next Gen EU-ASEAN Think Tank Dialogue (EANGAGE) programme provides her with the opportunity to connect, learn and work together with other researchers in the region and in the European Union.

The EANGAGE programme is designed to increase the awareness of EU foreign policy objectives and the EU's engagement in ASEAN. Implemented by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, the Cambodian think tank Asian Vision Institute and the Diplomatic Academy of Viet Nam, the programme facilitates 90 young think tank researchers from ASEAN and the EU to exchange ideas, strengthen networks, and improve mutual understanding on issues of interest between the two regions.



Think Next, Act Next – The Next Gen
EU-ASEAN Think Tank Dialogue

EANGAGE

2021-2023

Another researcher in the EANGAGE network is Etienne Hoera from Germany. He has always been fascinated by the cultural diversity in ASEAN, 'It started off as a personal fascination and as I watch the region grow, I became more interested in learning about ASEAN'.

'Working with ASEAN researchers through the EANGAGE programme has really enriched my perspectives', Hoera said.

Through the EANGAGE programme, researchers like Liwan and Hoera, discuss and exchanges ideas. This series of engagements are expected to unearth new areas of cooperation within the three focal areas of connectivity, security, and sustainable development.

'The EU and ASEAN are natural partners that have based their 45 years of relations on shared values and shared interests', Hoera said. 'It is a great experience to be part of this relationship and somehow act as a bridge'.



Enable a group of 90 young think tank researchers from ASEAN and the EU to conduct relevant research on specific issues of security, connectivity and sustainable development cooperation between the two regions



Facilitate structured exchanges and intellectual debate between influential European and ASEAN think tanks and academic institutions on the EU-ASEAN collaboration



FACILITATING STRONGER REGIONAL COLLABORATION

In 2021, the EU introduced a new external cooperation instrument, the 'Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe' (NDICI – Global Europe). The new instrument provides the EU with the flexibility to respond faster to new crises and security challenges, including in responding to the needs of partner countries to cope with the medium-term socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a voluntary and demand-driven initiative, the EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative is designed to support partner countries in a wide range of CBRN mitigation activities including needs and risk assessments, national and regional action plans, training, tabletop and real-time field exercises and developing train-the-trainer modules.

'Early on in the pandemic, it was clear that there was a need to strengthen collaboration with our ASEAN partners and entities', CBRN CoE Regional Coordinator – South East Asia, Rory Alexander Hamilton said.

On 26 May 2020, the CBRN CoE Regional Secretariat for Southeast Asia started a series of webinars with Thailand's quarantine strategy as the first topic. By 13 July 2021, the Secretariat had organised a total of 17 webinars, reaching over 1 200 participants, on a wide range of topics, including mobilising grassroot efforts to combat COVID-19, how to stop



© Shutterstock

disinformation on social media during COVID-19, and the importance of international collaboration during the pandemic.

'We have a regional network of many talented experts', Hamilton said. 'Their expertise and familiarity with the region and its cultures, make them an invaluable asset in the region's efforts to cope with the pandemic'.



CBRN/CoE

The EU continues to support the CBRN CoE through the NDICI – Global Europe.

SERIES OF WEBINARS 2020-2021



FROM THE FOREFRONT OF CAMBODIA'S FIGHT AGAINST THE PANDEMIC

The Institut Pasteur du Cambodge (IPC) was first established in Cambodia in 1953 with a mission to carry out life science and health research on infectious diseases and emerging pathogens.

Operating under both the Cambodian Ministry of Health and the French Institut Pasteur, IPC was chosen as the designated World Health Organization (WHO) International Reference Laboratory for COVID-19 at the onset of the pandemic in April 2020.

'We were assigned to handle all the first PCR tests here in Cambodia', Pr André Spiegel, Director of IPC said. 'COVID-19 was a new disease. We need to learn the technique and also be able to meet the demand to provide results quickly to allow better contact tracing'.

Through the EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence (CoE) Initiative, the EU immediately mobilised €200 000 to support the crucial role of IPC during the critical phase of the pandemic.

Within the framework of MEDILABSECURE, a project aimed at strengthening preparedness and response capacities to emerging infectious diseases, the support enabled IPC to acquire more PCR test kits, conduct sequencing and enhance hospital-based surveillance.



© Cindy Liu

A further €220 000 has recently been allocated by the EU to strengthen biosecurity infrastructure and equipment at IPC, with work expected to begin in the third quarter of 2022.

IPC has conducted over 900 000 tests to date and continues to play a crucial role in Cambodia's fight against the pandemic. 'Vigorous testing and contract tracing as well as the very high vaccination rate played a big role in reducing our number of cases', Spiegel concluded.



Security and Defence Cooperation

One of the main pillars of the EU-ASEAN Strategic Partnership is enhanced security cooperation. From 1 to 4 June 2021, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell Fontelles, visited Indonesia and the ASEAN Secretariat. During his visit, the High Representative met with ASEAN Secretary-General, Lim Jock Hoi and the ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives to discuss how to further strengthen the EU-ASEAN Strategic Partnership, through concrete actions, in order to address shared challenges faced by the two regions.

The High Representative reiterated the EU's commitment to supporting the ASEAN regional architecture, including ensuring the EU's active engagement in the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), 'The key point to make here is that economic growth of this region rests on openness, on stable and shared rules, and shared security', he said.

© Shutterstock



EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific

The EU is the top investor, top development assistance provider and one of the biggest trading partners for the vital Indo-Pacific region.

With this new Strategy, the EU is stepping up its strategic engagement to build partnerships that reinforce the rules-based international order, address global challenges, and lay the foundations for a rapid, just and sustainable economic recovery that creates long-term prosperity.

Actions will be based on the principles of democracy, rule of law, human rights and universally agreed commitments such as the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.



© Shutterstock

Priority areas of the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific :



Sustainable and inclusive prosperity



Human security



Digital governance and partnerships



Ocean governance



Green transition



Security and defence



Connectivity

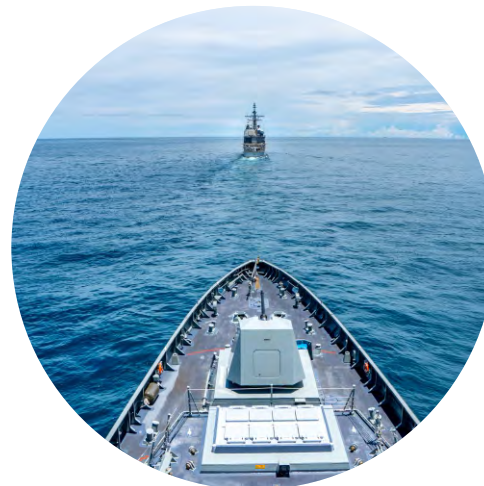


2 June 2021.
During his first visit to Jakarta, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell Fontelles, met with ASEAN Secretary-General, Dato Lim Jock Hoi, to discuss the deepening of EU-ASEAN relations

Maritime Cooperation

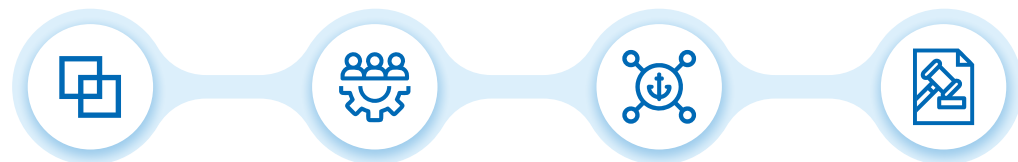
The EU and ASEAN share common interest to maintain peace, stability, security, and the rules-based order at sea. The ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) plays an important role in fostering dialogue, mutual trust and confidence on maritime issues, as one of the foundations of regional peace and security. From 2018 to 2022, the EU, along with Australia and Viet Nam, co-chaired the ARF cycle on Maritime Security. A series of activities and workshops were organised during this period, with topics and priority areas on the implementation of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of Sea (UNCLOS), enhancing maritime law enforcement cooperation, maritime domain awareness, ferry safety, dispute resolution and the law of the sea.

On 19 April 2021, 27 Foreign Ministers of EU Member States adopted the new EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. Ocean governance in full compliance with international law, is one of the seven priority areas under the strategy, with the main objective to ensure the sustainable management of the ocean's resources and safeguarding biodiversity.



© Shutterstock

THE FOUR PRINCIPLES OF THE EU MARITIME SECURITY STRATEGY



A cross-sectoral approach to improve coordination and deal with complex and interconnected challenges

Functional integrity with a focus on what can be better achieved by working together

Maritime multilateralism

Respect for rules and principles to ensure stability and a better environment based on shared, transparent and rules-based good governance.

EU CRIMARIO II

IMPROVING COORDINATION FOR SAFER AND MORE SECURE SEAS

For an archipelagic country like the Philippines, maritime security is vital for the integrity of the nation. Traditionally, the mandate of protecting the maritime domain falls on the Coast Guard and the Navy. However, the Navy and the Coast Guard alone are not enough to address all the maritime challenges that the country is facing today. Better coordination between agencies is needed to ensure a coherent approach and more efficient use of resources.

On 6 September 2011, former president Benigno Aquino III issued Executive Order No. 57 to establish a central inter-agency mechanism for a coordinated and coherent approach on national maritime issues and maritime security operations.

The National Coast Watch Center (NCW Center) is mandated to coordinate and implement a holistic effort in protecting the country's maritime interests against security threats, enforcing national sovereignty and sovereign rights, and fulfilling international responsibilities and obligations throughout the Philippine maritime domain.

'The NCW Center is doing its best in improving cooperation and collaboration among its eleven support agencies to push forward for a whole-of-government approach in securing the Philippine maritime domain', Rear Admiral Roy Echeverria said who has been working hard on this since he became NCW Center Director in September 2020.

Safer and more secure seas have always been a priority in the European Union's security cooperation with its partners, including ASEAN. Through the EU-funded Critical Maritime



© Shutterstock

Routes Indian Ocean (CRIMARIO I) project, the EU enhanced partner countries' maritime domain awareness. This was followed by the EU CRIMARIO II project to support partner countries on information sharing, incident management and maritime data processing.

EU CRIMARIO II introduced the Indo-Pacific Regional Information Sharing (IORIS) platform to Rear Admiral Echeverria. 'The IORIS is a secure, neutral and collaborative platform that can significantly enhance the coordination of different agencies, both on national and regional levels', EU CRIMARIO II Project Director Martin Cauchi Inglott said.



The IORIS Maritime Coordination & Communications secure platform is designed to be flexible and can be adapted to the mandate and role of the specific centre. The platform provides maritime centres with means to plan and coordinate maritime operations as well as offers command and control functions for crisis/incident management.

To date, the project has delivered ten preliminary courses about the IORIS platform to the Philippine Coast Guard and Philippine Navy, 'and we are looking forward to continuing our support in 2022', Cauchi Inglott added.

As the Philippines is also facing the challenges of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, IORIS' ability to determine the optimal course and speed to intercept a vessel or target of interest within the mapping features can significantly improve the Center's ability in facing this challenge.

'I expect that the IORIS platform will improve the NCW Center's capability to monitor the Philippine maritime domain. It will be a big help in protecting our seas better.' Rear Admiral Echeverria said.

CRIMARIO II

EU Critical Maritime
Routes Indian Ocean II

€7.5
MILLION
2020-2024



Enhancing information exchange and analysis, and crisis/incident management (Western Indian Ocean and Asian countries)

Strengthening inter-agency cooperation in maritime surveillance, policing, investigation and judicial matters (South Asian and Southeast Asian countries)

Supporting partner countries to improve compliance with and adherence to relevant international legal instruments and regional arrangements (South Asian and Southeast Asian countries)

SHARING EXPERIENCES FOR A STRONGER AND SAFER ASEAN

Addressing political and security issues is an important pillar of the ASEAN-Italy Development Partnership

Supporting ASEAN in the prevention and mitigation of traditional and non-traditional security issues is one of the main priority sectors of the ASEAN-Italy Development Partnership.

Soon after the endorsement of the Development Partnership on 9 September 2020, the Department of Public Security of the Italian Ministry of Interior collaborated with ASEANAPOL to arrange a series of capacity building sessions and facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices on political and security topics.



Vicenza, 7-20 July 2021:
Enhanced comprehensive Protection of Civilians

Rome, 8-12 Nov 2021:
High-level Seminar on the fight against organised crime, international terrorism, drugs, cyber-crime and illegal migration for ASEAN Head of Police forces and ASEANAPOL

Vicenza, 24 Nov - 7 Dec 2021:
Awareness course on protection of cultural heritage

Rome, 6-10 Dec 2021:
the Italian system of preventive measures in the fight against transnational organised crime

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Supporting smart and sustainable investment

On 1 December 2021, the European Union unveiled the Global Gateway, outlining the EU's global plan to support infrastructure development and mobilise investments to boost smart, clean and secure links in digital, energy and transport sectors across the world.

The Global Gateway builds on the achievements of the 2018 Europe – Asia Connectivity Strategy and further strengthens the EU and ASEAN's long-standing inter-regional economic cooperation and commitment to a green recovery.

“**Global Gateway is Europe's strategy to better connect the world. We will support smart, sustainable investments in quality infrastructure, in line with the EU's values and standards'.**

Ursula von der Leyen

President of the European Commission



**Enhanced ASEAN Regional
Integration Support by the EU**

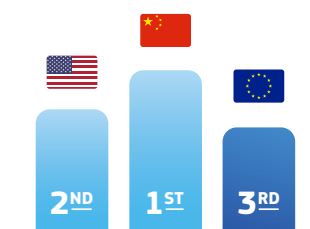
ARISE+



**Enhanced Regional
EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument**

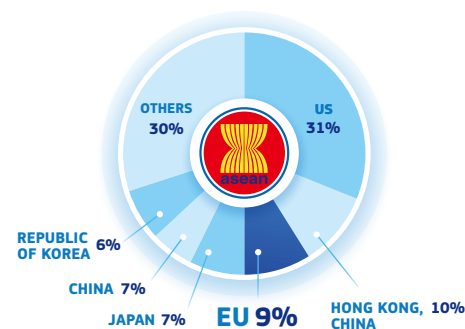
E-READI





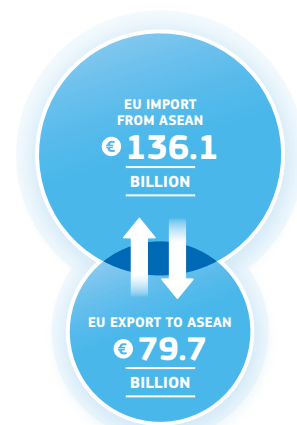
**THE EU WAS ASEAN'S
3RD LARGEST
TRADING PARTNER
IN 2020**

Source: ASEANstats



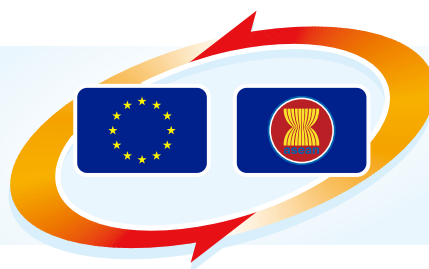
**THE EU WAS THE
3RD LARGEST
PROVIDER OF EXTERNAL FOREIGN
DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) IN ASEAN IN 2020**

Source: ASEANstats



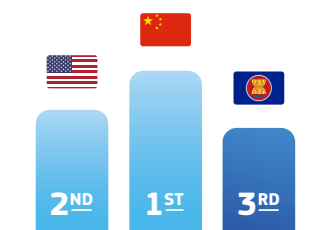
2021

Source: Eurostat



TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Working together, the EU and ASEAN are a global economic force.



**ASEAN WAS THE EU'S
3RD LARGEST
TRADING PARTNER OUTSIDE
EUROPE IN 2021**

Source: Eurostat

MERCHANDISE TRADE

Year	Value (Billion €)
2011	138.5
2021	215.9

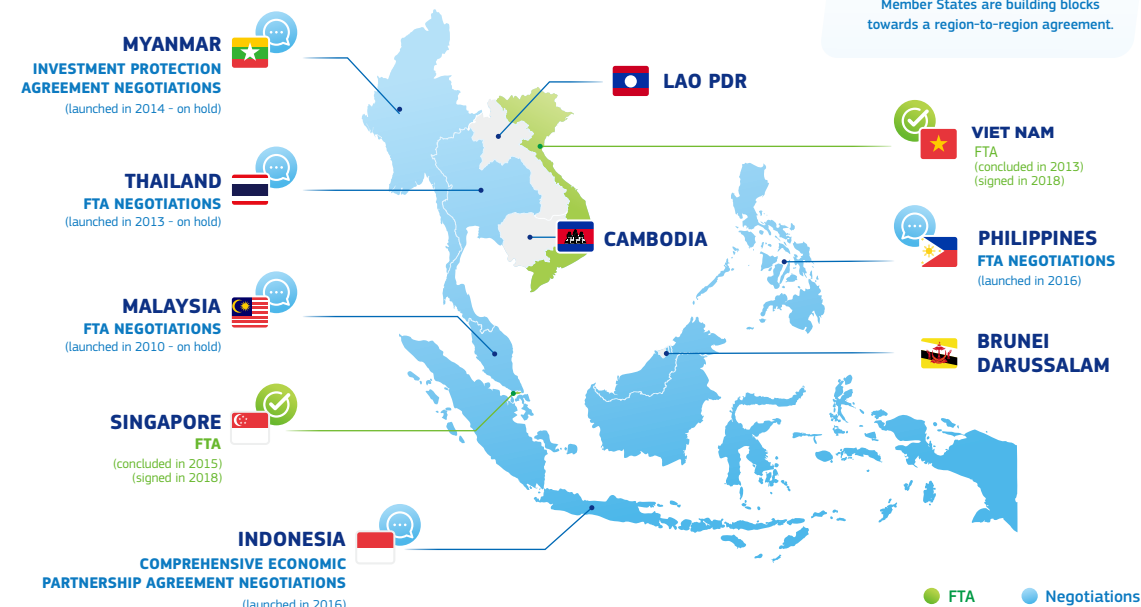
Source: Eurostat

TRADE IN SERVICES

Year	Value (Billion €)
2011	41.1
2020	82.4

Source: Eurostat

EU FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (FTA) AND INVESTMENT AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS IN ASEAN



EU-ASEAN FTA

Bilateral FTAs between the EU and ASEAN Member States are building blocks towards a region-to-region agreement.

Cooperation for sustainable development and economic resilience

Economic cooperation between the EU and ASEAN spans across a number of priority areas including connectivity, infrastructure, logistics, regulation, innovation, and mobility.

In the face of economic challenges and the disruptions posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the 17th ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) - EU Trade Commissioner Consultations highlighted the importance of leveraging digitalisation and sustainable development to strengthen the region's economic resilience.

The Consultation was held on 14 September 2021 and was co-chaired by H.E. Dato Dr. Amin Liew Abdullah of the

Prime Minister's Office and Minister of Finance and Economy II of Brunei Darussalam and H.E. Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President for an Economy that Works for People and EU Trade Commissioner.

The EU and ASEAN view the digital economy as a strategic priority. To support ASEAN's economic digitalisation, the EU facilitated the launch of a new tool to measure the ASEAN region's digital performance in areas such as connectivity, public services and digital skills. The ASEAN Digital Index (ADIX) will provide ASEAN Member States with the information needed to address the digital gaps in their respective countries and develop a secure, sustainable, and transformative digitally enabled economy both for themselves and the region.

ARISE+

ASEAN Regional
Integration Support by the EU

**€ 90
MILLION**

ARISE Plus Regional Projects

€ 40 million



**ARISE Plus
Technical Assistance**



**ARISE Plus
Intellectual Property Rights**



**ARISE Plus
Civil Aviation**



**ASEAN Secretariat
Capacity Building**

ARISE Plus bilateral support to ASEAN Member States



€ 50 million



ARISE+



ARISE+ CA



ARISE+ IPR



**Trade Facilitation
and Transparency**



**Standards and Conformity
Assessment in Healthcare
and Food Products**



**Customs, Transport
and ASEAN Customs
Transit System (ACTS)**



**ASEAN Economic
Integration Monitoring
and Statistics**

© Coffee Heritage Project



© Coffee Heritage Project



© Coffee Heritage Project



© George Parrila



© European Union



© Dominik Luckman



ACTS: DRIVING FORCE FOR REGIONAL INTEGRATION

The ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) makes cross-border trade easier, faster, and cost-efficient for businesses operating in the ASEAN region.



S. Pirithivaraj of the City Zone Express (CZE Express Sdn. Bhd., Malaysia) has been working on providing logistic services in ASEAN for over 15 years – connecting Europe with the shores of Singapore and Malaysia and connecting the rest of the ASEAN region by land transport.

One thing that Pirithivaraj knows well from his extensive experience is how much time transit operations can take. Transit operations involve the process of sharing information among many stakeholders from freight forwarders, transporters, customs, and transport authorities.

Supported by the European Union, the ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) is an automated transit system with a secure distributed online IT system designed to make movement of goods in transit across the borders of ASEAN countries quicker and easier.

‘We have estimated time savings of around 30% - 40%’, Pirithivaraj said. ‘This is by far the most competitive advantage from using any other mode of transit available in ASEAN’.

Key features of the ACTS include a temporary suspension of import duties and taxes, simplified and harmonised customs procedures, and reduced paperwork. The system links all customs offices at points of departure, border crossings and destinations across the region to simplify and speed up customs clearance formalities and provide detailed real time data on goods in transit. Goods can be transported across borders with a single guarantee covering all the countries involved in the transit operation and without the need to transfer the goods to a different truck in each country. According to Pirithivaraj, the less time spent in transit also means improved working conditions for drivers, ‘They don’t have to wait long at every border and can perform better’.

‘When we move goods under ACTS, the benefits that we obtain as the logistics service operator are also passed to our client, importer, exporter or manufacturer’, Pirithivaraj added. ‘At the end of the day, it is all about trust between public and private sector and systems such as ACTS provide for a perfect cooperation medium’.

So far, the City Zone Express has conducted transit movements under ACTS from Singapore, through Malaysia, to Thailand and from Malaysia, through Thailand, to Cambodia.

City Zone Express transit movements under the ACTS as of November 2021

To date, ASEAN has invested the equivalent of €5 million in the implementation of the ACTS which in combination with the €10 million invested by the EU, constitutes one of the biggest financial contributions towards the practical establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).

The EU’s support for the ACTS is provided through the ARISE Plus Programme.



ATR: A SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS TO BOOST INTRA-ASEAN TRADE

A new tool to improve trade-related regulatory transparency and private sector engagement are key drivers to regional economic integration.

Ngoi Nha Chung Production Service Trading Ltd. is a relatively new company in Viet Nam. Established in 2015, it focuses on exporting seafood and telecommunication products to Lao PDR and importing electronic devices from Lao PDR to Viet Nam.

‘Entering a new market is never easy, especially for SMEs like ours’, Lan Hoang Thi of Ngoi Nha Chung said. When she saw the opportunity to export seafood to Lao PDR’s market, ‘I didn’t know where to find the import-export regulations of Lao PDR’. Hoang Thi turned to online resources and had to visit different websites of many government agencies, ‘It took a lot of time and money’, she added.

Trade-related regulatory transparency is one of the fundamental catalysts for economic development, cross-border investment, trade and ultimately ASEAN regional integration. The EU, through the ARISE Plus programme, has supported ASEAN in its efforts to structure and introduce the ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR). The ATR is mandated under the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) and provides an online single point of access to the trade-related information of all ASEAN Member States, particularly their trade and customs laws and procedures. The ATR currently contains over 6 000 measures from all ten ASEAN Member States.

When Lan Hoang Thi came across the ATR, she was ecstatic, ‘I found everything I needed in one place and all the information was very updated, reliable and in English’, she exclaimed.

© Ngoi Nha Chung Production Service Trading Ltd



As Hoang Thi is looking to expand her business, ‘I rely on the ATR for all trade-related information to help me build my business plan’.

In 2021, the ARISE Plus programme held a series of outreach events and intensive ‘train-the-trainers’ workshops to key private sector representatives in all ASEAN Member States.



The ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR) is available online:
<https://atr.asean.org/>



ORGANIC CERTIFICATION: SUPPORTING ASEAN ORGANIC FARMERS

Ahmad Saleh has never dreamed of being a farmer like his parents, but when life brought him back to the rice paddy fields, he did so with a mission, ‘Our earth is sick and it’s our mission to save it’.

Saleh started what is to become one of the biggest organic farms in Central Java, the Sawangan Organic Farmers Association (GATOS), spanning across 425 hectares of land and with over 2 000 members, ‘As farmers, we have been taught to use chemicals and pesticides to increase production’, he said. ‘But if we continue this practice, we may have nothing to leave for our kids and grandchildren’.

The association received its organic certification in 2012 and dreamed of entering the ASEAN market, ‘We currently produce over 7 500 tonnes of rice a year’, Saleh said. ‘Entering the regional market is our lifelong dream’.



© GATOS

The EU, through the ARISE Plus programme, has assisted and supported the ASEAN Experts Working Group on Organic Agriculture (EWG-OA) in the development of a Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Organic Agriculture Products (MRA-OAP). The Mutual Recognition Arrangement will provide credibility to qualified producers like GATOS and provide them with market access across ASEAN.

Also drafted in parallel with the MRA-OAP is the ASEAN Certification Scheme for Organic Agriculture. The scheme will provide a credible and transparent basis for certification of organic agriculture based on international practices.



© GATOS



MEASURING ASEAN DIGITAL PERFORMANCE

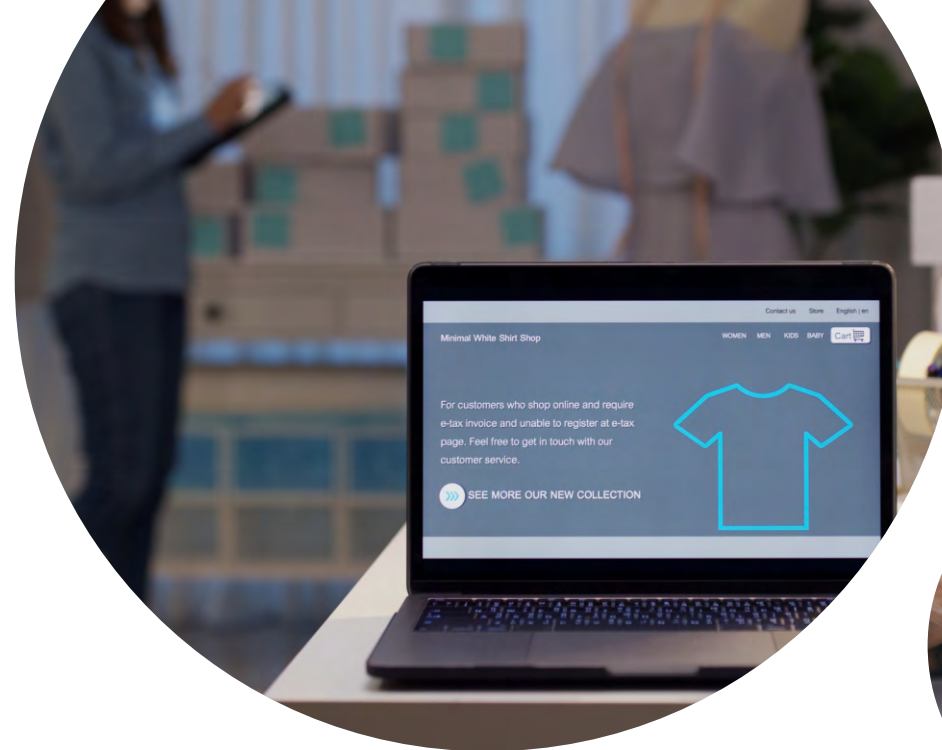


© Shutterstock

The COVID-19 pandemic has expedited the digitalisation of many sectors in the world, including in ASEAN. A new tool to measure ASEAN's digital performance is expected to provide individual Member States with crucial information to improve and develop a secure, sustainable, and transformative digitally enabled economy both for themselves and the region.

At the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, Joanita Salim, an entrepreneur based in Jakarta, Indonesia, started selling children's toys online. 'I started the business by utilising local market places', Salim said. Soon, she started utilising other digital platforms, such as Instagram and TikTok shops, that allowed her to tap into the wider ASEAN market, 'Expanding the business would have been much harder before the digital era'.

Digitalisation and the digital economy remain strategic priorities for both the EU and ASEAN. 'It has always been ASEAN's aspiration to become a single market through numerous market integration initiatives', Budi Yuwono, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Tourism Senior Officer of the ASEAN Secretariat said. As part of the EU-ASEAN ICT Dialogue and facilitated by the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), the ASEAN Digital Index (ADIX) is expected to accelerate the region's digital transformation.



© Shutterstock



© Pexels

From 24 May to 17 June 2021, E-READI facilitated a series of 11 virtual capacity building workshops to further promote the development of the ADIX and enhance ASEAN capabilities in developing well-informed digital policies that support the ASEAN Digital Single Market. Further capacity building and data collection will be organised regionally leading to the ADIX launch in March 2023.

Beyond its monitoring aspect, the ADIX will also collect and disseminate harmonised data in the region. The ADIX collects data on broadband infrastructure, measures digital skills of people, how citizens and governments are using the internet as well as the number of businesses who are connected to the internet and how businesses are using it.

According to Yuwono, the pandemic has exacerbated many disparities in the community, including the unequal access to digital infrastructure and technology, 'The ADIX will allow governments to take targeted actions to reduce these inequalities and better promote digital inclusion in the region'.

PROTECTING WOMEN SMALLHOLDER COFFEE FARMERS WITH IP



© Coffee Heritage Project

For Margaret Watanabe, coffee is more than just a drink, 'It's an ingrained part of our social life and very much a part of our culture'.

Driven by concerns over the drop of coffee production due to the impacts of climate change and the low market prices of coffee, Watanabe and her husband started the Coffee Heritage Project in 2010.

The initiative is providing smallholder coffee farmers with the much needed on-farm investment and technical assistance, from organic farming techniques, coffee picking and processing, to facilitating their trademark registrations. In the highlands of Northern Sagada, Philippines, Watanabe is working with mostly women farmers. 'These women are farmers, mothers... and even if they know having trademarks can help protect their products, they just don't have the time or the capacity to apply for them', Watanabe said.

A recent study by the ARISE Plus Intellectual Property Rights (ARISE Plus IPR) project on the role and involvement of women in community-based industries related to IPR in ASEAN showed that women in ASEAN, especially those living in rural areas, like in Northern Sagada, often find themselves with limited access to economic opportunities. The study also highlighted the benefits of promoting IPR protection in women-led community-based industries.

'By simply registering their brands, we are already protecting them from scammers', Watanabe said.

ARISE Plus IPR is one of the three components of the Enhanced ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the EU (ARISE Plus). The project supports ASEAN regional integration through intellectual property cooperation and promotes an upgrade of IP systems for creation, protection, utilisation, administration, and reinforcement, in line with international best practices and standards as well as the strategic objectives of the ASEAN Intellectual Property Rights Action Plan 2016-2025.

For Watanabe, the next step is to launch an all women coffee brand, 'My dream is to continue supporting women coffee farmers and help them support other women with jobs and knowledge sharing'.

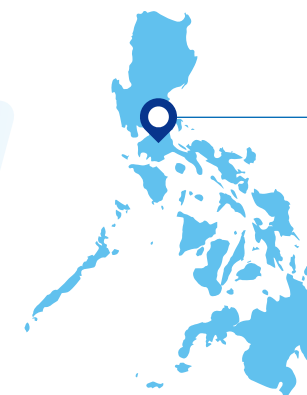


2017-2022

€5
MILLION

Visit ARISE Plus IPR
website

<https://internationalipcooperation.eu/en/ariseplusipr>



Northern Sagada,
Philippines

© Coffee Heritage Project

WORKING TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE AIRPORT MANAGEMENT



© Iloilo Airport

Located between Cabatuan and Santa Barbara in the Western Visayas, the Iloilo International Airport serves as the main hub for both domestic and international tourists looking for a beach getaway or an island-hopping weekend.

'The Iloilo International Airport has much better equipment and facilities than the older airport', Acting Airport Manager of Iloilo Airport, Manuela Luisa Palma said. 'It also allows us to have more flights and increase the number of passengers'.

In 2020, the Iloilo International Airport was chosen to be the first airport in the Philippines to integrate a certified Environmental Management Systems (EMS) into its operational systems. The EMS provides a methodology to identify and manage the environmental aspects of airport operations and reduces its impacts on climate change.

Supported by the EU through the ARISE Plus Civil Aviation project, 'We reviewed our existing process flows and aligned them with EMS requirements to minimise the environmental impacts of our infrastructure and operations', Palma said. This includes reviewing the airport's waste management system and requiring concessionaires to adopt environmentally friendly practices.



ARISE+
Civil Aviation Project

2017-2022

€ **5** MILLION

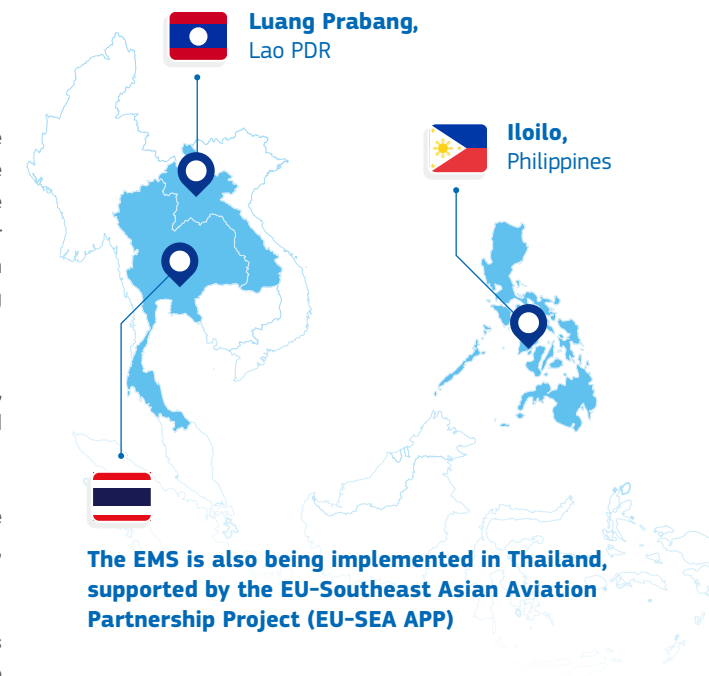
The ARISE Plus Civil Aviation Project aims to enhance connectivity and sectoral cooperation in transport in the ASEAN region. In supporting the ASEAN single market, the project works with ASEAN Member States to strengthen their capacity to meet International Civil Aviation Organisation standards and recommended practices, including ensuring environmental protection.

Through a series of training sessions provided by the project, the Iloilo International Airport has developed its own EMS and manual to document its processes and action plans.

'We have managed to significantly increase our level of waste management and segregate our solid waste at source', Palma said.

Upon the successful implementation of the EMS, Palma is looking forward to the certification of Iloilo Airport at the beginning of 2022, 'I am proud to see how much we have learned and improved, especially with the constraints of the pandemic'.

The EMS is currently also in the early stages of implementation in the Luang Prabang, Lao PDR. Surrounded by UNESCO sites, implementation of EMS in Luang Prabang is more than tackling environmental issues but also about respecting its surrounding heritage.



The EMS is also being implemented in Thailand, supported by the EU-Southeast Asian Aviation Partnership Project (EU-SEA APP)



Visit ARISE Plus Civil Aviation Project website

<https://www.easa.europa.eu/domains/international-cooperation/technical-cooperation-projects/arise-plus-civil-aviation-project>

GREEN GROWTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Promoting a green and sustainable recovery

The European Green Deal was first presented in December 2019 as the EU's pledge to become the first climate neutral continent by 2050 and comes with an action plan to promote a cleaner environment, more affordable clean energy, smarter transport, a circular economy and new jobs in greener industries.

One of the key components of the European Green Deal is ensuring a just transition for all, with actions promoting the importance of environmental sustainability for people and the economy. EU initiatives support ASEAN and its Member States in their adaptability and resilience to the impacts of climate change, in protecting their rich biodiversity and in strengthening their disaster preparedness and response.

Launched during the Third ASEAN-EU Dialogue on Sustainable Development on 18 November 2021, the Green Team Europe Initiative in partnership with ASEAN / Southeast Asia will support the ambition to create a fairer, greener, and more sustainable future. The initiative is backed by an initial €30 million grant from the EU budget and will be implemented in synergy with the European Green Deal and the ASEAN Community Vision 2025.



© Shutterstock



**ASEAN Catalytic Green
Finance Facility (ACGF)**



**Forest Governance support
programme (FLEGT)**



**Biodiversity Conservation &
Management of Protected
Areas in ASEAN (BCAMP)**



**EU-South East Asia Cooperation on
Mitigating Climate Change Impact from
Civil Aviation (EU-SEA CCCA CORSIA)**



**Global Covenant of Mayors
for Climate and Energy**



**Sustainable use of Peatlands and
Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA)**



Smart Green ASEAN Cities



**Integrated Programme Enhancing
Capacity of AHA Centre & ASEAN
Emergency Response Mechanisms
(EU Support to AHA Centre)**



**Enhancing Emergency
Preparedness & Response
(EP&R) in ASEAN for
Radiological and Nuclear
Emergencies**



**Leveraging ASEAN Capacities for
Emergency Response (LACER)**



Financing for Sustainable Infrastructure



ACGF
ASEAN Catalytic Green
Finance Facility

**€50
MILLION**
2021 ONWARDS

Under the Asia Investment Facility (AIF), the EU blends grants with loans from European and other international financial institutions to provide finance and technical assistance for sovereign infrastructure projects that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote climate resilient development.

For instance, the EU will contribute €50 million to the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility (ACGF), an innovative initiative designed to

encourage private investments in green infrastructure projects in ASEAN Member States. Targeting fast growing sectors in the green economy which are in the greatest need of de-risking, the ACGF will mobilise a total of over US\$1 billion from the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund, the Asian Development Bank, and European development banks, such as the European Investment Bank (EIB), the German KfW, and the French AFD.

EU and ASEAN cooperate to mitigate the impacts of climate change

From 31 October to 13 November 2021, the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) was held in Glasgow to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

During the event, Director-General for International Partnerships of the European Commission, Koen Doens, reiterated the EU's commitment to support green recovery in ASEAN. Doens highlighted the importance of programmes such as the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility (ACGF) in supporting a comprehensive and environmentally friendly post-pandemic recovery in the region through low carbon and climate resilient infrastructure projects.

Adopted by 196 parties at COP21 in Paris, the Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. The agreement invited participating



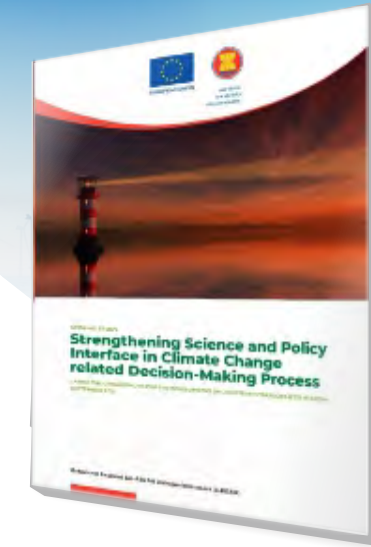
© Unsplash

countries to submit long-term low greenhouse gas emissions development strategies (LTS) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to strive towards the global goal of reaching net-zero global emissions.

To date, Singapore and Indonesia are the only ASEAN Member States to have submitted their LTS to the UNFCCC. The EU, through the Enhance Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), conducted a scoping study titled: 'Strengthening Science and Policy Interface in Climate Change related Decision-Making Process – Laying the groundwork for the development of LTS in ASEAN'. The study collects global practices and identifies lessons learnt from already developed LTS, including those of the European Union, observes where ASEAN Member States currently stand in the LTS development process and proposes recommendations for advancing and harmonising LTS in the ASEAN region.

The conclusion of the study was shared in the COP26 side event, 'Long-Term Strategies: Priorities, Lessons and Opportunities for International Cooperation' on 2 November 2021.

The EU also launched the Unwaste: Tackling waste trafficking to support a circular economy programme on 20 October 2021 to address the illicit flows of waste from Europe to Southeast Asia and promote good practices for the detection of waste shipments that are in violation of national and international regulations. The new programme is designed to tackle the specific issue of waste trafficking to support a circular economy and aims to develop regional standards for ASEAN.



E-READI's study

Strengthening Science and Policy Interface in Climate Change related Decision-Making Process – Laying the groundwork for the development of LTS in ASEAN

<https://asean.org/book/strengthening-science-and-policy-interface-in-climate-change-related-decision-making-process-laying-the-groundwork-for-the-development-of-long-term-strategies-lts-in-asean/>

REDUCING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE AVIATION INDUSTRY



In 2018, the aviation industry accounted for 2.5% of global (CO₂) emissions or about 12% of CO₂ emissions from all transportation sources. As one of the main pillars of mobility and transport in the global socio-economic landscape, the aviation industry has recorded an average annual growth of 5% since 1995, or almost double the global GDP growth (ICAO, 2022).

'The industry is growing at such a rate that we need to do something to ensure its impact on the environment can be minimised', Santiago Haya-Leiva, Project Manager of the EU-Southeast Asia Cooperation on Mitigating Climate Change Impact from Civil Aviation (EU-SEA CCCA) CORSIA project said.

The Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation or CORSIA, is a global market-based measure for aviation emissions adopted by Member States of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in October 2016.

Funded by the EU and implemented by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), the project supports ASEAN Member States in the implementation of CORSIA.

Captain Jani of the Civil Aviation Authority of Malaysia (CAAM) has been working with the Malaysian aviation industry since 2005, and when the implementation of CORSIA was transferred to his unit, 'We were determined to be at the forefront in promoting the environmental sustainability of the aviation industry', Capt. Jani said.

Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Capt. Jani and his team, supported by the CORSIA project, managed to develop and implement the Aviation Emissions Data Management System, which significantly streamlined the data collection and verification process. 'We used to do this manually, but with the new system, we can do it faster, more efficiently and more accurately', Capt. Jani added.

Committed not only to contributing to the development of Malaysia's civil aviation technical sector but also to compliance with ICAO's standards, the CAAM is working with all its key stakeholders to prepare its first State Action Plan. 'This Action Plan is our commitment to managing our carbon emission and protecting the environment', Capt. Jani said.



© Matteo Morando

EU-SEA CCCA CORSIA

The Southeast Asia Cooperation on Mitigating Climate Change Impact from Civil Aviation

€4
MILLION
2019-2022



Implementation of the Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA)



Development of State Action Plan (SAP) to reduce CO₂ emissions



Environmental Management

Sustainable Land Use and Forest Management

The ASEAN region contains over half (56%) of all global tropical peatlands which store 68 billion tonnes of the world's carbon. These peatlands are also home to some of the most endangered species of flora and fauna.

Launched in November 2019, the Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA) programme combines both a governmental and non-state actor approach to support ASEAN's strategy on peatland management and sustain local livelihoods.

Under the first component of the programme, the first SUPA pilot site was launched in Aceh, Indonesia on 15 June 2021.

SUPA

Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN

€24 MILLION 2019-2023

LAUNCHED IN NOVEMBER 2019

TWO COMPONENTS

Combining a governmental and a non-state actor approach

SUPPORTS ASEAN'S STRATEGY ON PEATLAND MANAGEMENT

SUPPORTS AND SUSTAINS LOCAL LIVELIHOODS

€ 20 MILLION FROM THE EU

€ 4 MILLION FROM GERMANY

The ASEAN region contains over half (56%) of all global tropical peatlands which store 68 billion tonnes of the world's carbon and contain some of its most endangered species of fauna and flora.

SUPA

MAPPING LAO PEATLANDS

Phingsaliao Sithiengtham's first introduction to peatlands happened when the mandate of peatland management was transferred to his department at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Lao PDR in 2018.

In September 2020, he participated in three half-day sessions of the Joint Regional Virtual Training on Peatland Assessment and Mapping, organised by the Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA) programme and Measurable Action for Haze-Free Sustainable Land Management in Southeast Asia (MAHFSA).

Since then, it has all been about peatland identification and mapping for Phing. In July 2021, he went on his first peatland visit and conducted his first survey. 'It's a different kind of soil and it's amazing to know how much carbon it can store, how it stores water and how valuable it is for our country'.

Peatland identification and mapping are the first steps in peatland management and conservation, but the remote and often inaccessible locations of peatlands make the detection and mapping process challenging.

In August 2021, the SUPA component 1, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Mekong Peatland project, selected two targeted areas in Cambodia and Lao PDR and developed a methodology for identifying and mapping unknown peatlands.

The methodology includes the combined use of different satellite instruments that are sensitive to the bio-physical

SUPA | Component 1



properties of peatlands, 'We use the satellites to identify flat terrain with predominantly wet soils and covered with peat specific vegetation types', Prof. Dr. Florian Siegert explained.

Dr. Siegert is one of the leading scientists applying data from the European Copernicus Earth Observation programme to identify potential peatland areas by remote sensing. 'This activity provides us with a probability map for peatlands', he said. The findings will then be verified through *in situ* ground surveys. 'This methodology is currently the most effective and cost-efficient way to provide enough information for a more targeted process to identify peatlands in a nationwide approach'.

'I am excited to expand this mapping activity across Lao PDR with the SUPA component 1 in 2022', he said. 'Knowing more about our peatlands will help us prioritise our actions to conserve them'.

A LOOK INTO LAO PEATLAND'S BIODIVERSITY

While most Biology major graduates in Lao PDR choose to pursue their careers as conservation biologists, Dr. Chanthavy Vongkhamheng opted to apply his knowledge on the field. Since 1995, Dr. Vongkhamheng has conducted numerous wildlife surveys across Lao PDR and provided preliminary research data for many conservation projects in the country, 'It's almost impossible to come up with a good solution without having solid data about the problem', he said.

Dr. Vongkhamheng is currently conducting a biodiversity assessment on two major peatlands in Lao PDR: the Nong Youp Wetland in Vientiane and Beung Naphat Wetland in Champasak province.

Supported by the EU through component 1 of the Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA) programme, the rapid biodiversity-filled survey aims to identify and map existing flora and fauna species in the two peatland areas and assess the level of dependence of local communities.

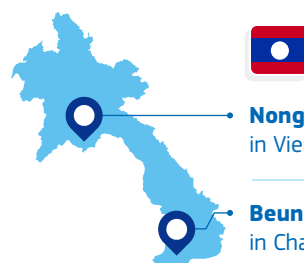
'The most challenging part of conservation work is ensuring sustainable use of resources', Dr. Vongkhamheng said. 'Especially in Lao PDR, those living in rural areas are still very dependent on natural resources and wildlife for their daily consumption and livelihood'.

The biodiversity assessment of peatland ecosystems Dr. Vongkhamheng is working on is part of several other peatland projects currently being implemented across the ASEAN region. In Lao PDR, the SUPA component 1 is supporting the government of Lao PDR in mapping the country's peatlands, building local capacity, and raising awareness of the values and functions of peatlands, strengthening peatland governance, and demonstrating best practices in sustainable use and management of peatland resources.



© Dr. Chanthavy Vongkhamheng

'I hope in the next five years, all the wetlands in this country can be categorised and protected', Dr. Vongkhamheng smiled.



Nong Youp Wetland
in Vientiane

Beung Naphat Wetland
in Champasak province

PEOPLE FOR PEAT: BUILDING SUSTAINABLE BUSINESSES ON PEATLANDS

After 20 years in the telecommunication industry, Dicky Asmoro decided to follow his life-long passion for nature, 'I've always loved being in nature and interacting with the local community', Asmoro said.

In 2019, Asmoro established Agrapanabio, a company that focuses on conducting applied research nature-based technological solutions for ecological restoration. 'I wanted to try to implement Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) practices in the local context and help shape the mindset of the local community'.

One of Asmoro's projects is in Siak, Riau, Indonesia. The regency has the largest peatland area on the island of Sumatra with over 479 485 hectares of peatlands and a population of snakehead fish endemic to the peatlands.

Asmoro participated in the People for Peats (PFP) Business Hub to conceptualise his approach. Funded by the EU, the People for Peats project is component 2 of the Sustainable Use of Peatland and Haze Mitigation in ASEAN (SUPA) programme that aims to support and sustain local livelihoods. Through the PFP Business Hub, the project provides intensive capacity building sessions to help participants develop holistic financial models and ensure the sustainability of their businesses.

'Our approach to the community starts with the snakehead fish cultivation', Asmoro said. 'It serves as an economic incentive to conserve the peatlands'.

Through the PFP Business Hub, Asmoro learned how to map the population of snakehead fish in the peatlands and how to cultivate them sustainably, 'I also learned how to turn the production waste



© CIFOR

of snakehead fish into compost to be used on the peatlands and how we can use the peatlands without using any chemicals or burning it'.

The success of the project in Siak is currently being replicated in Sintang, West Kalimantan, Indonesia.

'It's really exciting to see the community reaping economic benefits and preserving the ecosystem at the same time'



© AHA Centre

Reducing the impact of natural disasters

EU SUPPORT TO AHA CENTRE

Integrated Programme in Enhancing
the Capacity of AHA Centre and ASEAN
Emergency Response Mechanisms

€11
MILLION
2019-2024



Supports the goals of
the ASEAN Agreement
on Disaster Management
and Emergency
Response (AADMER)



Implemented through a
combination of a direct grant to
the AHA Centre, as well as
capacity building by EU Member
States' Civil Protection Agencies



Aims to strengthen the
capacity of the AHA Centre, to
achieve operational excellence
in disaster monitoring and
emergency response

LAUNCHED IN
JANUARY 2020

© AHA Centre



© AHA Centre



© AHA Centre



© AHA Centre



© AHA Centre



© AHA Centre



MAPPING ASEAN'S RESOURCES TO RESPOND TO DISASTERS

As Resource Mobilisation Manager of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management (AHA Centre), one of Dipo Summa's jobs is to coordinate the mobilisation of resources in times of disaster.

The AHA Centre was established on 17 November 2011, to facilitate cooperation and coordination of disaster management amongst ASEAN Member States. The coordinating agency is supported by ASEAN Member States as well as external organisations.

'It is crucial for the AHA Centre to have a tool to map its resources', Peter Mansson, disaster management expert from the Leveraging ASEAN Capacities for Emergency Response (LACER project) said. 'It is important to identify gaps and assets of each ASEAN Member State to allow effective response in times of disaster'.

Funded by the EU and implemented by the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agencies (MSB) and the Estonian Rescue Board (ERB), the LACER project is designed to support the AHA Centre in improving its operational capacity and capability in disaster preparedness and management as well as strengthening its institutional capacity.

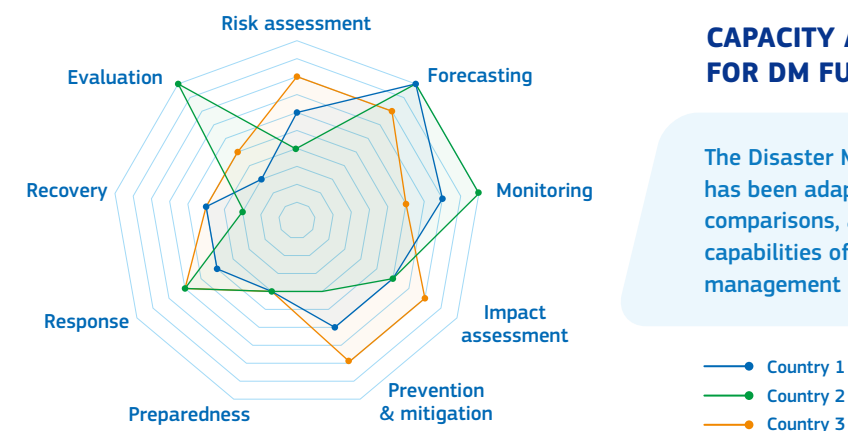
The project introduced the Disaster Management (DM) Framework developed by Lund University to assess the disaster management capabilities of ASEAN Member States in different areas, as well as that of the AHA Centre. 'This



© AHA Centre

framework can facilitate decisions on the allocation of scarce resources as well as cross border and peer-to-peer learning between the different National Disaster Management Organisations in ASEAN', added Mansson.

'We found this tool to be very useful, and it can be applied in other areas as well', Summa said. The AHA Centre plans to also use the DM framework to develop an online coordination platform and conduct a donor coordination assessment exercise.



LACER

Leveraging ASEAN Capacities for Emergency Response

€2.2 MILLION
2020-2023

THE PROJECT IS SUPPORTING THE AHA CENTRE ACROSS FOUR TECHNICAL COMPONENTS:

Strengthen the institutional capacity, corporate policies and management of the AHA Centre



Increase ASEAN's preparedness and Respond-As-One capacities



Enhance the operational capacity of the AHA Centre in monitoring, preparing and responding to disasters



Enhance AHA Centre's professionalism through standards and certification





PREPARING ASEAN FOR RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR EMERGENCIES



© Kitkawin Aramrun

In 2019, 33 years after the nuclear accident in Chernobyl, research measuring radiation exposure still showed signs of radioactive contamination on Norwegian reindeer. The research study was conducted by Kitkawin Aramrun for his PhD thesis.

Upon his return to Thailand, Aramrun was appointed as the Head of the Nuclear and Radiation Emergency Operation Center, responsible for preparing the country for nuclear and radiological accidents and emergencies. This includes establishing national emergency and mitigation plans, and building the capacity of first responders all over the country.

'It's true that we do not have nuclear power plants in Thailand', Aramrun said. 'But countries neighbouring ASEAN do, and we also use nuclear and radioactive materials for medical, industry research and agricultural purposes'.

Following the Fukushima accident in 2011, ASEAN Member States recognised the importance of preparation and regional cooperation for radiological and nuclear emergencies. Supporting this initiative, the European Commission launched a study on the needs for improvements and feasibility of such a regional cooperation. Undertaken by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, the study assessed existing arrangements and capabilities of six ASEAN Member States in facing radiological and nuclear emergencies.

In 2017, the EU-funded project 'Enhancing emergency preparedness and response in ASEAN for radiological and nuclear emergencies through regional cooperation: Technical support for decision making' started. The project aims to enhance the quality and coherence of ASEAN Member States in the decision-making process in emergencies. Two modern computerised decision support system (DSS), JRODOS and ARGOS, were introduced to all 10 ASEAN countries so that each country could choose one based on its national preferences and conditions.

'We need to customise the DSS to accommodate our population density, radiological monitoring stations, points of interest, as well as identifying countermeasures for emergency situations such as evacuation areas food restrictions and so on', Aramrun said. The customisation process was supported by the project, along with the installation of DSS in each ASEAN country, and training of personnel of the emergency centres.

The project has also facilitated regional exchanges on the decision process to select protection measures based on the dispersion of radioactivity, as modeled by DSS. These exchanges are expected to contribute to future regional ASEAN harmonisation.

'The project helped us to greatly enhance our capacity for nuclear emergency preparedness', Aramrun said. Thailand is currently preparing a national command centre for emergency preparedness, which will include radiological and nuclear preparedness as well. Besides Thailand, several other ASEAN countries have also established similar centres to improve their capabilities in predicting possible impacts and introducing protective measures.



© Kitkawin Aramrun

'The better prepared we are, the more lives we can save', Aramrun said.

SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION

Out of the 630 million people living in ASEAN, nearly 300 million live in urban areas and more than 25% live in cities with over one million inhabitants. In the next 15 years, ASEAN's urban areas are expected to accommodate another 100 million people.

On 19 October 2021, the European Commission's Executive Vice-President for the Green Deal, Frans Timmermans, announced the start of the Smart Green ASEAN Cities programme. The new EU-funded programme will support up to 10 ASEAN cities to exchange best practices, both among the ASEAN cities and with European cities as part of a stronger EU-ASEAN green partnership.

'I am a strong believer in EU-ASEAN cooperation. The Smart Green ASEAN Cities programme is very dear to me. It is important that cities, which face huge challenges, get the opportunity to also find solutions. The sustainability of our cities is based on the possibility to change the energy mix, to change the way public transport is organised, and to improve rapidly waste treatment and waste management', Timmermans said.

With €5.1 million support from the EU from 2021 to 2024, the Smart Green ASEAN Cities (SGAC) programme will assist ASEAN Member States in anticipating the substantial pressure from high urbanisation rates by focusing on green and smart solutions through digitalisation and the use of technologies.



© Uwe Schwarzbach

EU Ambassador to ASEAN, Igor Driesmans also noted the importance of the programme in reducing the environmental impacts of urban areas and improving the quality of life of citizens. 'Actions contributing to sustainable and smart cities such as the promotion of energy- and resource-efficient buildings as well as sustainable and smart mobility are important EU policy priorities and key pillars of the European Green Deal', he concluded.

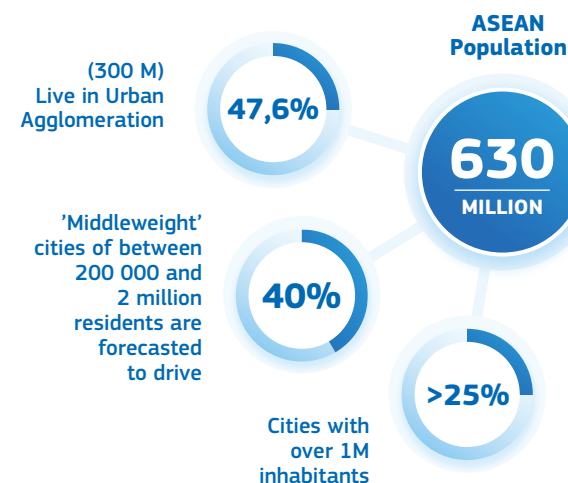
The Smart Green ASEAN Cities programme will be implemented in synergy with other ongoing initiatives in ASEAN such as the ASEAN Initiative on Environmentally Sustainable Cities, the ASEAN Smart Cities Network, the ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy and the EU-supported SMART CHANGE project which facilitates the cooperation between Jakarta, Bangkok and Berlin.

SMART GREEN ASEAN CITIES PROGRAMME

Implementing Agency: United Nations Capital Development Fund



€5
MILLION
2021-2024



All ASEAN Member States (AMS) are:

- Experiencing high rates of urbanisation accompanied by fast economic growth
- Facing similar threats from climate change, as many cities are located either by the ocean or by big rivers, and are contributing to fast-growing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Increasingly experiencing the exchange of people, goods, services and capital between countries and cities

SMART GREEN ASEAN CITIES PROGRAMME





PRESERVING ASEAN'S SHARED NATURAL HERITAGE



© Shutterstock

The Pasonanca Natural Park lies in the southern Philippine Island of Mindanao in the Zamboanga Peninsula and is set to become an ASEAN Heritage Park (AHP).

Covering an area of 12 107 hectares, the rolling terrain of the Pasonanca Natural Park holds a major watershed that sources the domestic water needs of the Zamboanga City community. It is also home to many threatened and restricted-range species of Mindanao and Eastern Visayas endemic birds such as the Philippine Eagle, Pinksers Hawk Eagle, Mindanao Broadbill and Zamboanga Bulbul. The park was declared as a protected area by former Philippine President Joseph Estrada in 1999 and was nominated to become an AHP in 2021.

The AHPs are protected areas of high conservation importance, preserving in total, a complete spectrum of representative ecosystems in the ASEAN region. These include natural or national parks, nature reserves, cultural sites, and pre-historic sites. As one of ASEAN's flagship programmes, the AHP Programme was conceptualised in the late 1970s as a way to recognise the best protected areas in the region and generate greater awareness, pride, appreciation, enjoyment and conservation of ASEAN's rich natural heritage.

Currently in its 37th year, the AHP Programme continues to grow and foster greater collaboration between ASEAN Member States in conserving their shared natural heritage. Since 2008, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) has served as the programme secretariat, overseeing the implementation of the programme.



© Shutterstock

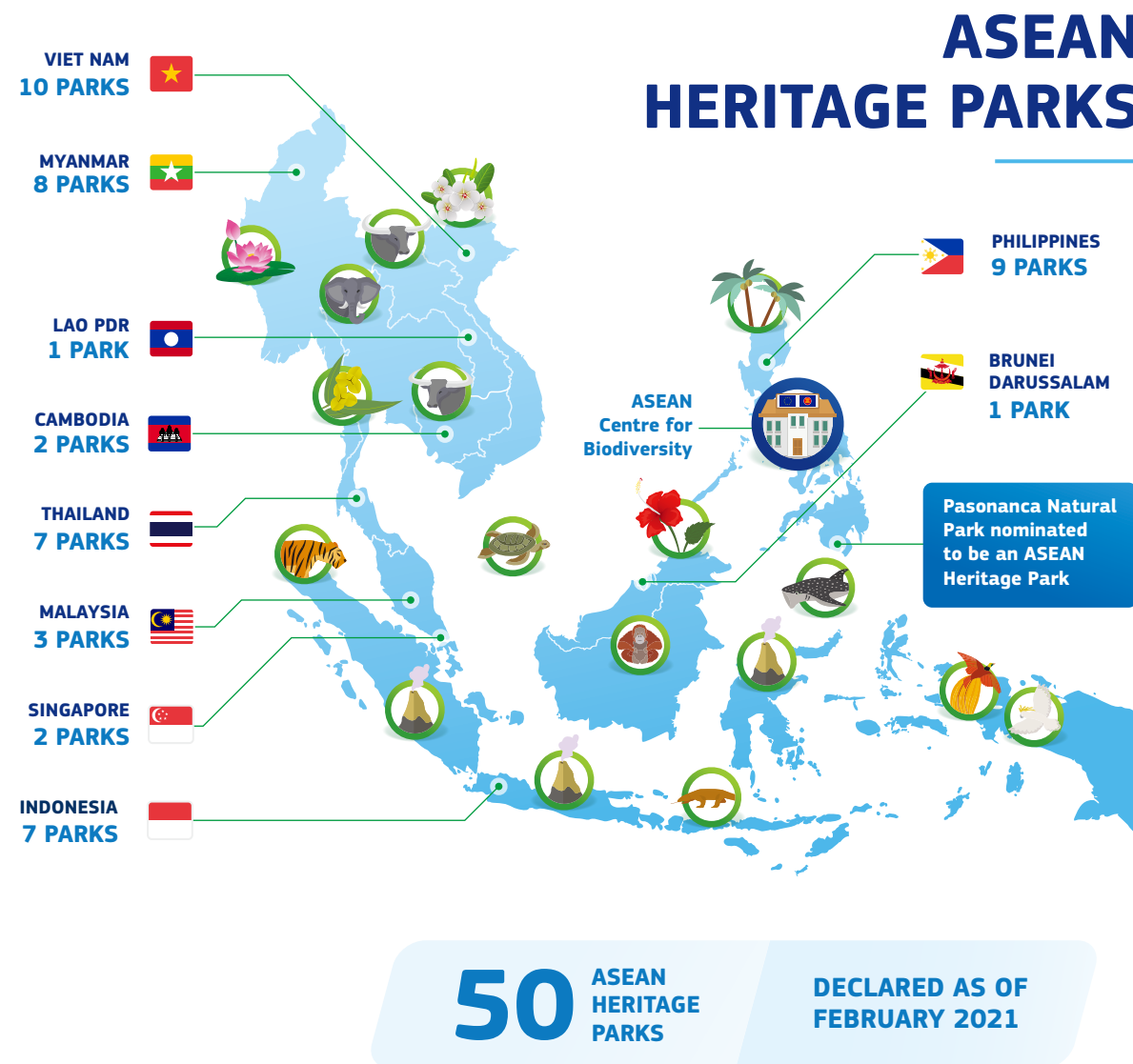


© Shutterstock

The ACB, with support from the European Union through the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in ASEAN (BCAMP) programme, aims to improve the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation and protected area management in ASEAN to significantly reduce biodiversity loss.

'The ASEAN Heritage Parks represent a complete spectrum of the ASEAN biodiversity ecosystem', said Nheden Amiel D. Sarne, BCAMP Project Coordinator and ASEAN Heritage Parks Programme Coordinator. 'By supporting these parks, we are able to substantially contribute to the region's conservation goals'.

Implemented by the ACB, BCAMP supports the Pasonanca Natural Park in implementing priority activities in its updated management plan. These include improving the park's protection system through provision of law enforcement equipment and building the capacity of park staff. A study on the design and implementing guidelines for payment for watershed provisioning service in the park is also being conducted to enhance its financial sustainability.



CRITERIA FOR ASEAN HERITAGE PARKS:



Ecological Completeness:
demonstrates wholesome ecological processes and has the capability to regenerate with minimal human intervention



Representativeness:
embodies the variety of ecosystems or species representing or typical of the ASEAN region



Naturalness:
the area, or most of it, must be in a natural condition with ongoing natural processes



High Conservation Importance:
the site is of regional significance for the conservation of important or valuable species, ecosystems, or genetic resources



Legally Gazetted Conservation Areas:
has defined boundaries and is recognised by a legally accepted instrument of the owning country as a protected area



Approved Management Plan



9 Marine AHPs



8 Wetland AHPs



33 Terrestrial AHPs



© BCAMP

VI
GREEN GROWTH
AND THE ENVIRONMENT

REGIONAL ALLIANCE FOR CLIMATE ACTION

Turning organic trash into methane gas or creating bio pores to prevent flooding, the Mayor of Jambi City, Indonesia, H. Syarif Fasha is determined to transform Jambi into a sustainable and green city.

The market of Talang Banjar in Jambi was selected as one of the United Cities and Local Governance Asia Pacific – United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UCLG ASPAC-UNESCAP) Integrated Resource Recovery Center (IRRC) projects in 2016. With 1 153 traders and 935 street vendors, the project aimed to convert the organic fraction of municipal solid waste into energy through the process of anaerobic digestion. In the same year, Jambi committed to join the Compact of Mayors, an initial city leaders coalition addressing climate change. Later on, the coalition was formally merged with the European Union's Covenant of Mayors into the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM).

'We were spending so much of our city budget on managing solid waste', Fasha said. 'We are constantly working on finding alternative solutions to turn the challenges of solid waste management into opportunities.'

Funded by the European Union, GCoM is an international alliance of cities and local governments with a shared long-term vision of promoting and supporting actions to combat climate change.

Bui Ngoc Anh from the city of Tam Ky, one of the GCoM pilot cities in Viet Nam, shares Fasha's dream of developing a sustainable city. As an urban management professional and Mayor of Tam Ky, Anh is excited to exchange experiences on green growth with other members of the GCoM in Southeast Asia.



Visit GCoM
website

<https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/>

'Our discussions through the GCoM have helped us in defining green cities and green development' Anh said. 'Now that we can imagine it clearly, we can also plan accordingly'.



© Wherda Arslanto - Unsplash



© Thomas Le - Unsplash



© Shutterstock



© Shutterstock



© Shutterstock



© Shutterstock



SAFE MIGRATION

Ensuring safe migration and mobility of ASEAN migrant workers

ASEAN is home to over ten million migrant workers, half of which are women. Building on the 2017 ASEAN Consensus on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, the EU is supporting ASEAN to ensure safe labour migration by protecting and promoting the rights of migrant workers.

Safe and Fair: Realising women migrant workers' rights and opportunities in the ASEAN region

Violence against women migrant workers is one of the most pervasive human rights violations affecting millions of migrants in ASEAN. To ensure safe and fair labour migration for all women in the ASEAN region, the EU is working with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through the Safe and Fair Programme. Safe and Fair is part of the multi-year EU-UN Spotlight Initiative with a global budget of €500 million aiming to eliminate violence against women and girls by 2030.



© ILO



SAFE MIGRATION

© ILO

SAFE AND FAIR

Realising women migrant workers' rights and opportunities in the ASEAN region

€ 25.5
MILLION
2018-2023



CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS STRENGTHENING 19 LAWS, POLICIES AND STRATEGIES



ENHANCED CAPACITY OF 5 109 STAKEHOLDERS

from domestic worker organisations, migrant organisations, service providers, trade unions, CSOs, and governments to implement gender-responsive, women-friendly and rights-based policies and services



PROVIDED SERVICES AND INFORMATION on safe migration and gender-based violence to 185 673 women migrant workers and their families



PARTNERED WITH 39 CSOS



4 INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND 11 REFERRAL MECHANISMS

are in the process of being developed



DEVELOPED 21 KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS



REACHED 460 552 PEOPLE through campaigns to shift negative attitudes and discrimination against women migrant workers



€ 25 MILLION
FROM THE EU

€ 0.5 MILLION
FROM ILO-UNW



Spotlight Initiative



SAFE & FAIR

EMPOWERING MYANMAR DOMESTIC WORKERS IN THAILAND

Nan Zar Ni Myint first left her hometown in Myanmar to work as a domestic worker in Thailand 19 years ago. She currently supports other domestic workers from her home country who are residing in Thailand, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For the past four years, Myint has spent her Sundays – her only day off – taking an English course and meeting other domestic workers from her home country of Myanmar who are also residing in Thailand. As she interacts more with the group, she hears more about the plight of her peers. 'Many domestic workers are working long hours, seven days a week,' Myint said. 'Some had their travel and personal identification documents withheld by their employers. With the COVID-19 pandemic, some have even experienced gender-based violence while confined at home during lockdowns.'

She now volunteers to help other migrant domestic workers from Myanmar learn about their rights and available services that they can access. 'I started to organise meetings and discussions informally to provide information about labour laws in Thailand, conditions of employment, minimum wage, working hours, leave days, rights to keep one's own legal documents, and termination rules for domestic workers. I believe that it is very important to empower migrant domestic workers, and that we share knowledge and experience,' Myint added.

Myint is one of over 3 000 women migrant workers supported under the Safe and Fair Programme, as part of

© ILO



'I believe that all women migrant domestic workers should be able to exercise their rights,' says Nan Zar Ni Myint.

the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative. Implemented by the ILO and UN Women, the Safe and Fair programme is working to support migrant domestic workers in Thailand and across the ASEAN region through peer networks. From 2018 to 2021, Safe and Fair supported 3 210 women migrant workers organise in workers' unions, associations and peer networks, and facilitated the formation of one new migrant domestic workers' network. Within the same period, 54 436 women migrant workers received information on safe and fair migration through peer networks supported by the programme.



©UN Women

////////

Safe and Fair calls for equal rights for all



©UN Women

////////

Safe and Fair supports the implementation of gender-responsive, women-friendly and rights-based policies and services



©UN Women



©UN Women



©UN Women



©UN Women



©UN Women



©UN Women



©UN Women

E-READI

TURNING COMMON CHALLENGES INTO A SHARED OPPORTUNITY

As ASEAN continues to grow as a single market, labour mobility and ensuring safe labour migration remain priority issues for the region. Facilitated by the Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), the first EU-ASEAN Dialogue on Safe Labour Migration was held in 2018. On 20 April 2021, the EU supported the launch of a comprehensive study on the management of incoming workers in the ASEAN Member States, both in legislation and practice.

The Comparative Study on Laws and Policies in the Management of Migrant Workers in ASEAN examines the labour laws and policies in all ASEAN Member States and provides recommendations to address the identified gaps, as a way to further harmonise migration measures in ASEAN.

While ASEAN is still predominantly a region of departure, with over 20 million emigrants, recent estimates showed a shift with increasing immigration levels from 3.2 million immigrants in 1990 to over 5.8 million by 2017.

According to EU Ambassador to ASEAN, Igor Driesmans, the findings from the study will also contribute to the promotion of dialogues and exchange between the European Union and ASEAN, 'International organisations, ministries and other stakeholders of our two regions will be able to use this data to influence policy and improve the lives of migrant workers within all of ASEAN', he remarked.



'Using the findings of this study, we, the agencies in charge of labour, immigration, security, vocational education and mutual recognition can work together in opening up the cooperation potentials in strengthening the management of migrant workers to promote greater mobility as well as to benefit more fully from the skills and talents of the incoming migrant workers,' said Deputy Minister Le Van Thanh of the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA), Viet Nam.



Download the comparative study here:

<https://asean.org/book/comparative-study-on-law-and-policies-in-the-management-of-migrant-workers-in-asean/>

EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Investing today for tomorrow

The COVID-19 pandemic has restricted movements within and between borders, posing unprecedented challenges to people-to-people connections and mobility. During this time, digital platforms have provided an alternative avenue to maintain intra-regional connectivity.

From 16 September to 6 October 2021, the EU Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (EU SHARE) Programme organised a series of capacity building workshops on developing Virtual Exchange / Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) Programmes to leverage online learning methodologies and blended learning modalities.

The Enhanced Regional EU-ASEAN Dialogue Instrument (E-READI) programme supports the implementation of the EU-ASEAN Dialogue on Green Technology (GreenTech) and Innovation Mapping. Under E-READI, a series of webinars were organised to promote technology cooperation and transfer, research collaboration and science, technology and innovation (STI) capacity building between the two regions. The webinars brought together EU and ASEAN stakeholders, including industry players, academics and researchers, local and central government agencies, as well as non-governmental organisations to discuss collaboration in green technologies for a sustainable economy and society.



© British Council



© Liu Xiaozhong



Since 2014, over

5 500

Students and staff from ASEAN universities have received scholarships



NEARLY
3 000

European students and staff have taken up work or studies in ASEAN Member States under the Erasmus+ programme



CATA

ASEAN and the EU concluded negotiations on the world's first bloc-to-bloc air transport agreement in 2021 to bolster connectivity and economic development

EU SHARE

**€ 15
MILLION**
2015-2022



**STRENGTHENS
REGIONAL COOPERATION**
and enhances the quality of ASEAN higher education.



SUPPORTS HARMONISATION
of higher education in ASEAN to increase and enhance the mobility of university students and staff.



REGIONAL MOBILITY
scholarships facilitate regional mobility and the credit transfer system is an integral part of SHARE scholarships.



mutual recognition of qualifications



improving quality assurance



enhancing regional credit transfer systems



strengthening institutional capacity

EU SHARE

DIGITALISATION FOR THE FUTURE

As an educator, Dr Tatum Syarifah Adiningrum believes in the importance of exposing her students to the world to equip them with skills for the future. When COVID-19 challenged student mobility worldwide, her experience with Virtual Exchange and Collaborative Online International Learning (VE/COIL) capacity building workshops organised by the SHARE Programme opened new opportunities.

From 16 September to 6 October 2021, the EU Support to Higher Education in the ASEAN Region (EU SHARE) Programme organised a series of capacity building workshops on developing Virtual Exchange (VE) / COIL Programmes to leverage online learning methodologies and blended learning modalities in the face of the pandemic.

'Just because the pandemic stopped us from travelling, it should not mean we need to compromise our students' experiences', Adiningrum said. 'SHARE's workshops provided me with the knowledge, tools, and network I needed to start our own COIL programme'.

She pitched the idea to the Binus International University, Jakarta, Indonesia where she works as a development coordinator and received positive responses. 'The university was very excited and supportive,' she said.

Adiningrum reached out to partner universities in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei Darussalam to collaborate on VE / COIL programme development initiatives.

'The world has recognised the potential of ASEAN and I think it's important for our students to recognise it and have this network too'.



© Dr Tatum Syarifah Adiningrum

Virtual Exchange and Collaborative Online International Learning initiatives focus on bringing together students from different countries to work on common projects and encourage students to be more participative. 'We currently have 150 students from the region participating in our first COIL programme', Adiningrum said. 'It was challenging to organise but I am happy to see our students don't have to miss out on an essential part of their higher education'.

The EU SHARE Programme is a partnership initiative between the European Union and ASEAN. It strengthens regional cooperation and enhances the quality, regional competitiveness, and internationalisation of ASEAN higher education institutions and students.

FORMING AN ASEAN IDENTITY: BEYOND AND ABOVE NATIONAL BOUNDARIES



© EU Delegation to ASEAN

Language has always fascinated Chau Quang, 'Learning a new language is like opening a window to a whole new world!' In his third year of linguistic studies at the Viet Nam National University, Quang participated in the EU-SHARE intra-ASEAN scholarship programme and had the opportunity to learn Tagalog and Arabic at the University of the Philippines in Manila.

The intra-ASEAN scholarship programme is one of the key components of the European Union Support to Higher Education (EU SHARE) programme, designed to increase intra-ASEAN student mobility and test the application of the ASEAN-Europe Credit Transfer System (AECTS). The scholarship enables students to spend one semester at a partnering university in the ASEAN region.

Quang's experiences in the Philippines went beyond learning new languages. 'It taught me a lot about embracing different cultures and religions too,' he said. 'It also opened my professional horizons because it allowed me to meet different people who are now prominent in their fields'.

Graduate employability is a key part of the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025. To support the Master Plan, the SHARE programme will produce a study on 'Graduate Employability in ASEAN', as part of a series of studies that will be produced until the end of 2022. This topic was explored in depth by policymakers and practitioners during the 13th SHARE Policy Dialogue on 'University and



© Shutterstock

Employer Engagement to Enhance Graduate Employability in ASEAN,' held from 23 to 25 November 2021.

Upon completing his studies, Quang worked in the Philippines and Thailand, before settling back in Viet Nam as a lecturer at the Viet Nam National University.

The EU SHARE Programme was established in 2015 with an initial funding of €10 million from the European Union. On 27 February 2021, the programme was extended until the end of December 2022 with an additional budget of €5 million. The SHARE Programme is implemented by a consortium of the British Council, the DAAD (the German Academic Exchange Service), ENQA (the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education) and Nuffic (the Dutch organisation for internationalisation in education).



© Shutterstock

'The SHARE programme helped the formation of our identity which goes beyond and above national boundaries'.

EU SHARE



© EU SHARE

////////

EU SHARE promotes connectivity across higher education in ASEAN

© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



////////

EU SHARE contributes to people-to-people connectivity in the diverse EU and ASEAN regions

© EU SHARE



////////

EU SHARE fosters an inclusive, sustainable, resilient and dynamic community

© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



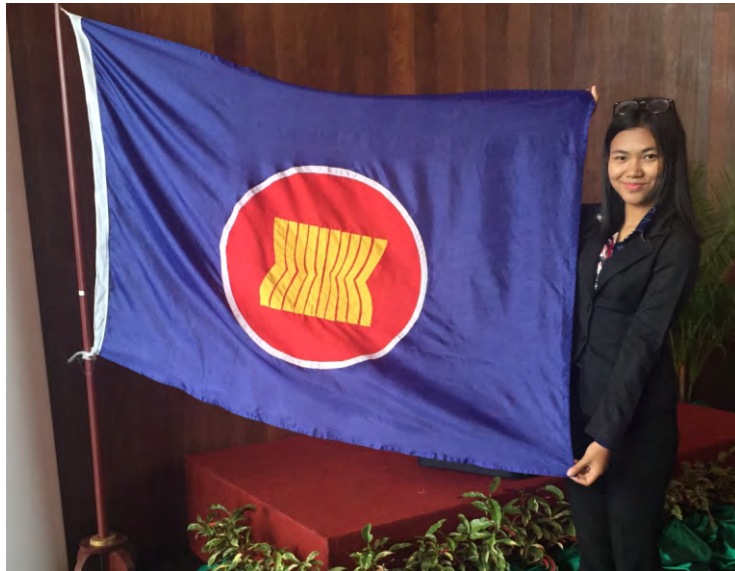
© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE



© EU SHARE





////////

EU SHARE supports ASEAN's ambition to build a regional higher education space

WOMEN AND LEADERSHIP FOR ASEAN

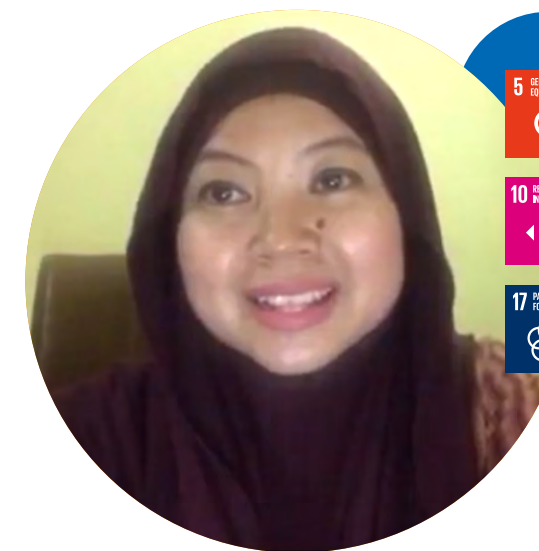
For every 100 men in leadership positions in Southeast Asia, only 46 are women (McKinsey Global Institute 2018).

Within the framework of the France-ASEAN Development Partnership, the first Women and Leadership for ASEAN training was organised virtually from 7 to 15 June 2021.

Implemented by Institut Français and Ecole Nationale d'Administration (ENA), 15 ASEAN women leaders exchanged ideas, best practices and experiences as women leaders. The training also brainstormed on how to advance women's positions in their respective organisations and countries.

One of the participants, Rosyana Dewi shared her concerns about the low number of women in leadership positions in Indonesia, 'I hope there are more gender-responsive policies that can empower women in Indonesia', she said.

Dewi currently works at the Indonesian Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs and is actively supporting other women in their organisation, 'I am a firm believer in the concept of women supporting women', Dewi said.



© Institut Français



'I want to see more Indonesian women in leadership positions who contribute strategically to national economic growth'





DELIVERING SERVICE EXCELLENCE



© Personal archive Wahyu Widi Arianto

Wahyu Widi Arianto used to spend an hour every afternoon during his childhood pressing his ears against the TV set in his family's humble abode, 'My house was always loud, and it was the only way I could clearly hear the English words from my favourite TV show'.

Once he graduated from high school, he joined a security company in Jakarta, Indonesia and spent the next 12 years working as a security guard at different offices and embassies around the city. Deep inside, the dream to be something bigger remained.

In 2013, he joined the ASEAN Secretariat as a security officer. Two years later, his performance and his self-learned English landed him the opportunity to be a receptionist at the Secretariat. 'Although it may look simple, the first impression of ASEAN in the eyes of external parties is on my shoulder', Arianto said.

In 2019, Arianto participated in the Effective Corporate Service Delivery (ECSD) programme from the ARISE Plus Grant project. Funded by the EU, the project aims to support the ASEAN Secretariat's Capacity Development programme to strengthen the corporate service functions and to build a learning habit among operational support staff. 'I learned to be proactive and seek to understand first', Arianto said.

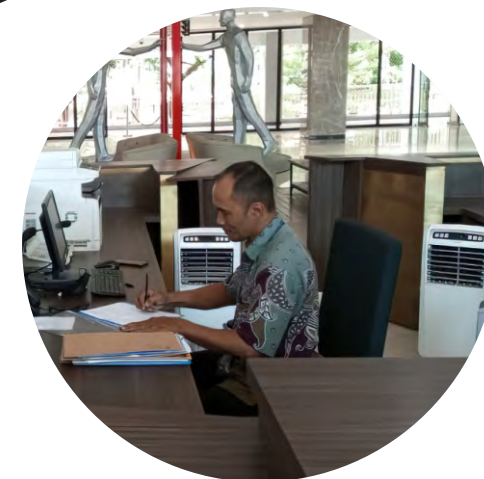
The project also facilitated a series of activities to enhance participants' problem solving capabilities. After the training sessions, participants were required to present their



© Personal archive Wahyu Widi Arianto

learnings to their supervisors and other participants. 'I was really nervous at first, but the more I did it, the more confident I became', Arianto noted with a smile.

His growing confidence led him to apply for the position of a Conference Services and Protocol Assistant at the ASEAN Secretariat. As he started his new position in 2021, 'I realised that much of what I had learned during the training was applicable in my new position too', he said. 'I look forward to continuing learning and improving my knowledge and skills to deliver better service to my stakeholders'.



© Personal archive Wahyu Widi Arianto



ARISE+ Grant

2018-2023

€ 4 MILLION



SHARING SKILLS FOR DIGITAL SUCCESS



© Amy Oo

Amy Oo might have studied to become a doctor, 'But once I graduated, I realised that I am not very enthusiastic about handling patients', she said.

When Oo attended a conference about bioinformatics, a new world of technological tools and data sources to answer biological questions, such as medicine discovery and gene therapy, opened up, 'I found this field very interesting and decided to work in this computational biology field instead', Oo said.

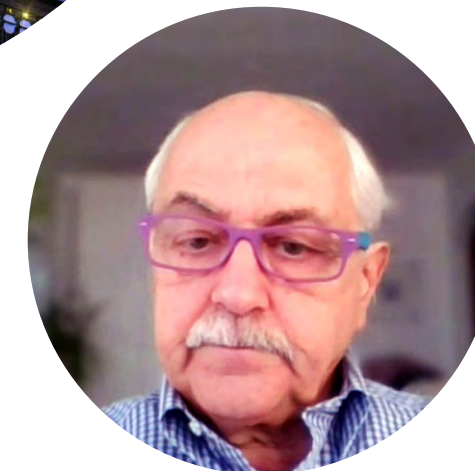
Originally from Myanmar, Oo is currently finishing her thesis in biochemistry and molecular biology at the Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. She was also one of the students of the first EU-ASEAN High-Performance Computing (HPC) school.

High-Performance Computing refers to systems with extremely high computational power that can solve hugely complex and demanding problems much faster than normal machines. HPCs are one million times more powerful than the fastest laptop. Facilitated by the Enhanced EU-ASEAN Regional Dialogue Instrument (E-READI), the EU and ASEAN held the first 'EU-ASEAN HPC Virtual School - System Design and HPC applications' from 5 to 9 July 2021.

The virtual school brought together top international experts in the HPC field to share their expertise and knowledge with students from each one of the ASEAN Member States, including Oo. 'The programme gave me advanced knowledge on HPC and how we can use it to get better results, faster', Oo said of her experience.



© Shutterstock



© Dr. Fabrizio Gagliardi

'The major aim of the school was to increase the skill and capability of top students and young scientists in ASEAN using the resources and luminary experts from Europe as well as from our partners and colleagues in Japan', said Dr. Fabrizio Gagliardi, E-READI expert on HPC and Director of the HPC Virtual School.

According to Dr. Gagliardi, HPC application has become strategic in all fields: from disaster management to addressing COVID-19 related challenges. 'The school provides students with a unique opportunity of not only learning about high performance computing but also giving them access to HPCs', Dr. Gagliardi added.

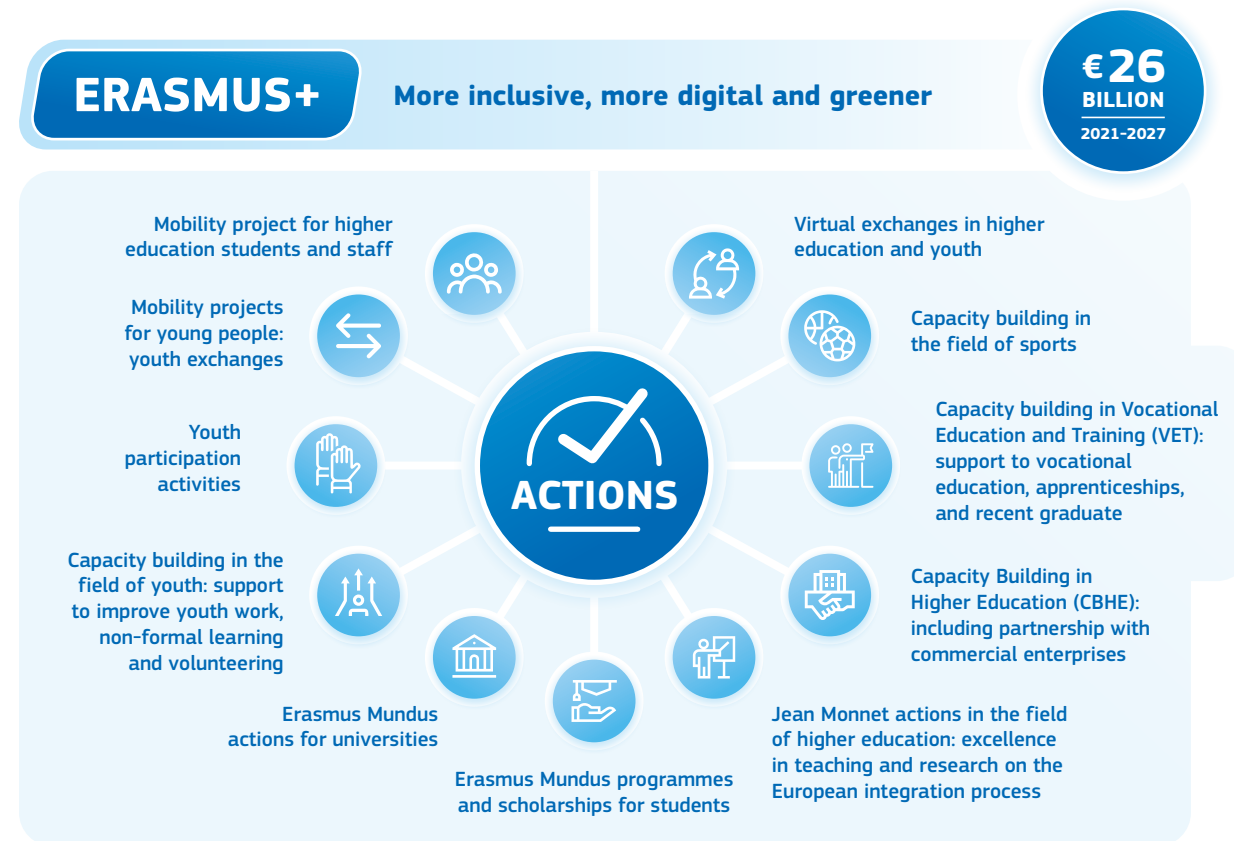
The EU and ASEAN will continue to develop a permanent but rotating HPC school in ASEAN, which will bring the HPC learning environment to each ASEAN Member State.

'Applications of HPC are critical in the ASEAN Member States', Deputy Secretary-General for the ASEAN Economic Community, Satvinder Singh said. 'This virtual school has shown great support for scientific research development in ASEAN and highlighted the importance of strengthening region-to-region collaboration in research and innovation in the fight against COVID-19 and beyond'.

Academic Cooperation

Erasmus+ is the EU's international programme to support education, training, youth and sport. Aiming to develop and facilitate knowledge sharing and experience, it funds cooperation and mobility between Europe and other regions, including the ASEAN region. The programme offers opportunities to individuals and a range of organisations, including universities, education and training providers, research organisations, and private businesses.

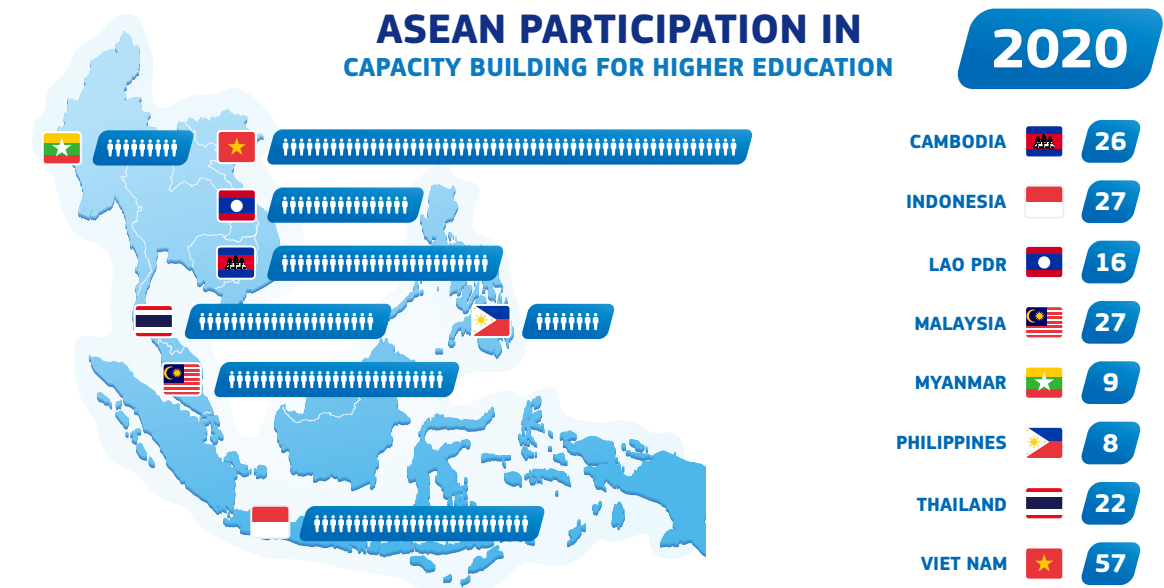
In 2020, the programme budget received a 15% increase to €3.78 billion which allowed the programme to support almost 640 000 learning experiences abroad and provided funding to around 20 400 projects and 126 900 organisations worldwide.



Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Scholarships

Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters scholarships are high-level and integrated study programmes, designed and delivered by an international partnership of higher education institutions.

Through this programme, the EU aims to foster excellence and internationalisation of the participating institutions.





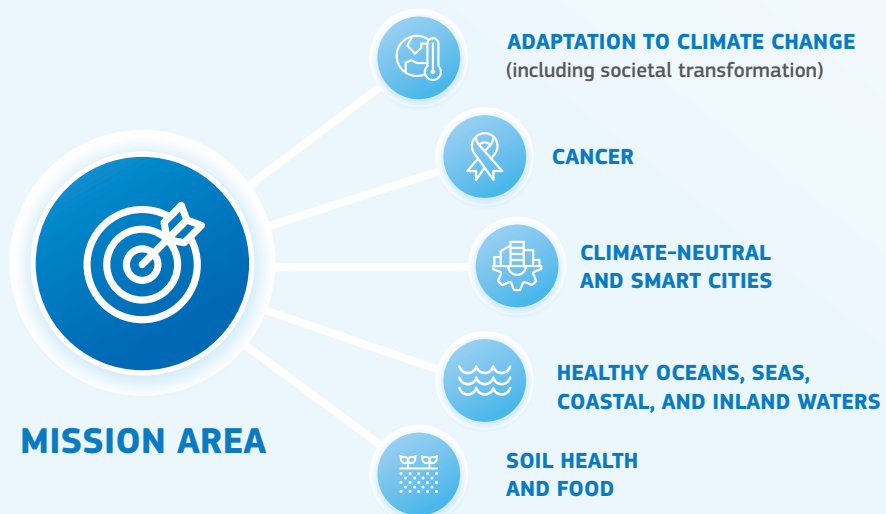
Horizon Europe

EU cooperation with ASEAN on science, technology and research is driven by mutual interests and the desire to share experiences on shared challenges, enhance connectivity, and boost sustainable economic growth.

Horizon Europe, the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation, facilitates collaboration, strengthens the impact of partnerships in tackling global challenges, such as climate change, and supports the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

HORIZON EUROPE

**€95
BILLION**
2021-2027



STRUCTURE OF HORIZON EUROPE

HORIZON EUROPE

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT*

Exclusive focus on civil applications



SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

Exclusive focus on defence research & development



WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA



EURATOM



Fusion



Fission



Joint Research Center

*The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme



PIGS DON'T CRY: CONNECTING ASEAN AND EU RESEARCHERS



Back in 2013, Dr Phamramphoei Namprachan Frantz was working at the Virology and Cell Technology Department of the National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (Biotech), Thailand when she first heard of the EURAXESS Science Slam. The annual science slam is a platform for scientists to present their research as creatively as possible.

Frantz, also known as Jibby, decided to present her research on reverse genetics of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PeDV) in a form of a rap song called, 'Pigs don't cry' – and she won! 'It was a wonderful opportunity to meet new people, travel, and make new friends', Jibby said about her experience.

EURAXESS ASEAN is part of the EURAXESS Worldwide and is an all-in-one networking platform and information tool for talented researchers on the move to explore and develop their careers in Europe. 'I asked EURAXESS if they can connect me with my dream institution, Institut Pasteur', Jibby said.

During her visit to the Institut Pasteur in 2013, Jibby shared her knowledge on PeDV from her research, 'Once we communicated our knowledge, we found collaboration opportunities and started initiating new projects'.

Jibby was still at the Institut Pasteur when the COVID-19 pandemic hit in early 2020,

In 2021, Jibby and her team at Institut Pasteur developed a measles-vectored COVID-19 vaccine, but the road ahead is still long. 'We need to continue to fully study the pathogen to help us preparing better for the next pandemic'.

For other young scientists out there, 'Focus on what you like and what you love to do', she said. 'Hone that skill and use that to build your future'.

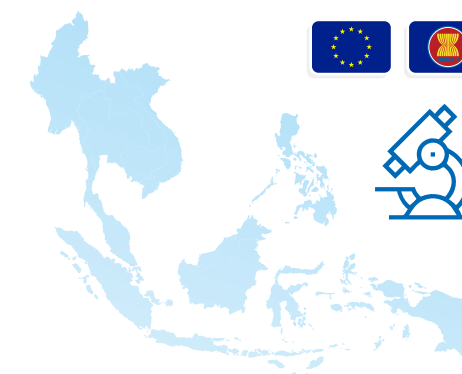
EURAXESS ASEAN IS FOCUSED ON FACILITATING SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION & EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE RESEARCH COMMUNITIES OF THE EU AND ITS ASEAN PARTNERS. IT ALSO PROMOTES OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN HORIZON EUROPE.



OVER 27 000
researchers, scientists
and innovators



OVER 40
networking activities
connecting >10 000
scientists and researchers
from both regions



2021 SCIENTIFIC FOCUS AREAS:



Climate Change

5 dedicated
matchmaking events

1 500 stakeholders
connected



Health

5 dedicated
matchmaking events

2 000 stakeholders
connected



**Digitalisation &
Artificial Intelligence**

3 dedicated
matchmaking events

1 000 stakeholders
connected



**Science
Communication**

10 Career Development
Training Sessions

4 000 Early Career
Researchers engaged

'The spotlight was on us. We needed to work at a speed we've never done before', said Jibby.

CONNECTING THROUGH ART



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



© art.citrasasmita.com

Citra Sasmita grew up with a rich collection of traditional stories of kings and gods. Born and raised in the island of Bali, Indonesia, art has been an integral part of Sasmita's life.

'One day I realised the absence of women in all these art forms', Sasmita said. The realisation started her on a journey of finding women artists and their works, and filling the void with her own version of stories.

'I'm trying to offer alternative narratives with women as protagonists, as leaders, and as role models', she added.

Sasmita is one of three Southeast Asian artists selected for the newly established Studio Residencies for Southeast Asian Artists in the EU (SEA AiR) programme. Funded by the EU and developed by the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Centre for Contemporary Art Singapore, the SEA AiR programme fosters cultural and artistic exchanges between Southeast Asia and the European Union.

The residencies are hosted and managed by established contemporary art institutions across Europe. As part of the inaugural cycle, Sasmita will have the opportunity to be in residence for three months at the WIELS Contemporary Art Centre and immerse herself in the Brussels' art scene. 'I'm excited to learn more about the collection of medieval art paintings in Brussels and to share my work with other artists there as well'. The residency will be followed by a group exhibition in Singapore featuring new artworks made by Sasmita and the other two selected artists.

© art.citrasasmita.com



© art.citrasasmita.com



© art.citrasasmita.com



© art.citrasasmita.com



© art.citrasasmita.com



CONNECTING ASIA AND EUROPE



© asemculturalfestival.com

'May all the spirits who watch over our homes always bring us good luck'.

From a bird's eye view of Phnom Penh and a young man's prayer for good luck, 'White Building' takes its audience inside the lives of the building's residences and their struggle to keep what they call 'home'.

Directed by one of Cambodia's young rising director, Kevich Neang, the movie was shown during the opening of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Cultural Festival 2021 in Brussels on 15 November 2021.

Titled 'Asia and Europe: Cultures Connect', the Cultural Festival was held in conjunction with the 13th Summit of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM13) in partnership with the European Union and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF). The event aimed to showcase the rich cultural diversity and creative collaborations from Asia and Europe through theatre, dance, music, visual arts, and interdisciplinary presentations.

For Neang, film is a very powerful storytelling tool and the only way he can freely express his feelings. The movie was based on his family's experience, 'and I want to invite people to experience my story through the movie', he said.

The ASEM Cultural Festival was supported by the project Advancing European Union's Role in Multilateral Fora in Asia to promote people-to-people connectivity between Asia and Europe. To date, the project has supported 55 events with a total of 12 000 participants in the areas of political and security, trade and business, sustainable connectivity, academic and youth engagement, and cultural diplomacy.

'I am grateful to have the opportunity to share my story with a wider audience', Neang said. 'It's not just a story of Cambodia but a story of humanity that we all can relate to'

Advancing European Union's role in Multilateral Fora in Asia

2017 – 2022



BILATERAL COOPERATION

Strengthening EU-ASEAN development cooperation
through close partnerships with ASEAN Member States



BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

1985

Cooperation Agreement
between European Economic
Community (EEC) and ASEAN
Member States came into force

FOCUS AREAS



Trade and investment



Chemical, Biological,
Radiological and
Nuclear (CBRN) risks



Security-related areas

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION



Cooperation in the Chemical, Biological,
Radiological and Nuclear Risks Mitigation
Centres of Excellence (CBRN CoE)
Initiatives supports the fine-tuning of
Brunei Darussalam's National Action Plan



The EU and Brunei Darussalam share a close working relationship, partnering with each other through various multilateral dialogue platforms, including:

ASEAN

The Association of Southeast
Asian Nations

ARF

ASEAN Regional Forum

ASEM

The Asia-Europe Meeting

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- ★ The EU is the **6th largest** exporter to Brunei, sending **€315** million worth of goods in 2021.
- ★ Total trade with the EU has grown by **130.8%** since the beginning of the pandemic.
- ★ Several small and large EU-based companies are part of Brunei Darussalam's economy.



CAMBODIA

Cambodia holds the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2022 in accordance with the core spirit of ASEAN's basic principles of "One Vision, One Identity and One Community"



2002

Delegation of the European Union opened in Phnom Penh

€ 92 MILLION

2020
2021

TOTAL FUNDING SUPPORT

FOCUS AREAS



Green Growth & Decent Jobs



FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

Cambodia Programme for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth (CaPFish)

2018-2025

€ 112 MILLION



Education & Skills



EU-Cambodia Education Sector Reform Partnership

2018-2023

€ 105 MILLION



Governance



EU Support to Public Finance Management Reform Stage III

2014-2021

€ 22 MILLION

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION



Effective cooperation through Joint Programming with nine EU Member States and Switzerland, aligning with Cambodia's national priorities.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- During the COVID-19 crisis, the EU has supported the right to education by distributing hygiene and learning materials nationwide to keep children learning and safe despite the pandemic.
- More than 80% of the population are vaccinated against COVID-19, with the support of COVAX.
- The 2021 Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability Assessment confirmed that the PFM systems in Cambodia have significantly improved in the areas related to fiscal and budget management.



INDONESIA

Indonesia holds the G20 Presidency in 2022 under the theme "Recover Together, Recover Stronger"



2014

Indonesia is the first country in ASEAN with a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement with the EU

FOCUS AREAS



Trade, investment, and connectivity



FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

ARISE+ Indonesia:

2018-2023

€ 5 MILLION



Sustainable development, climate change and the environment



Support to sustainable investments and infrastructure

€ 28.8 MILLION



Governance, human rights, and security



Indonesia directly benefits from regional and thematic projects

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION

From 2022, a Bilateral Cooperation Facility will support the EU-Indonesia partnership. It will:

- Promote policy dialogue on issues of joint interest
- Enhance dialogue with civil society organisations
- Strengthen strategic communication and public diplomacy

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- Formulation and Adoption of the Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for EU – Indonesia Cooperation 2021-2027.
- High-level visits by the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell Fontelles and Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for the European Green Deal, Frans Timmermans signed **Indonesia as a crucial partner for the EU.**
- Establishment of **new projects on priority areas** such as the green transition (SWITCH Asia project on low carbon-rice production) and in support of Team Europe's COVID-19 response in the country.
- Adoption of the **EU Roadmap for Engagement with Civil Society 2021-2025**, in agreement with missions of EU Member States in Indonesia.



LAO PDR

2002

Cooperation Agreement between European Economic Community (EEC) and ASEAN Member States came into force

€ 83 MILLION

2021-2024

TOTAL FUNDING SUPPORT

FOCUS AREAS



Nutrition



Education



Good Governance

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

Nutrition Support Programme

2014-2022

€ 100 MILLION

Basic Education Support Programme

2018-2022

€ 66,5 MILLION

Citizen Engagement for Good Governance, Accountability and Rule of Law

2017-2022

€ 18,5 MILLION

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION

- European Partners in Lao PDR (EU, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Luxembourg, Switzerland) launched their Team Europe strategy for Lao PDR 2021-2025 for a total indicative budget of €550 million. This strategy, approved in November 2021, will focus on three priority areas: Green and Inclusive Economy, Human Capital, Good Governance.
- Taking into account the foreseen graduation of Lao PDR from the category of Less Developed Countries (LDC) and the new strategic objectives of EU external action, future EU cooperation in Lao PDR will follow a transformative approach, moving to a partnership aiming at strengthening trade and investment between EU and Lao PDR, especially in green areas, supported by enhanced skills and improved governance.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- Team Europe supported Lao PDR in the response to the COVID-19 crisis by co-financing testing capacities, medical equipment, quarantine centres, campaigns and digital solutions for continued learning. In addition, the EU contributed directly to support the government's response through an increase of its budget support for education and nutrition (€42.9 million of budget support disbursed in 2021).
- The CEGGA (Citizen Engagement for Good Governance, Accountability and Rule of Law) project, co-financed by the EU, Germany and Switzerland, has significantly improved the environment for non-profit associations (NPAs) in Lao PDR. For instance, key achievements include a facilitated registration process and an improved organisational capacity, enabling to attract and manage funding support. As a consequence, multiple NPAs were able to receive small grants to implement development projects in various sectors.



MALAYSIA

1980

Cooperation Agreement between European Economic Community (EEC) and ASEAN Member States came into force

FOCUS AREAS



Trade and investment



Environment and climate change



Human rights



Support to Civil Society Organisations

- In 2021, Malaysia benefited from regional and thematic projects
- The ARISE Plus Malaysia project on trade-related technical assistance was officially launched in early 2021
- From 2021 to 2027, a Cooperation Facility will support the EU-Malaysia partnership

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION

- Projects implemented by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and by SUHAKAM (National Commission of Human Rights) have made progress with interventions focusing on gender equality, media, indigenous people and human rights.
- Due to the emerging COVID-19 outbreak, the EU-funded projects have continued to address the needs of marginalised communities.
- Networking workshops among CSOs in Sabah and for CSOs and local authorities in Penang for further collaboration have been organised under the CSOs Facility.
- Under the KAMI project on sustainability of Malaysian and Indonesian palm oil, the EU works with Malaysian partners in support of multi-stakeholder processes on sustainability of the palm oil value chain.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- The COVID-19 response for Malaysia focused on human rights and strengthening the inclusion of the most marginalised groups of the population in the national response.
- The long-standing project with the State of Sabah and its forestry department came to an end in November 2021.
- Under the project "South East Asia Health Pandemic Response and Preparedness programme", implemented by the WHO, support to Malaysia included a range of different activities.
- "Under the EU-UNDP multi-country project Business and Human Rights in Asia, the EU is working with the Government of Malaysia, the private sector, civil society and the National Human Rights Commission (SUHAKAM) to promote the respect of human rights, including labour rights, in business operations in Malaysia".



MYANMAR



2013

Delegation of the European Union opened in Yangon

FOCUS AREAS



Sustainable livelihoods, food and nutrition security



Education and skills development for youth



Resilience and peacebuilding

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS



Project to operationalise the Humanitarian-Development-Peace nexus in support of the people of Myanmar

From 2020



Myan Ku programme: Supporting women in the garment sector

From 2020

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION



In 2021, Team Europe supported the people of Myanmar to tackle the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and their increasing socio-economic needs



PHILIPPINES



1980

Cooperation Agreement between European Economic Community (EEC) and ASEAN Member States came into force

15 MAY 1991

Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines officially opened

FOCUS AREAS



Governance



Renewable energy



Job creation



Assistance to vulnerable populations, especially in Mindanao

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION



Over €100 million total support for the Mindanao peace road map and governance framework



Support to the civil society sector in the Philippines with a total allocation of €45 million

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021



€20 M is allocated under the GO JUST II to increase the efficiency, effectiveness and accountability of the country's justice system



Seven on-going projects providing rural electrification and sustainable energy



SINGAPORE

1980

Cooperation Agreement between European Economic Community (EEC) and ASEAN Member States came into force



FOCUS AREAS



Trade and investment



Regional and global security



Economic development

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION



The EU supports private sector development through the implementation of the EU-Singapore Administrative Arrangement on Cluster Cooperation signed on 3 December 2020.



In November 2021, the first EU-Singapore clusters matchmaking event took place - with the involvement of around 100 representatives of clusters organisations.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- ★ The EU and Singapore are exploring options to step up cooperation in the areas of digital economy and research & innovation, as announced in September 2021 in the EU Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.
- ★ The comprehensive EU-Singapore Free Trade Agreement (EUSFTA) has been in force since November 2019. A joint statement to strengthen the bilateral partnership on digital trade was issued in December 2021 at the inaugural Trade Committee meeting under the EUSFTA. The EU-Singapore Investment Protection Agreement (EUSIPA) and Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (ESPCA) – signed in October 2018 - will enter into force once the ongoing ratification by all EU Member States has been completed.
- ★ The ESCPA will strengthen political dialogue with Singapore and enhance cooperation in a broad range of areas, while the EUSIPA will further foster the strong investment ties between the EU and Singapore.
- ★ The EU has been stepping up its security engagements with Singapore and like-minded partners in the Indo-Pacific. In early 2021, it extended the **Enhanced Security Cooperation In and With Asia (ESIWA)** project to the city-state offering collaboration in cyber security, counterterrorism, maritime security and crisis management.



THAILAND

1980

Cooperation Agreement between European Economic Community (EEC) and ASEAN Member States came into force



FOCUS AREAS



Sustainable growth and development



Human development and migration



Environment and climate change



Support to Civil Society Organisations

- In 2021, Thailand benefited from regional and thematic projects
- Projects focusing on Thailand were mainly implemented by national and international NGOs and covering a wide range of sectors
- From 2021 to 2027, a Cooperation Facility will support the EU-Thailand partnership
- A new budget allocation of €12 million to ensure support to encamped Myanmar refugees in Thailand was adopted at the end of 2021.

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS



Aid to Uprooted People:

2016-2021

€ 16 MILLION



Ship to Shore Rights Project – Southeast Asia:

Promoting regular and safe labour migration among Southeast Asian countries in the fishing and seafood processing sectors.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- ★ A wide range of stakeholders has continued to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and has provided support to the most affected communities, such as migrant workers.
- ★ In consultation with civil society organisations (CSOs), the CSOs Roadmap for Thailand for 2021 – 2025 has been developed and endorsed. Through the CSOs SDGs Facility, the EU support to CSOs in achieving SDGs 14, 15, and 16 was highlighted during the Annual SDGs Forum “A Bright Leap Forward 2021 - Resilient and Sustainable Growth”, organised by the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Council.
- ★ Furthermore, the Facility has provided support to civil society's and youth's engagement in sustainable environment management including environmental conflict resolution, raising public awareness on community environmental impacts, and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for smart farming.
- ★ Under the “South East Asia Health Pandemic Response and Preparedness programme”, implemented by the WHO, activities in Thailand included support for health of migrants, strengthening capacity at points of entry, as well as risk communication and community engagement.



VIET NAM

1999

Cooperation Agreement between European Economic Community (EEC) and ASEAN Member States came into force

€ 210 MILLION

2021
2024

TOTAL FUNDING SUPPORT



Disclaimer:
Map includes Parcel
and Spratly island
groups in East Sea

FOCUS AREAS



Energy Transition



Governance and Rule of Law



Trade-Related Assistance



Sustainable Consumption and Production

FLAGSHIP PROJECTS

EU - Viet Nam Sustainable Energy Transition Programme

2022-2027

€ 142 MILLION

HIGHLIGHTS OF EU COOPERATION



The EU's bilateral grant support programme to the energy sector in Viet Nam is among the largest in the world, with a total commitment of €250 million. The programme focuses on providing access to a reliable source of power, energy efficiency and renewable energy.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

★ Formulation and Adoption of the Multiannual Indicative Programme (MIP) for EU – Viet Nam Cooperation 2021-2027

★ Formulation and Adoption of the EU Gender Action Plan III (GAP III) Country-Level Implementation Plan (CLIP) 2021-2025

© Jack Young



© Stephanie Ecate



© Evan Krause



© Paul Szweczyk



© Alice Young



CONTACTS

EU Member States Accredited to ASEAN



European Union

Delegation to ASEAN
Menara Astra, 38th Floor,
Jl Jend Sudirman Kav 5-6, Jakarta 10220

T | +6221 2554-6200
F | +6221 2554-6201
E | delegation-asean@eeas.europa.eu



Austria

Embassy of Austria
Jl. Diponegoro No. 44, Jakarta 12950

T | +6221 2355-4005
F | +6221 3190-4881
E | jakarta-ob@bmeia.gv.at



Belgium

Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium
Deutsche Bank Bldg. 16th Floor
Jl. Imam Bonjol No. 80, Jakarta 10310

T | +6221 316-2030
F | +6221 316-2035
E | jakarta@diplobel.fed.be



Bulgaria

Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria
Jl. Imam Bonjol No. 34-36, Jakarta 10310

T | +6221 390-4048; 391-3130
F | +6221 390-4049
E | embassy.jakarta@mfa.bg



Croatia

Embassy of the Republic of Croatia
Menara Mulia, 28th Floor - Suite 2801
Jl. Jend Gatot Subroto Kav. 9-11, Jakarta 12930

T | +6221 525-7822
F | +6221 525-6711
E | jakarta@mvep.hr



Czech Republic

Embassy of the Czech Republic
Jl. Gereja Theresia No. 20, Jakarta 10350
PO BOX 1319

T | +62811 924-5663 / +62811 924-5664
F | +6221 390-4078
E | jakarta@embassy.mzv.cz



Denmark

Royal Danish Embassy
Menara Rajawali, 25th Floor
Jl. DR Ide Anak Agung Gde Agung #5.1
Kawasan Mega Kuningan, Jakarta 12950

T | +6221 866-55100
F | +6221 576-1535
E | jktamb@um.dk



Finland

Embassy of Finland
Menara Rajawali, 9th Floor
Jl. DR Ide Anak Agung Gde Agung #5.1
Kawasan Mega Kuningan, Jakarta 12950

T | +6221 2939-3000
F | +6221 576-1631
E | sanomat.jkt@formin.fi



France

Embassy of France
Jl. MH Thamrin No. 20, Jakarta 10350

T | +6221 2355-7600
F | +6221 2355-7601
E | contact@ambafrance-id.org



Germany

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
Jl. MH Thamrin No. 1, Jakarta 10310

T | +6221 3985-5000
F | +6221 390-1757
E | info@jakarta.diplo.de



Greece

Embassy of the Hellenic Republic
Plaza 89, 12th Floor, Suite 1203
Jl. HR Rasuna Said Kav. X-7 No. 6, Jakarta 12940

T | +6221 520-7776 / +6221 520-7761
F | +6221 520-7753
E | gremb.jrt@mfa.gr



Hungary

Embassy of Hungary
Jl. HR Rasuna Said Kav. X/3 No. 1, Jakarta 12950

T | +6221 520-3459/-3460
F | +6221 520-3461
E | mission.jkt@mfa.gov.hu



Ireland

Embassy of Ireland, Ireland House
Word Trade Center Tower 1, 14th Floor
Jl. Jend Sudirman Kav. 29-31, Jakarta 12920

T | +6221 2809-4300
F | +6221 521-1622
E | jakartaem@dfa.ie



Italy

Embassy of the Republic of Italy
Jl. Diponegoro No. 45, Jakarta 10310

T | +6221 3193-7445
F | +6221 3193-7422
E | ambasciata.jakarta@esteri.it



Netherlands

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
Jl. HR Rasuna Said Kav. S-3, Jakarta 12950

T | +6221 524-8200
F | +6221 520-0734
E | jak@minbuza.nl



Poland

Embassy of the Republic of Poland
Jl. HR Rasuna Said Kav. X Block IV/3
Jakarta 12950

T | +6221 252-5939 / +6221 252-5940
F | +6221 252-5958
E | dzakarta.amb.sekretariat@msz.gov.pl



Portugal

Embassy of Portugal
Jl. Indramayu No. 2A, Jakarta 10310

T | +6221 3190-8030
F | +6221 3190-8031
E | jakarta@mne.pt



Sweden

Embassy of Sweden
Menara Rajawali, 9th Floor
Jl. DR Ide Anak Agung Gde Agung #5.1
Kawasan Mega Kuningan, Jakarta 12950
T | +6221 2553 5900
F | +6221 2553 5941
E | ambassaden.jakarta@gov.se



Romania

Embassy of Romania
Jl. Teuku Cik Ditiro No. 42A, Jakarta 10310

T | +6221 310-6241
F | +6221 310-6241
E | jakarta@mae.ro



Slovakia

Embassy of the Slovak Republic
Jl. Prof. Moh. Yamin, SH No. 29
Jakarta Pusat 10310, PO BOX 13680

T | +6221 310-1068; 315-1429
F | +6221 310-1180
E | emb.jakarta@mzv.sk



Spain

Embassy of the Kingdom of Spain
Jl. Haji Agus Salim No. 61, Jakarta 10350

T | +6221 3193-5136; 314-2355
F | +6221 3193-5134; 3192-5996
E | emb.yakarta@maec.es

CONTACTS EU Delegations in ASEAN Member States



Delegation of the European Union to the Kingdom of Cambodia

No. 100 A, Preah Norodom Boulevard
Khan Daun Penh, 12207 Phnom Penh
PO Box 2301, Cambodia
T | +855 (0) 23 216996 / 211102 / 220611 / 220612
F | +855 (0) 23 216997
E | DELEGATION-CAMBODIA@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to Malaysia

Menara Tan & Tan, Suite 10.01
207 Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
T | +603-2723 7333
F | +603-2723 7337
E | DELEGATION-MALAYSIA@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam

Menara Astra, 38th Floor,
Jl Jend Sudirman Kav 5-6
Jakarta 10220, Indonesia
T | +62-21 25546200
F | +62-21 25546201
E | DELEGATION-INDONESIA@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar

Kantharyar Centre Office Tower, 22nd Floor,
Corner of Kan Yeik Thar Road and U Aung Myat Road,
Mingalar Taung Nyunt Township, Yangon 11221, Myanmar
T | +95 (0) 99 7707 9991
F | +95 (0) 1 937 6226
E | DELEGATION-MYANMAR@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to Lao PDR

Europe House
Unit 19, Hom 2, Setthathirath Road, Haisok Village,
Chanthabouly District, Vientiane, Lao PDR.
P.O. Box: 9325;
T | +856 (21) 255 575
F | +856 (21) 255 576, 255 577
E | DELEGATION-LAOS@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to the Philippines

30/F Tower II, RCBC Plaza
6819 Ayala Avenue, Makati City 1200
Philippines
T | +63 2-8595100
F | +63 2-859 5109
E | DELEGATION-PHILIPPINES@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to Singapore



250 North Bridge Road
#38-03 Raffles City Tower Singapore 179101
Singapore

T	+65 6336 7919
F	+65 6336 3394
E	DELEGATION-SINGAPORE@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to Viet Nam



Lotte Centre, West wing, 24th floor
54 Lieu Giai Ba Dinh District, Hanoi, Viet Nam

T	+84 4 39 41 00 99
F	+84 4 39 46 17 01
E	DELEGATION-VIETNAM@eeas.europa.eu



Delegation of the European Union to Thailand



Athenee Tower, 10th floor
63 Wireless Road,
Bangkok 10330, Thailand

T	+66 (0) 2305 2600 / 2700
F	+66 (0) 2255 9113
E	DELEGATION-THAILAND@eeas.europa.eu



EU-ASEAN Strategic Partnership



Delegation of the European Union to ASEAN



Menara Astra, 38th Floor,
JI Jend Sudirman Kav 5-6,
Jakarta 10220 Indonesia

T : +62 21 2554 6290
F : +62 21 2554 6201

E : DELEGATION-ASEAN@eeas.europa.eu
W : <http://eeas.europa.eu/asean>



Download eBook