

**ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS**

# **Tripartite Seminar on Strengthening Social Protection in ASEAN**

**17-18 November 2014, Bangkok, Thailand**

**Mega Irena**

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one vision  
one identity  
one community

- **ASEAN Charter:** *“To enhance the well-being and livelihood of the peoples of ASEAN by providing them with equitable access to opportunities for human development, social welfare and justice”.*
- **ASCC Blueprint:** *realising a people-centred and socially responsible ASEAN Community, where the well-being, livelihood and welfare of the peoples are enhanced*



- **Relevant ASEAN Declarations**
- **ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, Article 30(1):**  
*“Every person shall have the right to social security, including social insurance where available, which assists him or her to secure the means for a dignified and decent existence”.*
- Ratification of CEDAW, CRC, CRPD (majority of AMS) and other related instruments



# Relevant ASCC Sectoral Bodies

- Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM)
- Senior Officials Meeting for Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD)
- Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE)
- ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW)
- Senior Officials Meeting on Health and Development (SOMHD)
- ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM)



# Relevant Initiatives

1. Social protection and care systems for children, including on early childhood care and education **(SOMSWD)**
2. Building capacities and understanding of social pensions **(SOMSWD)**
3. ASEAN Decade of Persons with Disabilities **(SOMSWD)**
4. Social protection for the elderly women **(ACW)**
5. Social protection and gender budgeting **(ACW)**



# Relevant Initiatives

7. Strengthen local governments' accountability in delivering social safety net / social protection programmes for rural communities that are responsive to local priorities and implemented through a participatory approach and inter-ministerial cooperation (**SOMRDPE**).
8. Study on crops diversification, crops insurance (**SOMRDPE**)
9. ASEAN+3 Network on UHC (**SOMHD**)
10. Disaster risk financing and insurance (**ACDM**)



# Relevant Initiatives

- 11. Extending Social Insurance to the Self or Informally Employed (**SLOM**)
- 12. Unemployment Insurance (**SLOM**)



# **ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection:**

## **Principles**





# Principles

- Everyone, especially those who are **poor, at risk, persons with disabilities, older people, out-of-school youth, children, migrant workers, and other vulnerable groups**, is entitled to have equitable access to social protection that is a basic human right and based on a **rights-based/needs-based, life-cycle approach** and **covering essential services** as needed;
- Extending coverage, availability, quality, equitability and sustainability of social protection should be **gradually promoted** to ensure optimal benefits to the beneficiaries;
- Social protection covers, but is not limited to, **social welfare and development, social safety-nets, social insurance, social assistance, social services**, in ASEAN Member States;



# Principles

- Implementation of social protection should be based on respect for fundamental freedoms, promotion and protection of human rights, promotion of social justice, social solidarity, non-discrimination, accessibility, reasonable accommodation, gender equality, social inclusiveness, coherence, and accountability;
- Implementation of social protection towards progressive realisation in ASEAN Member States is **the main responsibility of the respective governments** based on national legislations, policies, programmes, strategies, standards and guidelines;
- Social protection is a cross-cutting issue, hence its implementation requires **coordinated and holistic approaches** with the involvement of governments, private sectors, development partners, civil society, service providers, and other stakeholders, where appropriate;



# Principles

- **Family unit and the community** are an important element in supporting and delivering social protection services and therefore should be strengthened and preserved;
- **Inclusive and participatory approach** should be ensured in the planning, programming and budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes of social protection at all levels in the region to realise the strengthening of institutional capacity, transparency and responsiveness to the needs of those concerned;
- Social protection is **an investment in people** that should be supported by adequate resources in order to empower them to meet their basic needs;
- Social protection shall be **adaptive to the different risks** such as lifestyle and individual risks, social risks, and emerging risks and vulnerabilities faced by the region such as, but not limited to, changes in the economy and labour markets and impacts of climate change, disasters and economic crises.



# **ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection:**

## **Strategies and Mechanisms**



# Priorities

- Support national policies, strategies, mechanisms, targeting systems of social protection services;
- Advocate strategies that promote the coverage, availability, comprehensiveness, quality, equitability, affordability and sustainability of social protection services;
- Collectively accelerate the progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in all ASEAN Member States by strengthening capacity to assess and manage health systems to support UHC through sharing of experiences, information and experts;



# Assessment

- Promote **results-based and evidence-based national assessments and benchmarking** of social protection delivery services;
- Explore and develop **assessment tools and regional statistical indicators** where appropriate to measure the impact of social protection;



# Resources

- **Allocate adequate financial resources** for social protection in line with national targets and subject to the capacity of each Government;
- **Strengthen the capacity** of government officials, communities, service providers, and other stakeholders for better responsiveness, coordination and effectiveness;



# Mechanisms

- **Foster the involvement of the existing mechanisms of ASEAN sectoral bodies** in promoting social protection in the region through projects and activities to support ASEAN Member States;
- Assign the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD), with the support of SOMSWD, as **the focal point for inter-sectoral cooperation on social protection at regional level**, while acknowledging the different national coordinating mechanisms in ASEAN Member States;





# Mechanisms

- Promote multi-sectoral responsiveness of social protection through **consultations, sharing of information on good practices and policies, knowledge management, cooperation, and coordination** on social protection amongst the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat;
- Build and strengthen the **networking and partnerships** within and among ASEAN Member States as well as with Dialogue Partners, UN Agencies, civil society, private sectors, development partners, and other stakeholders in supporting adequate resources and effective implementation of the commitments reflected in this Declaration.



# Key aspects to consider

- Added value of cooperation at ASEAN level?
- Role of ASEAN sectoral bodies and stakeholders?
- Targets by 2025 or 2030?
- How to monitor progress at regional level?



Thank you

