



COMMUNITY BUILDING



ASEAN
FOUNDATION

Think, **Feel** and **Be** ASEAN



INFORMATION
SHEET

1. ASEAN Farmers Organisation Support Programme (AFOSP)

About

The ASEAN Farmers' Organisations Support Programme (AFOSP) aims to improve the livelihoods and food security of smallholder farmers and rural producers in ASEAN member countries. This programme will assist Farmers' Organisations in improving their services to members, especially their entrepreneurial capacities and value chain participation.

The role of ASEAN Foundation is to promote policy dialogue and interactions between farmers and rural organisations with the ASEAN level institutions, such as the ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) and ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMRDPE).

Outcomes

The ASEAN Foundation, leaders of the farmers' organisations, PROCASUR, and the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Agricultural Cooperatives (ASWGAC) took part in the ASEAN Learning Route on Agricultural Cooperatives (ALRAC) in 2016. The objective of ALRAC is to enable the ASEAN smallholder farmers and rural



producers to reap benefits from the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) through strengthening the role of agricultural cooperatives along the ASEAN agricultural value chain.

30 participants, consisting of representatives from farmers' organisations and government officials from 8 ASEAN countries attended. They visited the Khao Kichakood Agricultural Cooperative in Chanthaburi, Thailand and Sorosoro Ibaba Development Cooperative (SIDC) in Batangas, the Philippines. They observed the good practices on how agricultural cooperatives



The ASEAN Farmers' Organisations Support Programme (AFOSP) brings farmers, cooperatives, private sectors and policy makers to collaborate together to reap benefits from the ASEAN Economic Community.



were operated and managed. Participants exchanged knowledge and developed innovation plan for implementation guidelines once they returned to their home countries.

In November 2016, the Roundtable Discussion (RTD) on improving dialogue and programme cooperation between ASEAN-EU-FO/CSO was organised. It aimed to discuss the way forward in bringing incentives to the agricultural sector and attracting youth participation in agriculture. The RTD highlighted the important role of agricultural cooperatives (ACs) as the economic driver for rural development at local and regional level. It was expected that collective marketing will be one channel to ensure participation of agricultural cooperatives in the regional and/or global value chain.

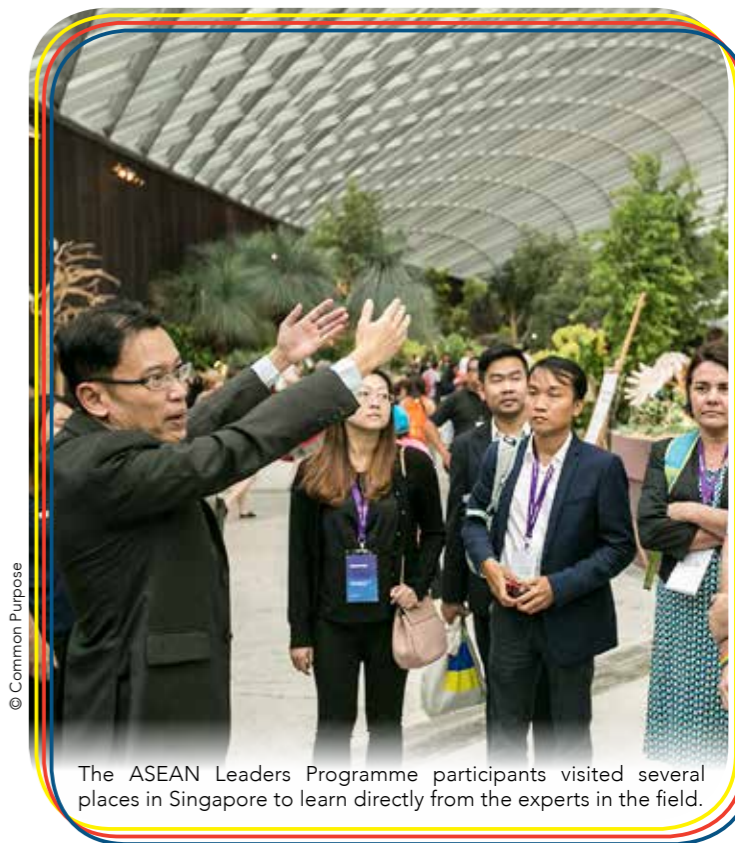
The ASEAN Foundation also developed valuable materials for the AFOSP Programme such as the ASEAN 101 leaflet for farmer organisations and the playing cards on Good Agricultural Practices. These materials helped to reach out farmers.

2. The ASEAN Leaders Programme

About

The ASEAN Leaders Programme launched in 2016 gathers senior leaders from the public, private, and civic sectors in ASEAN to work together to address a challenge in the region. The programme will help them build strong connections with other leaders from around ASEAN, share knowledge and develop the cultural intelligence required to grow ASEAN's cities, realise the immense potential of the ASEAN Community and secure the future of its people for generations.

Participants collaborated to develop practical proposals to address a central challenge facing ASEAN, and to implement these proposals beyond the programme.



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The ASEAN Leaders Programme participants visited several places in Singapore to learn directly from the experts in the field.



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3. Social Entrepreneurship: Share, Learn & Grow Together

About

By partnering on initiatives like the ASEAN Conference on Social Entrepreneurship with UnLtd Indonesia and the Singapore International Foundation as well as the Youth Volunteering Innovation Challenge (YVIC) with UNV, the ASEAN Foundation promotes social entrepreneurship and fosters collaboration to build the ASEAN Community. The ASEAN Social Entrepreneurship Conference aims to bring ASEAN social entrepreneurs, organisations supporting social enterprises, government, and academia together to forge connections and develop projects together.

The first part was where the social enterprises and the other partners could network, share and learn from each other. It was held in Singapore from the 21st to the 22nd of July 2016 at the National University of Singapore Business School in Singapore. At the end of this conference, three collaborative projects between different ASEAN member states that had the most potential were chosen. The second part of the ASEAN Entrepreneurship Conference was the showcase of these top 3 projects.



The ASEAN Conference on Social Entrepreneurship participants had a live interactive discussion while they're presenting their ideas.

Outcomes

The ASEAN Leaders Programme was effective for many of the participants. The survey conducted after the programme showed:

- 78% of the participants said that the programme helped them further develop their own leadership
- 83% of the participants gained broader networks
- 77% of the participants felt that the programme will help them make better decisions
- 80% of the participants said the programme enhanced their ability to drive bold innovation

With the new perspectives and a drive to develop dynamic innovations, the ASEAN Leaders Programme is on its way to achieving its aim of getting world leaders of different sectors of society to come together to address a challenge in ASEAN and push the whole region to greater heights.

Outcomes

Tripability (Indonesia and Cambodia): a convenient platform to search and book holidays and tourism destinations around Southeast Asia that are accessible for people with disabilities.

Destination GOOD Guide (Malaysia, Myanmar, Laos, Indonesia and Cambodia): A beautifully designed map of Southeast Asia highlighting verified social enterprises and sustainable tourism initiatives for conscious travellers to visit and support.

Agrigator.com (Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines and Myanmar): An online portal connecting social enterprise food producers in Southeast Asia with marketing support, legal expertise, market insights and buyers from around the world.

This showcase focused on sustaining their innovations and integrating their solutions into the social enterprise ecosystem. The three projects would be able to use this opportunity to test, collect feedback and improve the design of their products. Details on how to develop the impact of these social enterprises through public-private partnerships was also discussed.

The Youth Volunteering Innovation Challenge (YVIC)

Under the theme "Impact ASEAN," supports young volunteers throughout the ASEAN region in their journey to catalyze youth-led innovation for social impact and sustainable development. YVIC provides entrepreneurship knowledge and skills to prototype youth ideas to scale up youth innovations. Financial and mentorship support is a main feature of this initiative where the winning three teams are awarded with StartUp Grants and matched with a mentor for the duration of one month to prototype their ideas. Such support will continue when these teams compete at the regional level in Bangkok on 20 June 2017. Throughout the challenge participants will be interviewed and encouraged to vlog their experience once they start the mentorship process.



Outcomes

29 young volunteer innovators from ten teams across ASEAN participated in the Youth Volunteering Innovation Challenge (YVIC). The theme, Impact ASEAN, gave them an opportunity to pitch their ideas and scale up their programmes leveraging volunteerism to achieve the SDGs. With the support of the Government of Germany in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the ASEAN Foundation, the ASEAN Secretariat, and SAP, the three finalists, Ecofun (Indonesia), Nino Nina Co (Philippines) and Tune Map (Indonesia), were awarded mentorship and financial support for their projects.



4. Entrepreneurship and Volunteerism: Partnership with SAP (2017)

About

SAP Social Sabbatical

The SAP Social Sabbatical programme is a collaborative programme between the ASEAN Foundation and SAP. This programme aims to build the capacity of innovative social enterprises within ASEAN countries. This year the programme focuses in Vietnam, Indonesia, and Myanmar. The programme will involve a number of SAP employees from various offices across South East Asia directly interacting with selected social enterprises for two weeks to one month. During this period, they will perform as consultants and mentors to help the social enterprises solve operational challenges, and helped deliver a business plan to each of the social enterprises to solve pressing business issues and set them for sustainable growth as they continue their efforts to bring positive impact to the local communities.

Outcomes

In 2017, four organisations each in Viet Nam and Indonesia benefited from this initiative. 34 SAP employees were involved accounting for 6,750 number of volunteering hours.

Indonesia

- Campa Tour
- Javara Indigenous Indonesia
- Mien R Uno Foundation
- Prestasi Junior Indonesia

Vietnam

- G.A.P Institute
- Saigon Children's Charity
- Teach for Vietnam
- Xanh Shop



5. S Rajaratnam Endowment-ASEAN Community Forum Series (2017 – 2018)

About

The S Rajaratnam Endowment-ASEAN Community Forum engages with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), getting them involved in the realisation of a shared ASEAN identity by 2025. They would gather insights and opinions of the respective characteristics

and elements of the ASEAN community pillars, and developing solutions to work towards this shared identity.

The forum will target 150 representatives of CSOs in the years 2017 and 2018, and the CSOs will be focused in these sectors: rural development, women's economic development, micro-small-medium enterprise, environmental protection, sustainable development, disaster management, youth, education and culture, and tolerance and mutual respect for religions.

Outcomes

The first forum was held from the 9th to the 10th of March 2017. 41 delegates from 35 CSOs from all over ASEAN discussed issues regarding three themes: (1) Rural Development, (2) Women's Economic Development, and (3) Micro-Small-Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The forum was also an opportunity for them to network and collaborate on projects to benefit the ASEAN people.

The CSOs got acquainted with ASEAN processes and mechanisms to understand how they can engage with ASEAN. Their discussions regarding the three themes in the forum allowed them to consider how the priorities listed in the ASEAN Blueprints 2025 will affect the ASEAN people, challenges to ASEAN integration and how they can be addressed. The CSOs will explore regional collaboration to support the realisation of the ASEAN Community 2025.

The forum organised in March 2017 was well received – 90% of the participants agreed that it helped them to know more about ASEAN and its development agenda, according to a questionnaire given at the end of the forum. The guest speakers, resource persons, and policy makers present at the forum also felt that their contribution to the forum was effective and valuable to the CSOs. 90% of all the CSOs, speakers, resource persons, policy makers and facilitators were positive towards the technical implementation of the forum as well.





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