

# Regional Conference on Impact of the Global Economic & Financial Crisis on the Vulnerable Sectors in the Region: Civil Society Voices and ASEAN



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## Preface

**T**he Regional Conference on the Impact of the Global Economic and Financial Crisis on the Vulnerable Sectors in the Region: Civil Society Voices and ASEAN was held on July 28-29, 2009 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The regional dialogue brought a range of development stakeholders concerned with how the financial crisis, compounding the recent crisis on food and climate change, is impacting on the most marginalized and vulnerable sectors in our society. It created space for healthy inter-action between and among eighty seven (87) delegates from civil society organizations, the donor community, intergovernmental organizations, and ASEAN represented by Senior Officers from the Member States and the Secretariat. Voices from the grassroots sectors were ably articulated by representatives from credible sectoral organizations.

The conference was able to generate the Jakarta Conference Statement which highlighted the CSO recommendations to address the impact of the crisis on the affected sectors in the ASEAN region. It served as basis in formulating a set of action plans to which all participants from various sectors have committed to implement at the national, regional, and international levels.

The regional dialogue sought to strengthen a constructive civil society interaction with ASEAN and policy makers. Important linkages among stakeholders were forged and strengthened through formal and informal interaction during the conference. CSOs were appreciative of the opportunity to meet ASEAN leaders from the Member States representing the Senior Official Meeting for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE) and the Senior Official Meeting for Labor and Migration Issues (SLOM) and the Secretariat. And vice-versa. There is positive recognition of the fact that the Conference brought ASEAN Senior Officials to actually and actively participate in the workshops. This is an innovative occasion for engagement and partnership building compared to regular CSO conferences where ASEAN officials attend only for ceremonial purposes or as speakers, but do not fully

integrate as involved participants. The positive cooperation with the Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division of the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Department of the ASEAN Secretariat was an important factor for the innovative and promising process of engaging ASEAN.

The organizers express their thanks to GTZ-BMZ for the responsive support towards this publication and the conference, complemented by Oxfam-Hongkong's over-all support to the event. Our heartfelt thanks to all the delegates and partners for making the regional dialogue a fruitful event.

The publication is meant to facilitate the transmission of the conference results to as many policy makers concerned and for sharing to broader civil society sector where claim-making for better financial and economic governance has to start. It contains recommendations and action plans which are expected to be supported and followed through by the respective sectoral or thematic stakeholders.

Finally, we are in deep gratitude to Mr. Filomeno III Sta. Ana for contributing a synthesis article about the conference and the challenges that we have to continue to deal with in our region, to make ASEAN and other policy making bodies more responsive to the needs of the region's poor.

**AsiaDHRRA   AFA   UNI-APRO**



## Program Background

**T**he unregulated global financial system has led to serious and widespread economic downturn negatively affecting millions of highly vulnerable sectors in the region. This is happening in the midst of interlinked crises in relation to food, energy and climate change, arising from both governance and market failure.

Finding solutions to the global crises has now become the major concern across the globe of various institutions, including civil society itself and grassroots organizations. In Southeast Asia, this has become more compelling since a large section of its population lives below the poverty line. Civil society organizations have tackled this issue within their own organizations and across sectors, at various levels the past year, some of these as parallel CSO activities during the ASEAN Peoples' Forum held in Bangkok in February 2009, in conjunction with the 14th ASEAN Summit.

ASEAN likewise has convened a High-Level Forum on Reducing Vulnerability in the Face of Crisis last February 19-20, 2009 which acknowledged that the current financial crisis is a recurring phenomenon, with a much wider scale of impact affecting the ASEAN+3 Countries at various levels, given the differing contexts and the commonalities by which the financial crisis is affecting the region. It also acknowledged that new vulnerable groups are emerging and vulnerabilities are deepening in the societies due to the social impact of the financial crisis, thus the need to address the challenges comprehensively through a cross-sectoral regional plan.

At the global level, the United Nations recently concluded the UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, to take stock of the causes of the crisis, consider existing policy responses and necessary reforms, and catalyze further concerted action.

Given all these developments, and in recognition of the need for a collaborative response among various stakeholders, a regional dialogue between and among CSO representatives, ASEAN leaders, and development stakeholders shall be convened to provide an opportunity to listen to peoples voices on the crisis and define concrete policies and programs to address the persisting challenges of the financial crisis in an already compounded development situation in the region.



# Executive Summary

## INTRODUCTION

The regional dialogue was convened to strengthen a constructive civil society interaction with ASEAN and policy makers in confronting the challenges of the global financial crisis. At the end of the workshop, the following results are expected:

Improved and shared understanding of the impact and challenges of financial crisis in the region particularly to the poor and marginalized sectors;  
Generated concrete policy recommendations and clear action points in addressing the financial crisis both for the national and program level.

The conference program took off from the articulation of the impact of the financial crisis by the vulnerable sectors and development workers, followed by a sharing by ASEAN and international development agencies of the global and regional responses to financial crisis.

Based on these sharing and exchange of views, the forum proceeded to a workshop to define people-centered programs and policies to respond to financial crisis. The workshop resulted into a consensus document of recommendations, which was presented to regional and international bodies the following day. The forum concluded with action planning to move the proposals forward

The conference had the participation of 87 representatives from the farmers, fishers, indigenous peoples, women, SMEs and trade union sectors, business and small and medium enterprises, national and regional groups and networks of CSOs, academe/research community, donor community, ASEAN Senior Officials and the ASEAN Secretariat.

## OPENING AND CONCLUDING MESSAGES

The following messages and keynote address marked the opening session:



**Welcome Remarks by Mr. Alberto Yuson, BWI, AP Regional Secretary** observed how corporations have used the crisis to lower labor standards or even undermine freedom of action. He stressed that the global economic crisis should not be used as an excuse to not implement global labor standards. He likened response to the crisis to a football game where the level should be brought from the defensive to the midfield, and eventually and hopefully, to the offensive. Responses to the crisis have always focused mostly on immediate social safety nets and massive temporary employment strategies. Bringing the game to the midfield means the promotion of sustainable, decent jobs. Advancing it further to the offensive level would require advancing trade union agenda and combating inequality.

**Opening Remarks, by Ms. Marlene Ramirez, AsiaDHRRA Secretary-General**, highlighted their appreciation for the opportunity to work with UNIApro which has an enormous capacity to integrate on a bigger platform. She acknowledged the presence of representatives of basic sectors' organizations - farmers, fishers, IPs, women, migrant workers, SMEs, trade union and labor, and consumers, and national NGO partners whose voices need be heard so that we are guided to the right direction. Ms. Ramirez stressed the challenge of finding convergence not only in words but concrete action and terms of cooperation. She observed, "We persist in our work despite the many interlinked crises in relation to food, energy, and climate change arising from both governance and market failure. We try to remain positive, to be more imaginative, more in solidarity with one another."



**Opening Message by Dr. Donald Tambunan, head of the Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Department of The ASEAN Secretariat** stressed on the importance of having a platform where many stakeholders can share views and thoughts and update each other in response to the current economic downturn. He shared that the IMF April 2009 global economic report pointed to a continuing downward trend, and developed economies in particular will remain in the doldrums. Global trade will contract further by 11%,



with ASEAN's economic growth slowing down by 1.9%. He observed that the economic crisis has led to multi-dimensional impacts.

The year 2009 will be the first year since 2000 where poverty will not be reduced, but increased. At the national level, responses differ from country to country while at the regional level, only a few collective responses have been undertaken. On the overall, focus has been on finance and economic aspects and little attention has been given on its social impacts. ASEAN is exploring other ways to address

the situation, which is why efforts are now being made to improve the relationship between ASEAN and civil society, towards the direction of making ASEAN into a more people-oriented organization. The ASEAN Secretariat is very much looking forward to the recommendations of this forum, including afinding ways of contributing to and participating in implementation. Mr. Tambunan ended his speech with a call for everyone to synergize and work together as partners.

**Keynote Address by Christopher Ng, UNI Apro Regional Secretary**

underscored how the most vivid manifestation of the crisis is seen in the jobs crisis: unemployment, precarious informal employment, and unprotected flexible work. To the trade union movement, it is rooted in global economic inequalities compounded by a global epidemic of bad corporate governance. There is thus an urgent need to have not only judicious rules in the global financial markets but also minimum standards of ethical behavior for CEOs and among the TNCs.



Also, there should be greater space and flexibility for all countries, especially the developing ones, in pursuing coherent social and economic policies protecting the jobs and welfare of the working population. The trade unions have a stake in sustaining the viability, productivity, and profitability of business, for this is central in creating decent, secure, and sustainable jobs. The alternative, as UNI Apro is propagating in many ASEAN countries, is for industrial relations actors, through sincere and genuine dialogue, to develop practical strategy based on the concept of true social partnership to adjust to the global competitive challenge.



**Closing Remarks by Mr. Khamkhan Pinsavanh, Chairman of the ASEAN Senior Officers Meeting for Labor and Migration Issues (SLOM) and Director General of Labour Management of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao PDR** stressed solidarity and cooperation among the different partners in facing the crisis. He expressed that “We were brought together by the common intention to work together to promote a regional cooperation that will support the vulnerable sectors in the region. We collectively sought regional solutions and strategies to make the vulnerable sectors stronger and

more resistant to crisis, and I am thankful for all the insights generated in the exchanges. Each of us will bring home the recommendations to convey to our respective governments. I express my heartfelt thanks and appreciate the on to the team that organized this conference.”

**Closing Message by Ms. Sudaporn Sittisatapornkul, Chairperson of AFA** highlighted her appreciation and affirmation of the continuing efforts to ensure that the vulnerable sectors will no longer be as pained and disempowered by the financial crisis, and that with the growing trust-based relationships between and among ASEAN, CSOs, and international agencies, a new regional economic paradigm might soon emerge that is fairer, more equitable, more transparent, and less prone to future shocks from the global economy.



## **PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION I**

### **Impact of Financial Crisis on Development Work: Voices from Vulnerable Sectors and Development Workers**

The panel consisted of leaders and representatives from organized networks representing the vulnerable sectors and the development workers. Each presenter gave a summary of the current situation of the sector, the work being done by their respective organizations, a brief description of the impact of the financial crisis on the sectors, and their recommendations to address the crisis. The following represents some of the highlights of their presentations :

Sector and Presenter	Impact of the Financial Crisis	Recommendations
<p>Small Men and Women Farmers in ASEAN Mudzakir, Chairperson, Aliansi Petani Indonesia and Vice Chairperson, Asian Farmers' Association</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demand for traditional export commodities have suddenly dropped, causing lower and more unstable incomes;</li> <li>• Demand and price of products from contract farming also became unstable;</li> <li>• More farmers are getting deeper into debt, throwing themselves at the mercy of loan sharks. We Even farmers can no longer afford the price of rice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate farmers about economic household management.</li> <li>• Secure land tenure, and access rights to water and seeds.</li> <li>• Increasing efforts to practice diversified, sustainable agriculture Organize commodity-based clusters for cooperative production and marketing of safe, organic products to have more bargaining power in the market.</li> </ul>
<p>Fisheries Sector Glen I. Ymata Southeast Asia Fish for Justice Network</p>	<p>Small fishers can be resilient to the global financial crisis in short term due to their subsistence characteristic but considering that small and artisanal fishers are the poorest among the poor with resources comparatively lower than other sectors, in the end they will suffer most.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State and intergovernmental initiatives must shift their role to regulation of the market and intensify their programs in rehabilitating the coastal, marine and natural resources</li> <li>• Developing rural assets and distributing them equitably</li> <li>• Improving fisheries governance and developing human resource and labor market for the most vulnerable sectors.</li> </ul>
<p>SMEs in Indonesia Ign. Wahyu Indriyo Bina Swadaya</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in production cost &amp; living cost</li> <li>• The unregulated market creates more vulnerable conditions especially for salt trader (imported salt).</li> <li>• The terms of global trading put in jeopardy the food security of more than 38 million farmers in Indonesia.</li> </ul>	<p>Regulation and protection of small and medium enterprises particularly, of those in creative economies such as fashion, art and handicrafts, television, radio and cinematography, print and publishing, computer and software, interactive game, music and show business.</p>
<p>Rural Community Organizing Ika Krishnayani Bina Desa/ InDHRRA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The community, including children, is forced to look for income making it more difficult for them to find time for social activities and limited space for awareness raising efforts.</li> <li>• There is also an observed decrease in community contributions for various capacity building activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community empowerment through sustainable agriculture is approached using local available resources and local wisdom, and where gender equality is recognized for sustainable livelihood.</li> <li>• Community organizers continue to develop critical engagement among stakeholders with government for pro-poor policies and national sovereignty.</li> </ul>

Sector and Presenter	Impact of the Financial Crisis	Recommendations
Impact on Consumers Ms. Hira Jamtani Associate, Third World Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The crisis has often been used by producers as an excuse not to make new investments.</li> <li>The government's response, on the other hand, has always been to tell the people to consume more. They have not been able to and with money so tight, education and health are always the first to go.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solutions put forward has always been to bailout as temporary painkillers, instead of a new paradigm and global financial architecture.</li> </ul>
Women Gigi Francisco General Coordinator Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unemployment through loss of jobs, reduction in real wages and benefits as tight credit affects various parts of the supply chain;</li> <li>Budget distress and social reproduction through strained government budgets, large parts of which are now being used to rescue bankrupt firms;</li> <li>Increased work burden and stress in unpaid social reproductive functions at the household and community levels as financial uncertainties had increased and available services in some places become inaccessible.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We need to make economic packages work for women in the short term. In the long term, governments need to use the financial crisis as an opportunity to move from profit to provisioning or what the DAWN calls Gender Equitable Public Policy.</li> </ul>

Men Sta. Ana, moderator of the plenary, gave the following observations and notes after the presentations: (1) With or without the crisis, a big segment of the populations in Southeast Asia suffer from underdevelopment; (2) Leveling off may be needed on some issues (views on pricing interventions, for instance), and that (3) CSOs, ASEAN, and governments have common goals but there will still be tension areas. In terms of short term demands, we have to know there will be trade off and is not going to be that easy to put up a common agenda.

He summed up convergence of sectoral recommendations into three points, namely: (1) Safeguard and promote rights and accountability mechanisms, and open up political space; (2) Strengthen social protection and policy, including the mitigation of the impact of prince influx; and (3) Strengthen national institutions that will enhance an inclusive macroeconomic environment.

## PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION

### Global and Regional Responses to Global Financial Crisis

The panel consisted of officials from ASEAN and international agencies who each presented their views of the crisis, their assessment of ASEAN's response, and their responses and recommendations. The following highlights emerged from this panel's presentations:

Presenter	Assessment of ASEAN's Response to the Crisis	Agency Responses and Recommendations
Aladdin D. Rillo, Head, Finance Integration Division, The ASEAN Secretariat	<p>ASEAN has not decoupled from the global financial crisis, but has remained resilient so far.</p> <p>Countries in the regions have responded with individual stabilization measures, comprising of monetary easing measures and well-targeted fiscal stimulus measures. Regional measures have so far been encouraging, but more coordinated responses are still needed.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rebalance growth away from external demand toward domestic demand.</li> <li>2. Stabilize financial systems and and promote financial market development;</li> <li>3. Strengthen and deepen regional cooperation, in the areas of trade liberalization, financial integration, and exchange rate coordination; and</li> <li>4. Participate in credible reforms of global and regional financial architecture.</li> </ol>
Johanna Knoess, GTZ Social Protection Policy Project, Indonesia	<p>The key challenge is to rejuvenate economic growth without derailing development strategies. There is a need to look beyond and not to lose sight of social impact of the crisis to vulnerable groups. Economic recovery must be accompanied by social development and social cohesion, but more coordinated responses are needed to facilitate recovery .</p>	<p>The guiding principles of GTZ's response to the crisis in Asia region have included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A new development paradigm to address the crisis (socially balanced development)</li> <li>2. Strengthening of the domestic (and regional) economies and the removal of structural barriers to intra-Asian trade;</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4. The stabilization of domestic demand through the expansion of social security systems; and</li> <li>5. The continuation of efforts to prevent and mitigate adverse impacts of climate change.</li> </ol> <p>The crisis requires joint and co-ordinated response by states, civil society actors and international community. Co-operation at national and regional levels is beneficial. The crisis helps to re-focus sectors that are of central importance for long-term and equitable growth: education, health, social protection.</p>
Ms. Michaela Prokop, UNDP Indonesia	<p>Most countries in Asia have responded with fiscal stimulus packages, however, support mechanisms for the vulnerable - while having increased- are still fragmented and piecemeal - partly also because information about most vulnerable is still missing for better targeting of social protection schemes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The global economic crisis presents a case for renewed multilateralism - it requires concerted, global solutions. Inadequate international coordination does not only endanger economic recovery but the achievement of MDGs.</li> <li>2. The measures proposed at the UN summit on the Financial and Economic Crisis of June 2009 are set in a frame of longer term actions to tackle climate change and other environmental threats.</li> <li>3. Commission of Experts recommended a number of counter-cyclical measures of stimulus and called on countries to hold back on protectionist actions and to introduce greater regulation over financial and other markets</li> </ol>

Presenter	Assessment of ASEAN's Response to the Crisis	Agency Responses and Recommendations
Dr. Alexander Chandra, Senior Policy Adviser on ASEAN	ASEAN is still too economic in nature. Its relative openness to engagement with CSOs has occurred only in the last four to five years.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What can be done to bridge the ideological divide between ASEAN and CSOs?</li> <li>2. How can CSOs get a collective response inclusive of the people in the region? How can the commitment of CSOs be pursued at the regional level?</li> <li>3. How can it assist ASEAN to give more commitment to economic integration for regional economic resilience?</li> </ol>

The plenary following the presentations yielded the following insights and ideas:

**On the problem of unregulated capital and financial markets:** The crisis is traced as emerging from two major causes: (1) Business moguls lacking in social consciousness and concern for the customer; and (2) The lack of regulation of financial products / the irresponsibility in sales of products and services. Governance failed to address these issues i then and now. This may not be the last crisis the world will experience. Policy makers cannot afford to be complacent. As still the most dynamic region, ASEAN can capitalize on it as a chance to articulate potentials for regional integration, to make it more resilient to shocks from the global economy.



The region can begin to strengthen ASEAN mechanisms for more effective risk management. More importantly, ASEAN should not lose sight of the development aspect of the crisis. Part of the integration that has to happen in addition to the integration of ASEAN economies is the integration between the social and the economic aspects. ASEAN has traditionally focused on predominantly economic agenda but in the past four to five years, it has opened the arena for dialogues on social development issues.

**On fiscal stimulus packages:** The World Bank, which has given prescriptions (that did not work, as viewed by some sectors) in 1997, is currently working more closely with governments in the micro-level (meaning, household level) use of this instrument.



**On liberalized trading in the region:** Liberalized trading directly affects the vulnerable sectors. The more a government gives, the more the entitlements are taken away from the poor. For the fisherfolk sector, this has translated into widespread displacement in coastal communities. Unfortunately, liberalized trading is inevitable in ASEAN. The challenge is to increase efforts among the social sectors to promote policies for the protection of labor standards and the rights of vulnerable groups. There has to be conscious efforts to balance the impact of trade liberalization.

**On the proposal of GTZ to create a favorable socio-democratic environment for other countries:** (Does this also mean the inclusion of this agenda in the bilateral trade agreements?) Germany would still try to push the agenda but it is not something that can be put up at the moment without first consulting the others on the details of long-term planning.



**On the "ASEAN Voices in Crisis,"** which was defined by the High-Level Forum on Reducing Vulnerability in the Face of Crisis held in February this year in Jakarta, Indonesia as the initiative to be led by the ASEAN Secretariat to gather, publicize, and disseminate the perspectives and voices of ASEAN citizens who are facing the crisis: The ASEAN Secretariat is aware of this

commitment but has not yet started a plan since the focus right now is in trying to formulate the right interventions to the financial crisis. and in looking at the ASEAN countries individually in terms of helping them effectively implement social protection schemes.



**On the coordination between and among ASEAN divisions in strengthening the call for a more caring community:** ASEAN is walking on three uneven legs, with the economic leg growing faster than the rest. It is a challenge to make ASEAN stand upon the equal strengths of its three divisions, but progress has been seen to move towards this direction. It would help to hoist the social development agenda on national partnerships as building blocks to regional cooperation. It is more difficult to pursue regional cooperation when national-level partnerships are inexistent or weak.

### **WORKSHOP 1: Defining people-centered programs and policies to respond to financial crisis in the context of other challenges (e.g. food crisis, climate change, labor issues)**

The participants were grouped into four, namely: the agricultural sector (farmers, fishers, indigenous peoples), migrant workers and labor, consumers, and small and medium enterprises. The workshop groups were asked to identify the good policies and programs that are in place or that are being done, the policy and program gaps, and recommended policies and programs. After the plenary presentations, the following questions for clarification were raised:



**On the report of the migrant workers' group:** (Is the lack of detailed plan a conscious decision to leave it at that level?) The discussion focused on how to operationalize the framework. It was agreed to have a series of national consultations to look at the framework to pinpoint areas where there can be concrete cooperation.

**On the report of the consumers' group:** We need a policy recommendation to prevent another crisis from happening again, particularly with regard to the regulation of the financial market. Also, we need to raise the question about the effectiveness of stimulus packages for developing countries. These should not be loans but grants, since it was them who created the crisis in the first place.

**On the report of Regional Economic Coordination/CMIM group:** There is the concern about regional coordination which is still related to the supra-national interventions. There is a recommendation to strengthen the domestic economy to insulate the vulnerable sectors from shocks. What regional cooperation can be done to avoid beggar-thy-neighbor practices, specifically



on taxation and exchange rate practices? Very specific proposals are not at hand right now but this question will have to be addressed.

AsiaDHRRA convened a small group to consolidate the recommendations and to come up with a consensus document of recommendations, for presentation in the dialogue on the second day.

## **DIALOGUE WITH REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES**

The plenary reviewed and approved the draft “CSO Recommendations to Effectively Address the Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis to the Vulnerable Sectors in the ASEAN Region.” The document called for a thorough examination of the global financial system and the formulation of a new global financial architecture that is fair, transparent, has development agenda, and resilient to crisis shocks. The document outlines six clusters of recommendations and specifies the CSO commitment to work together to make their

governments, ASEAN, and other international bodies to be responsive to the needs of the poor and the marginalized.

The panel discussants affirmed the CSO recommendations as having significantly covered the main points raised during the forum. However, all of them called for more targeted, specific recommendations that will immediately instruct agencies on very concrete, sustainable points of actions to take at different levels. Toward this end, the following suggestions to sharpen the draft were put forward:

### **From the ASEAN Secretariat**

- Come up with a snapshot report in preparation for the G20 meet in October, towards the further strengthening of ASEAN's role in the G20;
- Work towards having healthy partnerships at the national level which the ASEAN considers as building blocks to regional cooperation.

### **From GTZ**

- Further strengthen recommendations about the stimulus package and financing for social protection to ensure that the social sector is not left behind;
- Further encourage ASEAN itself to have a better policy coordination mechanism to make sure its three pillars meet;
- Encourage ASEAN to engage CSOs on the non-traditional security issues.



### **From Oxfam**

- Have a stronger focus and impact on women.
- Further put details on the Importance of CSOs in direct and indirect monitoring.
- Continue to raise the systemic nature of issues; do not get stuck in sectoral discussions. We need to be conscious about the tensions in the UN processes. We need to continue discussing systemic issues in the global economy.
- Further develop the proposal on what form of economic development must take place to move away from export-driven development
- Further pursue proposals on how to encourage stronger accountability.

In particular, what can be expected from those who are less affected?



### From World Bank

- Add more about the MDG.
- In terms of presentation of proposals, distinguish between micro and macro, preventive and responsive action. Outline the broad issues and break them down into concrete proposals.

### From UNDP

- Make a powerful comment on what the agencies should work to change in an informed and useful way.
- Prioritize the calls for action.
- The engines of institutions work very slowly, so be very practical with the recommendations.

Ms. Ramirez concluded the plenary with the note that the planning session that will follow will clarify how the CSOs will proceed in coordinating with ASEAN. The emergence of consensus points is already a positive step forward, and the recommendations put forward by agencies are taken as useful guidelines and guidance in the on-going dialogue between and among the CSOs, the international agencies, and the ASEAN.

## SUMMARY OF ACTION PLANS

The workshop to plan for actions to move the Draft CSO Recommendations forward were divided into the following groups: Agricultural Sector, Labor and Migration Sector, Democratizing CSO Participation in the Improvement and Implementation of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009 to 2015, and Strengthening Regional Economic Coordination (CMIM).

The workshops identified priority policy issues, concrete action points, and support needed at the national, regional and interna-



tional levels. Questions for clarification were raised in the plenary that followed.

Ms. Esther Banzuela, the workshop facilitator, identified the following four categories of recommendations or action points emerging from the sectoral plans:



1. Strengthening mechanisms for dialogue at all levels, which includes, among others: information sharing and updating, opening up spaces for participatory, consultative regional dialogues that also find concrete expressions at the national levels;
2. Putting mechanisms for monitoring initiatives and agreements at all levels;
3. Establishing/strengthening regional networks/linking groups from different clusters; and
4. Using international conventions and agreements signed by member-countries to put the issues forward. At the national levels, there are concrete recommendations especially for the finance and migrant sectors.
5. Concrete steps to be taken following this forum includes the finalization of the CSO declaration, documentation of the conference, and the convening of ad hoc groups and meetings when necessary.

## CLOSING CEREMONIES

In behalf of the workshop delegates, Mr. Glen Ymata, who initially thought it would not be possible to come up with a consensus document, affirmed that the formulation of a common declaration is the most significant indicator of the success of this forum.

Mr. Khamkhan Pinsavanh, Chairman of the ASEAN Senior Officers Meeting for Labor and Migration Issues (SLOM) and Director General of Labour Management of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao PDR, gave the closing remarks. He expressed: "We were brought together by the common intention to work together to promote a regional cooperation that will support the vulnerable sectors in the region. We collectively sought regional solutions and strategies to make the vulnerable sectors stronger and more resistant to crisis, and I am thankful for all the insights generated in the exchanges.

Each of us will bring home the recommendations to convey to our respective governments. I express my heartfelt thanks and appreciate the on to the team that organized this conference.”

Ms. Sudaporn Sittisatapornkul, Chairperson of AFA, gave the closing message. She expressed appreciation and affirmation of the continuing efforts to ensure that the vulnerable sectors will no longer be as pained and disempowered by the financial crisis, and that with the growing trust-based relationships between and among ASEAN, CSOs, and international agencies, a new regional economic paradigm might soon emerge that is fairer, more equitable, more transparent, and less prone to future shocks from the global economy.

Before closing the event, Ms. Ramirez expressed appreciation to Oxfam Hongkong and GTZ for their funding support towards the conference, to UNI-Apro and ASETUC and their team for the resources extended to the conference and the effective logistical support. She thanked the active participation of the Senior Officers of ASEAN and the warm support of the ASEAN Secretariat. Due recognition was given to the conference secretariat team from AsiaDHRRA and all volunteers from among the delegates. She recognized the valuable presence of international donors and agencies and finally she thanked all delegates for their openness and active participation.

With these notes, the forum was drawn to a close.





## Conference Statement

### **CSO RECOMMENDATIONS TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE IMPACT OF THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS ON THE VULNERABLE SECTORS IN THE ASEAN REGION**

We, representatives from civil society organizations of women and men migrant workers from the formal, informal and labor sectors, small-scale farmers, fishers, indigenous peoples, agricultural workers, consumers, academe and non-government organizations from the ASEAN region, gathered at the “Regional Conference on the Impact of Financial and Economic Crisis on Vulnerable Sectors of the Region: Civil Society Voices and ASEAN” held in Jakarta, Indonesia on July 28-29, 2009 wish to register the following recommendations to ASEAN and other intergovernmental bodies:

1. We acknowledge that the global economic and financial crisis is a recurrent event that creates havoc on the livelihoods and welfare of many communities, especially the most vulnerable sectors. The crisis has been addressed through partial reforms, stimulus packages and bail outs. To prevent or mitigate future crises, we need a thorough re-examination of the global financial system and the formulation of the corresponding systemic, institutional reforms. We need to put in place a new global financial architecture that is fair and transparent, that has a development agenda and that is responsive to shocks. Reforms will include sound regulation of capital and financial markets including the need to control excessive flows and high risk leverage and regulate various financial products( e.g. sub-prime loans and credit cards). There, too, should be proper and timely disclosure of information on the advantages/disadvantages of financial products. A charter for the responsible sale of financial products should be developed.

2. We acknowledge ASEAN's effort to seek solutions to the financial crisis alongside the rest of the world through participation in the UN system and other multilateral mechanisms. We encourage ASEAN to take a more active positioning as a regional block in defining an integrated and sustainable global solution to systemic crisis and in its commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). We also encourage ASEAN to make use of the Outcome Document of the UN World Conference on Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact to Development.
3. We take note of the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015, particularly the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, and the need for it to be reviewed in the context of the financial crisis and other systemic crisis with meaningful participation of all stakeholders including CSOs and social movements. Moreover, we ask ASEAN to strengthen the organizational set-up and communication systems between and among the three pillars of ASEAN for greater coordination.
4. We recognize the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation as a necessary instrument to tackle the crisis. We call on ASEAN and the ASEAN Member States to advance the process further with wider and meaningful participation of CSOs.
5. We recognize the need to strengthen regional cooperation on finance. Towards this we encourage ASEAN to, among others:
  - a. Discuss fiscal cooperation measures so as to avoid unhealthy competition or "beggar thy neighbor" practices such as tax competition (granting of over generous fiscal incentives and lowering of marginal income tax rates) and exchange rate competition among member countries (even as we uphold the need for ASEAN Member States to have competitive exchange rates).
  - b. Given the uneven development of ASEAN Member States, provide national space for each member to manage its macro-economy and devise its own instruments for monetary, trade and industrial policies. Furthermore, ASEAN should assist its member states in protecting this national policy space amidst various threats from unfair trade and loan agreements.
  - c. ASEAN needs to formulate its own payment and settlement system for intra-regional trade.

6. Realizing that the global financial crisis has seriously affected the poor and vulnerable sectors, we call on ASEAN and its member states to act in a more solid and integrated approach in responding to their concrete concerns. Towards this end, we propose the following recommendations:
- a. Uphold and strengthen the rights of women, labor, migrant workers, farmers, fishers, indigenous peoples, and consumers in accordance with UN and ILO standards and help them gain full access to natural and productive resources (mainly land, waters, seas, and seeds), as well as financial, credit, physical and technical resources aimed to eventually uplift their socio-economic conditions.
  - b. Promote social dialogue to develop practical strategy based on true social partnership between employers and trade unions giving full respect and dignity befitting a partner.
  - c. Initiate a social dialogue among the labor movements to introduce decent minimum wage to avoid the widening of income gap.
  - d. Implement the economic / fiscal stimulus packages in a coordinated approach that will promote the development agenda of vulnerable sectors, save and create decent and stable jobs, and give a comprehensive social protection program and safety net measures such as cash transfer programs, emergency relief, crop insurance, free basic education and reproductive health care, irrigation, farm to market roads, access to affordable food, generic medicines and basic necessities. The stimulus fund should be sufficient, well-timed, well-targeted and insulated from corruption and partisan politics. In this regard, transparency and accountability mechanisms must be put in place.
  - e. Strengthen the ASEAN Integrated Framework for Food Security-Strategic Plan of Action (AIFFS-SPA) which puts small scale men and women farmers, fishers and indigenous peoples at the center and focus the investments to supporting sustainable agriculture and fisheries.
  - f. Enhance the rights of migrant workers to ensure their freedom of movement and include the protective clause in MOU/ MOA part of the contract for migrant workers
  - g. Fast track the ASEAN commitment on generic medicine.

7. We recognize the need for a collaborative response among various stakeholders through a platform of continuing dialogue between and among CSO representatives, ASEAN leaders, and development stakeholders. We call on ASEAN and its member states to uphold the voices of the people by democratizing the space for CSO participation both at the regional and national levels. We ask ASEAN to establish mechanisms for more inclusive and participatory consultative and decision-making processes such as tripartite agreements for labor standards, an ASEAN Small Rural Producers Council, among others. We urge ASEAN to support existing mechanisms such as the ASEAN Social Forum and the ASEAN Civil Society Conference to be more effective as platforms for meaningful dialogue and cooperation.

## OUR COMMITMENTS

We, the civil society participants in this Conference, are committed to working together with various international agencies, donor partners and relevant ASEAN bodies to make our governments, ASEAN and other intergovernmental bodies to be responsive to the needs of the poor and marginalised. Along this, we have agreed to work on priority targets and action plans in the next five months and immediate future, as contained in Consolidated Conference Action Plans.

We will continue our efforts to make ASEAN and the ASEAN Member States --our governments--accountable to the needs of the region's peoples through constructive and principled engagement in various ASEAN processes and monitoring of ASEAN's work.

We will intensify our efforts in empowering local communities to contribute towards and benefit from sustainable development efforts in the region.

## Registered Participating Organizations

Farmer Sector:	Asian Farmers Association For Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)
Fisherfolk Sector:	Southeast Asia Fisherfolks for Justice (SEAFISH)
Indigenous People:	Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)
Trade Union:	Union Network International – Asia Pacific Regional Organizations (UNI-APRO)
	ASEAN Service Employees Trade Union Council (ASETUC)
	Building and Woodworker International (BWI)
	Public Service International (PSI)

Women:	Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)
Consumer:	YKLI
Business / SME:	BINASWADAYA
Academe/ Research:	Trade Knowledge Network (TKN)
Regional CSOs:	Agribusiness Accountability Initiative (AAI) Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in East Asia Pacific (ANSA-EAP) ASEAN Peoples Center/ Human Rights Working Group (APC/HRWG) Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Areas (AsiaDHRRRA) Focus on the Global South Southeast Asian Council for Food Security and Fair Trade (SEACON) Third World Network (TWN)
National-based CSOs:	
Indonesia:	Binadesa KIARA VECO
Laos:	Community Development and Environment Asso (CDEA)
Myanmar:	Food Security Working Group-Ever Green Group
Philippines:	Action for Economic Reform (AER)
Vietnam:	VietDHRRRA-Center for Agricultural Extension Volunteers
Donor Community:	AusAid FES - Indonesia GTZ - Thailand; GTZ - Indonesia OXFAM Hongkong; OXFAM Great Britain; OXFAM Australia
Intergovernmental Bodies /Bank	FAO Jakarta UNDP Indonesia WB Indonesia
ASEAN Member States	
<i>SLOM Focal Point representatives (Senior Officers for Labor and Migration)</i>	
Cambodia:	Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MLVT); International Cooperation Department

Lao PDR: Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Malaysia: Ministry of Human Resources; Employment Services Division,  
Labour Dept of Peninsular Malaysia; Labour Policy Division

Thailand: Ministry of Labour; Planning & Information Division, Department of Employment

Vietnam: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

*SOMRDPE representatives: (Senior Officers Meeting for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication)*

Cambodia: Ministry of Rural Development

Lao PDR: The Prime Minister Office  
Division of Administration and Finance, The Committee For Rural Development and Poverty Eradication

ASEAN Secretariat: Finance Cooperation Division  
Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Department

ASEAN Foundation



# Action Plans

## AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

### 1. Priority Policy Agenda

- a. Create and strengthen mechanisms for dialogue and consultation between CSOs and government, at the national and regional levels, towards the ASEAN Summit.
- b. Address food security issues through the development of mechanisms for fair trade system.
- c. Farmers, fishers and CSOs are able to present their positions /views / recommendations to the new cabinet of Indonesia.

### 2. Concrete Action points

- a. Conduct of national round table discussions on regional policy frameworks, e.g. the ASEAN Integrated Framework on Food Security (AIFS) and Regional Trade Agreements
- b. Request for CSO participation during key ASEAN events and conduct various lobbying activities (e.g. parallel CSO consultations, position paper on the AIFS, etc.)
  - ASEAN Day (August 8)
  - 2. Special SOM-30th AMAF (Senior Officials Meeting -ASEAN Minister of Agriculture and Forestry) (August 11-13, Ho Chi Minh City)
  - SOM-31st AMAF (October 2009, Brunei Darussalam)
  - 15th ASEAN Summit (October 2009, Phuket)
- c. Conduct lobbying efforts during key international events with implications on Agriculture
  - WTO-Ministerial Meeting, December 2009
  - COP 15 Kopenhagen, 5-12 December 2009
  - UN-FAO World Food Summit, November 2009
  - Bangkok UNFCC Inter-session Meeting, September 2009

### 3. Support Needed

- a. Information facilitation from ASEAN Secretariat related to ASEAN Activities (e.g. agenda of meeting, working documents, etc)
- b. ASEC to facilitate the request of CSO for participation in ASEAN activities particularly the ASEAN Summit and SOM-AMAF activities
- c. Coordination support from Rural Development Working Group (RDWG) on activities related to SOM-AMAF
- d. Coordination support from ASEAN Peoples' Forum (APF) and Thai working group for the 15th ASEAN Summit in Thailand.

## LABOR AND MIGRATION SECTOR

### 1. Priority Policy Agenda

- a. National Level
  - Make mandatory/ compulsory the possession of passport, ID, visa, and work permit by migrant worker/employee at all times
  - Improve access of labor to vocational trainings and skills development opportunities by government and employer, including the discussion on who will bear expenses
  - Sending countries to ensure accuracy of documents issued to workers through systematized database
  - Structured dialogue among worker representatives of financial institutes and supervising bodies on the basic issues affecting the financial sector e.g. extensive outsourcing of core financing business, minimum wage, charters for responsible sale of financial products to be developed by each financial institution and to be agreed between management, unions, and other stakeholders
- b. Regional level
  - Bilateral meeting (between sending and receiving country), foreign affairs meeting, ASEAN level meeting on standardizing implementation of the above-mentioned mandatory requirement.
  - Conduct of social dialogue among supervising bodies of ASEAN countries, workers of financial institutes with Ministries of Finance and multinational staff.
- c. International Level
  - Dialogue between UN, WB representatives and workers, CSOs, multinational staff on
  - the agreements related to labor and migration signed by ASEAN governments towards harmonizing international and regional agreements.

## 2. Concrete Activities

- a. Preparation of policy papers
- b. Conduct of national and regional consultations
- c. Conduct of lobbying activities both at national and regional levels
- d. Creation of watchdog that will oversee the progress of various proposed recommendations on labor and migration

## 3. Support Needed

1. Information facilitation from ASEAN Secretariat related to ASEAN Activities (e.g. agenda of meeting, working documents, etc).
2. ASEC to facilitate the request of CSO for participation in ASEAN activities particularly on activities related to labor and Migration.

# **ACTION PLAN ON STRENGTHENING REGIONAL ECONOMIC COORDINATION / CHIANG MAI INITIATIVE ON MULTILATERALISM (CMIM)**

## 1. Priority Policy Agenda

- a. National Level
  - Creation of national focal points for monitoring Economic Stimulus Packages (ESPs) / Financial Stimulus packages (FSPs)
- b. Regional Level
  - Set up third party monitoring mechanism for the Chiang Mai Initiative & Asian Bonds Market
  - Create working groups on:
    - Regional Framework on Financial Products & Services
    - Addressing unhealthy competition (tax & exchange rate competition)
    - Integrate appropriate recommendations from the Outcome document of UN Conference on Financial and Economic Crisis on Development to key ASEAN policy papers and program of action

## 2. Concrete Action Points

- a. National level
  - Conduct of national consultations / fora on status of various ESPs / FSPs
  - Identification of national focal points that will monitor the ESPs / FSPs

b. Regional level

- Establish regional list-serve as platform for sharing the monitoring results of various ESPs / FSPs
- Conduct of various processes (consultations, dialogues, preparation of papers) leading to the creation of third party monitoring mechanism for CMIM
- Conduct of various processes leading towards the creation of a Working Group on Regional Framework on Financial Products and Services and the addressing of unhealthy competition
- Conduct a technical study on intra- regional system for payments and settlements for trade and services
- Conduct of CSO-led regional consultation to move forward the proposals found in the Outcome Document of the UN conference on Financial and Economic Crisis on Development ( e.g. participation in discussions, presentation of statement/recommendations)

### 3. Support Needed

a. Funding support to:

- Organize national consultations / fora on status of ESPs / FSPs
- Conduct regional consultations on the Outcome Document of the UN conference on Financial and Economic Crisis on Development
- Conduct monitoring of various ESPs / FSPs
- Conduct technical study on intra-regional system for payments and settlements for trade and services

b. Link with academe and research institutes related to the conduct of monitoring ESPs/FSPs and the technical study on intra-regional systems for payment and settlements

c. Information facilitation from ASEAN Secretariat on status of CMIM

# **ACTION PLAN ON DEMOCRATIZING CSO PARTICIPATION IN THE IMPROVEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROADMAP FOR AN ASEAN COMMUNITY 2009-2015**

## **1. Priority Policy Agenda**

- a. National Level
  - Strengthen the linkage between national CSOs and ASEAN to bring down regional concerns/issues to national level and incorporate the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint to national development agenda
  - Establish a national crisis response team in each ASEAN Member State to monitor the progress of implementation of policy responses to the crisis
- b. Regional Level
  - Establish platforms for dialogue between ASEAN and civil society that are sustainable and not limited to ASEAN-affiliated organizations
  - Make the progress report of the ASCC Blueprint available to public

## **2. Concrete Activities**

1. National Level
  - Monitor the social impact of the crisis at national level in response to the London Summit Communique by making use / validating the report of international organizations i.e. WB, UNDP, ADB.
2. Regional Level
  - ASEC to convey the Conference's recommendations to the relevant ASEAN Bodies for their attention and response based on the final document provided by the co-organizers of the regional conference
  - Civil society to study and review the relevant actions under the ASEAN Roadmap for an ASEAN Community (i.e. Blueprints) in relation to their identified priority agenda.

## **3. Support needed**

- Mechanisms of dialogue and information exchange through electronic and/or other means.
- ASEAN to strengthen and widen the existing dialogue forums, e.g. ASEAN Social Forum, by having the participation of CSOs be determined by civil society, not by the governments, to ensure effective representation.

## Afterword

**Filomeno Sta. Ana**  
**Executive Director, Action for Economic Reform**

The Jakarta conference titled “The Impact of the Global Economic and Financial Crisis on the Vulnerable Sectors in the Region” (July 2009) is a milestone in the still developing partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and civil society.

Rarely can we find a joint activity at the regional level hosted by both the ASEAN and civil society organizations (CSOs). The prevailing practice is for both parties to have separate or parallel activities. Cooperation takes the form of one party inviting the other to be an observer or a guest speaker in a public event like a conference. Interface occurs during ASEAN summits, but the interaction is ritualistic.

CSOs have usually complained about ASEAN’s indifference to civil society positions, even treating them as insignificant inputs. Authorities are suspicious of civil society organizations—in the extreme, seen as non-compromising, non-accountable rabble-rousers.



Complicating matters is the fact that civil society itself does not speak with one coherent voice, given the diversity of its interests and political or ideological persuasions.

ASEAN officials on the other hand feel that civil society treats it as an adversary although admittedly both parties differ on many issues. Nevertheless, having differing positions, no matter how fundamental, does not necessarily mean having an adversarial or antagonistic relationship.

But inevitably, the two parties have recognized the need for tighter collaboration. The joint conference on the global crisis exemplifies this emerging trend. Notwithstanding the basic differences between the ASEAN officials (those representing the status quo) and progressive CSOs (those seeking alternatives and transformation), they objectively face common issues and problems. Issues that affect everyone—either public goods or public bads—compel government and non-government organizations to undertake common action.

International economic crises, climate change, natural calamities, environmental disasters, and the spread of contagious diseases are examples of public bads that cannot solely be addressed by national governments. We have seen coordinated action at the supra-national level to tackle these public bads. ASEAN exists precisely as an institution for collective action.

What is encouraging is that the coordinated action is no longer limited to the role of governments, ASEAN and other multilateral groups. CSOs are now actively engaged in regional concerns, to the extent that they have partnered with the bilaterals and multilaterals. Illustrating this is the partnership of governments and civil society in organizing the Jakarta conference to address the impact of the most recent global economic crisis on ASEAN's vulnerable sectors.

The significance then of the Jakarta conference is that it has paved the way for the strengthening of the partnership between civil society and ASEAN. It is one big step towards institutionalizing such partnership. If only for the fact that such crises are likely to recur (especially considering that the regulatory or institutional reforms have yet to take root), the cooperation between governments and civil society organizations has to be long-term and strategic.

But equally significant is how civil society and ASEAN have forged agreements on many positions pertaining to the crisis. The conference's outcome—specifically the recommendations and action plan—is a product of inputs and comments from ASEAN senior staff, government officials, and civil society representatives. Surprisingly, the conference was not marred by

contentious debate, indicating a convergence of views, at least in relation to the response to the global crisis.

Notable, too, is how progressive civil society organizations have accepted the soundness of some ASEAN initiatives that were once questioned. Take, for example, the statement from civil society that “the Chiang Mai Initiative [is] a necessary instrument to tackle the crisis. We call on ASEAN and the ASEAN Member States to advance the process further with wider and meaningful participation of CSOs.”

At the time the Chiang Mai Initiative (CMI) was introduced, many CSOs were skeptical. They looked at the CMI as no different from a neo-liberal approach that was then the prevailing model. They thought that the CMI was severely constrained by IMF (International Monetary Fund) rules. And they criticized the CMI process for being elitist or exclusivist.

It is indeed a welcome development that many CSOs in the region now have a constructive approach vis-à-vis regional economic integration. This stems from the realization that supra-national intervention and cooperation are necessary to address the public bads and promote the public goods, which affect for better or for worse the national citizens of every ASEAN member.

We can likewise argue that the advocacy of those who adopt a nationalist or a one-country outlook can benefit from regional cooperation or coordinated action. The CSO statement for the Jakarta conference emphasizes the need to resist “beggar thy neighbor practices.” These are policies and activities that supposedly benefit one nation but at the expense of another country. But in truth, some of these practices make all countries worse off.

A good example is the tax competition among countries, like the granting of fiscal incentives or the lowering of marginal tax rates to attract foreign investments. In truth, everyone is hurt. The lowering of taxes becomes a race to the bottom. Huge revenues are foregone, with developing countries prone to budget deficits suffering most.

To move to another example, it is an understatement to say that the issue of freer regional trade is controversial. Trade between nations may theoretically result in net welfare gains. But opposition arises from the transition costs, especially the losses borne by the vulnerable or marginalized sectors.

The adequate compensation for losers, the provision of sustainable livelihoods or jobs, and the institutionalization of fair rules and outcomes are absolutely necessary conditions to make freer regional trade arrangements

become politically and socially acceptable. Having secured these necessary requisites, we can have an open mind about how regional trade can serve the interests of the nation and its people. To elaborate, regional trade arrangements translate into larger markets, thus enhancing investments and jobs, thus mitigating absolute poverty. A regional bloc can likewise be conducive to developing a national industrial policy that benefits from the expanded market and the complementarities of member countries.

The examples above—avoiding adverse tax competition and freer but fair regional trade illustrate the point that nationalism can gain from supra-national (regional) cooperation. Nationalism's objective of providing the maximum benefits for the citizens of one nation, including the marginalized or the vulnerable, is served.

But even as we grant that ASEAN economic integration is irreversible, thus necessitating binding rules at the regional level, the CSOs as well as ASEAN are emphatic about safeguarding national sovereignty. To quote the CSO statement: The ASEAN must "provide national space for each member to manage its macro-economy and devise its own instruments for monetary, trade and industrial policies. Furthermore, ASEAN should assist its member states in protecting this national policy space amidst various threats from unfair trade and loan agreements."

The challenge is how to forward regional integration while upholding the sovereignty of member-states and recognizing the demands of national citizens, which national governments do not necessarily attend to.

The CSO-ASEAN conference gave particular attention to the global economic crisis's impact on the vulnerable sectors. Hence, the set of recommendations is strong with respect to social protection and safety nets, protection of jobs, and poverty targeting. Recommendations have been formulated that address particular concerns of the formal and informal workers, migrant workers, the rural poor, the indigenous peoples, and the women.

Admittedly, the list of recommendations is long and can be unwieldy. Here, we also take into account the positions adopted by CSOs in the February 2009 ASEAN People's Forum in Bangkok.

The 2009 People's Forum, however, was not focused on the global economic recession. This was surprising, for the assembly was held in the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s. The economic crisis was a main topic in the Forum, but it was tackled together with other pressing development problems—food security, energy and environment, labor and migration, peace, human rights, and democracy. In short, the Forum was too comprehensive that it missed an opportunity to sharpen and

deepen the discussion on the worldwide recession, which was the burning issue of the day.

The Jakarta conference on the global crisis was thus a critical follow-through of the 2009 ASEAN People's Forum and the official ASEAN summit in order to process and articulate the joint concerns of ASEAN and CSOs with regard to the developmental impact of the global crisis. Of course, the limitation is that the conference's recommendations are not binding to the ASEAN members. Civil society consensus is also limited since participation in the Jakarta conference did not match the number of participants in the annual People's Forums.

Yet, the participants in the Jakarta conference represent a fair sample of the key constituencies of ASEAN. Those who took part in the conference included the senior staff in the ASEAN secretariat, the multilateral donor institutions, national ministries, development-oriented non-governmental organizations, and labor unions in the industrial, service and rural sectors. This is to say that the conference's recommendations have the potential to influence public opinion and policy.

We hope that the concerned ASEAN agencies and the CSOs involved in the Jakarta conference will take the next step of identifying the focal issues. The problems are many, but limited time and resources force us to distinguish between tackling the main obstacles and the secondary ones. Similarly, our response must differentiate the immediate interventions from the medium-term and longer-term reforms. Moreover, we have to smooth out possible contradictions or balance the tradeoffs arising from the multifarious positions.

In a similar vein, we need to sort out the recommendations and determine the appropriate location of intervention. Some recommendations are more appropriate to be addressed at the national level, rather than at the ASEAN level. For example, the design and monitoring of stimulus packages and social protection programs are best done nationally and locally.

The stress given by the conference to addressing the plight of vulnerable sectors is noteworthy. Coupled with its partnering with CSOs, ASEAN has shown its responsiveness to integrating demands from below. Gradually, positions originating from CSOs and grassroots groups are finding their way in the policy process towards greater ASEAN integration. ASEAN likewise benefits from this, not just for the enrichment of policy but also for institutional strengthening in terms of legitimacy and accountability.

Yet, we have a long way to go. For if we want the voices of peoples to be heard, our concerns and recommendations have to go beyond the parameters of the impact of the global economic crisis on ASEAN's vulnerable sectors.

We begin with the premise that policy intervention vis-à-vis the sectoral effects of the crisis would require having the correct information about the problems and needs of the vulnerable sectors. We cannot assume however that governments have all the information and have all the answers to the problems. Worse, some governments in the region are unaccountable and illegitimate.

In this case, the ASEAN can become a vehicle to let the voices from below flourish. But this likewise means that the ASEAN and the CSOs must commit themselves to cultivate a culture of transparency, accountability and responsiveness.

Continuing the dialogue and the partnership—like the conference on the impact of the global economic crisis on ASEAN's vulnerable sectors—is a means to promote voice and to foster openness and accountability.

Finally, we must be aware of the risk that this initiative of addressing the impact of the global crisis on ASEAN's vulnerable sectors might fade away once the global economic recovery sets in.

We must remind ourselves that the recurrence of economic crises with contagion effects is real. This arises from the sad fact that the long-term institutional reforms to mitigate if not avert systemic crises are not yet in place.

We must likewise reiterate the view that the causes and effects of the global crisis are related to fundamental questions on growth and development that each one of us has grappled with since time immemorial. The problems and issues that we have contended with since time immemorial remain. The global crisis magnified these problems

# Annexes



# Opening Remarks

## **Dr. Donald Tambunan, Head of Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division, ASEAN Secretariat**

*Mr. Khamkhane Phinsavanh, Director General, Labour Management, Ministry of Labour & Social Welfare, Lao PDR, cum Chair of the ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM);*

*Ms. Marlene Ramirez, Secretary General of AsiaDHRRA;*

*Mr. Christopher Ng, Regional Secretary of UNI-Apro;*

*Mr. Alberto Emilio Yuson, BWI, AP Regional Secretary;*

*Distinguished representatives of Government and Civil Societies from ASEAN Member States, and International Organisations;*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Good morning,

First of all, let me express my profound gratitude to the Organiser for inviting me to deliver the message at the Opening Ceremony of this Conference. I am honoured to be present in this Conference which provides a platform for many ASEAN stakeholders-civil societies and government officials, and also international communities, to share their views and thoughts, and update each others on what has been doing or has to be done in response to the current global economic downturn.



As we all know, the present global and financial crisis has hit hard both developed and developing countries in many parts of the world. ASEAN region is not immune to this. Given its high trade dependence on the United States, Japan and Europe, Southeast Asia appears to be among the most vulnerable regions of the world and that growth in the region will decelerate significantly as a result of the crisis.

Since the crisis intensified in September 2008, the outlook for global economy continued to deteriorate. The April 2009 World Economic Outlook report by the IMF still points to further deceleration in growth this year, as forecasts are subsequently downgraded further. World economic growth is now projected to contract by 1.3% (compared to a positive growth of 0.5% predicted in January 2009). As expected, the developed economies will remain in the doldrums. In fact, recent forecasts also point to further contraction in growth in these markets (-3.8%), with the most severe downturn now expected in Japan (-6.2%), Euro area (-4.2%), and the United States (-2.8%). Note that these figures represent further deterioration in outlook compared to the January 2009 forecasts. Global trade – which is the most direct channel by which the crisis has affected countries in the world – is projected to contract further by 11%.

In ASEAN, economic prospects also remain less upbeat. Reflecting the continued deterioration in global economy, latest forecasts indicate that ASEAN economic growth this year will slow down further to 1.9%, compared to 2.7% growth projected in January 2009. This is confirmed by GDP results in first quarter 2009. In Singapore, for example, real GDP growth in the first quarter contracted by 11.5%, prompting the government to further revise downward its full-year (2009) economic growth forecast to between -9% and -6%, from -5% and -2%. In Thailand, real GDP growth also shrank by 7.1%, the steepest decline since the 1997/98 crisis. In Indonesia, while growth in the first quarter still remains positive at 4.4%, this also marks a deceleration from 6.2% growth registered during the same period in 2008.

The crisis has led to multi-dimensional impacts in the ASEAN region such as the tightening of access to finance, and a sharp drop in export demand seriously affecting the production networks, bringing factory closings and massive layoffs.

The UNDP estimates that the number of unemployed in the ASEAN region could reach 94 million in 2009, while 60 million more people in the region are likely to be pushed into poverty this year. The current crisis, in addition to the recent food and fuel price volatility, would seriously affect the poor and the vulnerable. In addition, it will also have serious and long-term gender-related consequences for women and their families in the region.

The global economic downturn could also mean that 2009 could be the first year since the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were launched in which poverty at the global level, ASEAN region included, will not be reduced but instead it will increase. It would not only push more people into poverty but certainly weaken health, education, social protection and municipal services in the region. In ASEAN, this concern has been noted during the holding of the High-Level Forum on Reducing Vulnerability in the Face of Crisis held in the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, on 19-20 February 2009.

One may then ask what ASEAN has been doing to address the current crisis.

At the national level, different countries have come up with different policy responses to address the impacts of the crisis. I am sure this is something that many of us would be happy to share during this two-day Conference. At the regional level, few collective responses have been undertaken.

For example, the ASEAN Leaders endorsed the decision made by the Special ASEAN+3 Finance Ministers' Meeting (AFMM+3) in Phuket, Thailand held on 22 February 2009 to increase the size of the Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation (CMIM) from US\$80 billion to US\$120 billion. This agreement by the AFMM+3 to finalise the main components of CMIM is a good example of the collective response. Next steps are to finalise the main agreement of CMIM and establish the independence surveillance unit in order to put the CMIM in full operation before the end of 2009.

The CMIM agreement and the various other actions undertaken by the ASEAN Finance Ministers in order to strengthen the regional cooperation to respond effectively to the global economic and financial crisis, I must say, focus on finance and real economy with little social focus. Collectively, ASEAN has not done much to address the social impact of the crisis.

To date, I can cite one collective undertaking having a social focus namely an ASEAN study to review the social impact of the global financial crisis and policy responses in the region to inform regional policies and develop strategic response to mitigate social impacts of the crisis. This study is a follow up of the recommendations put forward by the High-Level Forum on Reducing Vulnerability in the Face of Crisis held in the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, on 19-20 February 2009. I am pleased to inform you that AusAID has been very kind to support this study in collaboration also with the World Bank.

While waiting for the outcomes and recommendations of the study, ASEAN is currently exploring other ways to address the impact of the global financial crisis especially on the poor and the vulnerable.

In my view, collective actions to mitigate the impact of global financial crisis in ASEAN are the responsibility of all ASEAN stakeholders, including the civil society organisations (CSOs). The ASEAN Charter, which has entered into force on 15 December 2008, recognises the importance of the civil societies. Efforts are now being made to improve the relations between ASEAN and civil society organizations (CSOs). If I may cite the statement of Dr. Surin Pitsuwan, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, he said that “ASEAN needs the support of civil society to facilitate the transformation of ASEAN into a people-oriented organization.” The conduct of this Conference would certainly address Dr. Surin’s statement. It is therefore timely, and the initiative of AsiaDHRRA to organise this Conference must be commended.

The ASEAN Secretariat is very much looking forward to hearing the recommendations of this Conference, and also bright ideas of actions which could be proposed to be implemented collectively at the regional level. Having said this, I must also stress that it is imperative for CSOs, especially those who are present at this Conference, to also find ways of contributing and actively participating in the implementation of the recommendations and bright ideas that this Conference will put forward. Let’s synergise our ideas and also resources. Let’s work together as partners.

The ASEAN Secretariat will certainly be very happy to convey the outcomes of this Conference to the relevant ASEAN bodies, especially the ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE) and the ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM), whose representatives from several ASEAN Member States are also present at this Conference.

It is my hope that this Conference would also forge a stronger collaboration between the various ASEAN sectoral bodies and AsiaDHRRA and other regional and international CSOs. Of course, the involvement of international organisations in facilitating the collaboration between ASEAN and CSOs should be welcome with open arms.

Let me congratulate AsiaDHRRA and its elements which have put together their efforts to organise this Conference. I would also like to express my sincere thanks to the various organisations supporting and sponsoring this Conference.

On this note, let me wish a successful Conference. Thank you and good day.

# Keynote Address

## Confronting the Employment and Social Challenges In ASEAN

**Christopher Ng, UNI Apro Regional Secretary**

Yes, ASEAN is very much affected by the global economic crisis. And yes, the most vivid manifestation of the crisis can be seen in the jobs crisis, which the ILO says is likely to persist for several years.

As a result of the global recession, joblessness, precarious informal employment and unprotected flexible work are on the rise everywhere in the region, especially in the export-oriented ASEAN economies. These developments mean growing human and family misery in many societies, aggravated by the fact that most countries in the region do not have a sustainable system of job unemployment insurance and effective social protection.

It is against this background that we, at UNI Apro and the broader labor and social movement in Asia, have been battling for bolder economic and social reforms at the national, regional and global levels. Let me cite the most pressing ones:



First and foremost, the global economic crisis and the earlier Asian financial crisis of 1997-98 tell us that the world needs a new architecture of economic governance at all levels. Frankly, we are disappointed that the G20 meeting early this year agreed only on measures to strengthen the IMF's capitalization and to cooperate in regulating speculative financial investments. The problem is that while Gordon Brown and others keep saying that the Washington Consensus is dead, their proposals on the ground such as strengthening the IMF, World Bank and the ADB are still neo-liberal in character.

The reality is abundantly clear to the trade union movement; the crisis is rooted in the global economic inequalities compounded by a global epidemic of bad corporate governance. Public confidence in business practices and the credibility of CEO's and corporate behavior is greatly shaken with the startling revelation of grossly disproportionate executive pay in relation to their economic performance. This is why everyone today is blaming greed, corporate greed, as being at the root of the global financial instability.

The unfettered movement of capital, transnational capital in particular, often leads to a Race-to-the-Bottom phenomenon where labor rights are downgraded in the name of competition.

The Race to the Bottom among transnational corporations have driven wages and worker welfare downward in their global search for super-profits, which, they invest, in turn, in non-productive and speculative financial transactions.

Hence, there is an urgent need to have not only judicious rules in the global financial markets but also minimum standards of ethical behavior for CEOs and among the TNCs. Also, there should be greater space and flexibility for all countries, especially the developing ones, in pursuing coherent social and economic policies protecting the jobs and welfare of their working population. This means the neo-liberal one-size-fits-all formula of deregulation, privatization and liberalization must go and must give way to new rules of global economic engagement – at the WTO, World Bank, IMF, ADB and other global economic institutions.

Secondly, Asia should review the programs of economic liberalization as manifested by the complex tangle of regional trade agreements. There is a simplistic assumption that countries in the region get integrated by simply abolishing trade and other economic barriers.

Sadly, what we see instead is that the development gaps within and among economies are widening instead of narrowing. This is so because there is a lack of focused effort to promote real and beneficial complementation among

country. Neither is there any program to close the development gaps for those being left behind.

The regional economic integration being undertaken by ASEAN is also lacking in this respect. We believe that the ASEAN Economic Community has the potential to provide ASEAN member countries with competitive advantages in this age of globalization by spurring economic growth, providing greater job opportunities and promoting overall socio-economic development in the region. We are, therefore, seriously concerned that ASEAN's laudable goal is being undermined by the lack of a social dimension in its policies and strategies.

This is the time to reiterate the call for globalization with a human face. We need to shape a new global economic order with clear social and labor rules. We need to put people first in the regional and globalization process in each and every situation. All social actors – at the national, regional and global levels – should engage continually in honest and productive social dialogue to develop feasible policies and practical strategy to preserve existing jobs, create new ones, extend social protection to the vulnerables and build the foundation for a just and more equitable socio-economic order

This means that we need comprehensive policies that include:

- Economic policies orientated to job creation and job preservation
- Policies to strengthen social safety nets
- Investment in education and training
- The adoption of measures to guarantee equal education and training opportunities for women and vulnerable groups
- Fair rules at work
- The elimination of child labor
- Protection of migrant workers
- Rules to insure that the social and labor rights of the working peoples are protected and respected

In term of the reform of the Financial System, UNI call for:

1. A new customer-orientated and risk-conscious business model where the internal operating procedures and practices should be transparent. Equally the way employees are motivated and constrained in performing their jobs must be transparent (remuneration, incentives, skills, and working conditions).
2. Structured dialogue of unions representing financial workers with financial supervisory agencies at national, regional and international level as well as international colleges of supervisors for finance multinationals.

3. Charters for the responsible sale of financial products to be developed by each financial institution and to be agreed between management, unions and other stakeholders. Such charters should make explicit, public and verifiable the principles being followed in sales and marketing as well as in operating procedures and work practices.
4. A comprehensive framework of financial regulation and supervision to be created at world level. This framework should cover all financial products and players in the industry, should stop 'regime shopping' and should ensure rules are strictly enforced. There should be strong coordination at all levels between regulators/supervisors.
5. The maintenance of diversity in the finance industry that includes private, public and cooperative organizations of all sizes.
6. Commercial and retail operations that are insulated from high-risk speculative and investment banking activities.

In the immediate term to mitigate the social impact, UNI in consultation with ILO have recommended the following practical measures:

1. Taking account of fundamental principles and rights at work, including freedom of association, the right to organize and collective bargaining, and
2. Involving the social partners in the reform process insofar as the labor and social dimension is concerned;
3. Basing restructuring on dialogue and consultation between management, unions and workers' representatives;
4. Ensuring workers' employability through skills enhancement, life-long learning and active labor market policies to support adjustment;
5. Maintaining advances in equity policies, especially for the large number of women working in the sector;
6. Treating workers in atypical employment fairly,
7. Coordinating measures to avoid protectionist policies that would aggravate the crisis.

The quest to confront the global economic and financial crisis and socialisation of the globalisation process is not the responsibility of governments, employers or management alone. The workers and their trade unions can and must play a role. Let me explain briefly.

Like the Governments and Employers, we in the trade union movement are anxious to see a stable, progressive and sustainable economy at every level, in every country as well as globally. The truth is - like the employers, the trade unions do have a stake in sustaining the viability, productivity and profitability of business, for this is central in creating decent, secure and sustainable jobs. Such a stable, progressive and sustainable economy requires

social harmony and cooperation among the different stakeholders in society – particularly the employers and trade unions.

Without belabouring the obvious, meaningful social partnership industrial relations must be based on co-operative and harmonious labour management relations. This is crucial in building up productivity and competitiveness of a country in a global economy. This is why enlightened employers look at their partnership with the employees and their trade unions as a long-term proposition. Sustainable business requires sustainable relations with the employees and their union.

The quest towards social partnership industrial relations will require sceptical employers and governments to put aside their misconception that trade union is an obstacle to their effort to confront or adjust to the global competitive challenge. They need also be aware that efforts to weaken the trade union movement will always be in vain as they will be replaced, as it is happening in many countries, by labour related NGOs – equally committed to assert workers rights and certainly more innovative in their strategy to represent the workers' interests and propagate their rights.

The alternative, as UNI Apro is propagating in many ASEAN countries, is for the Industrial Relations actors, through sincere and genuine dialogue to develop practical strategy, based on the concept of true social partnership to adjust to the global competitive challenge. Of course, true social partnership means going beyond “do good or be politically correct.” It means treating the other party as a partner and according this partner the full respect and dignity befitting a partner. On the other hand, partnership also means that the other side, the trade union, is capable of becoming a responsible partner in every sense of the word.

Such strategy will have to include openness to union and employees suggestions on how to make certain business adjustments labour friendly and less painful to concerned employees, how to spread the benefits of business expansion and how to forge labour management co-operation on productivity and other profit-boosting measures. It will also require trade unions to be realistic in their response to the globalisation challenges. Rights come with responsibility. Trade unions cannot avoid, if need be, implement difficult and painful decisions.

Such social partnership between employer and trade union is possible. Even in the most difficult environment or situation. We have conducted such experimentation in Indonesia, in close consultation with the union and management at Hero Supermarket – one of the largest retail chains in Indonesia. The successful outcome has been documented in a report that was launched

in February this year in Jakarta. I must state here that the impact is not isolated or confined to Hero Supermarket alone. The positive impact of the social partnership relations on the sustainability and profitability of Hero has now become a competitive advantage that other retailers are inspiring to achieve.

In response to the suggestion of the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration of Indonesia, we have, in co-operation with our affiliate, Aspek Indonesia and the FES Germany, convened the first Tripartite Conference for the Indonesia Retail Sector. This historic Conference held on 22 July 2009 at this same venue, enabled the Indonesia retail workers, their trade unions and employers to explore and set the framework for true and active social partnership to further develop the Indonesia retail sector.

The Conference inaugurated by the Minister of Manpower and Transmigration adopted a comprehensive communiqué calling upon the Indonesian Government to establish a Tripartite Committee for the Indonesia Retail Sector to institutionalize co-operation and collaboration between the social partners in the retail sectors. The Conference believes that such a Committee facilitates their quest to develop a competitive retail sector capable of providing a good return on investments, generate decent employment and contribute to the development of the Indonesian economy and society.

We are confident that the positive experiences of constructive social partnership industrial relations in various companies in Indonesia and other countries will inspire the management and trade unions in other countries to emulate. UNI Apro is committed to work closely with the ASETUC - the co-ordinating body for service sector trade unions in the ASEAN countries to develop, promote and implement this concept of social partnership Industrial relations.

Let me conclude, by reiterating that the trade union movement wants to help shape a ASEAN - a people first ASEAN in a People First World that respects the workers' core labor rights, including those of the migrants, where all citizens enjoy a decent standard of living in a caring and sharing society. We want the business community to observe true corporate social responsibility not only by abiding with the universal labor standards but also by conducting social dialogue with the Trade Unions and other stakeholders in the communities hosting them.

Let us use the global crisis as an opportunity to create a truly people-centered economy, here in ASEAN, in Asia and in the world. We can make this happen with the solidarity and combined efforts of all the social partners.

# Voices from the Grassroots



# Farmers

Download this presentation at [http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial\\_crisis\\_presentation\\_afa.ppt](http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial_crisis_presentation_afa.ppt)

## Impact of financial crisis to small scale men and women farmers in SEA countries

Mr. Mudzakkir  
Vice Chairperson, AFA

## Effects of financial crisis

- Demand for traditional export agri products dropped
- Food price volatility
- Problems with contract farming
- Less income, high food prices and high price of inputs
- Migrant workers out of jobs too

## Agri 's vital role in food, livelihood security and poverty alleviation

- GDP contribution: 10.1 (Thailand-32.9% (Cambodia)
- Agri is source of basic food of ASEAN people
- Significant number of people in rural areas
- Majority in rural areas engaged in agriculture Small scale men and women farmers form majority of poor in many ASEAN countries.

## How do we cope?

- Educate farmers about economic household management
- Ensure men and women farmers' security to land, water, seeds resources
- Practice diversified, sustainable agriculture , in a "self sufficiency approach"
- Organize commodity based clusters for cooperative production and marketing of safe, organic products

## Our understanding of financial crisis

- The crisis originated in USA
- Due to unregulated financial markets
- Happened during food crisis and climate change effects
- Significantly caused by excessive speculation in the commodities markets

## Main recommendations

- Identify key social protection measures for farmers and put adequate resources to implement them
- Increased investments for the production and marketing of sustainable agri crops owned, controlled, managed by small men and women farmers
- Increased partnership between farmers, NGOs, government organizations

# Fisherfolks

Download this presentation at [http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial\\_crisis\\_presentation\\_fisheries.pdf](http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial_crisis_presentation_fisheries.pdf)

## Global Financial Crisis and Fisheries in Southeast Asia



Glenn I. Ymata  
Southeast Asia Fish for Justice Network  
Jakarta, Indonesia  
July 28-29, 2009

## The Artisanal Fisheries in

Fisheries management in the region is weak  
Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing is 15% of total catch  
Over exploitation including IUU is over \$50B annually  
Governments have been largely ineffective in enforcing fishery regulations

## The Artisanal Fisheries in

Artisanal fishing operations are typically family-based  
30 million artisanal fishers in SEA  
Roughly 15% of the people in the region depend on fishing as a significant source of income  
50% of total fisheries production in the region comes from artisanal fisheries  
Annual fishery production is over US\$11 B and income from fishery exports estimated at around US\$ 7 B.

## The Artisanal Fisheries in

The reduction in the standing fish stocks in Southeast Asia to less than 25% of their former levels  
reality that majority of artisanal fishers are generally considered poor by conventional economic measures (average \$2/day)  
limited access to basic services such as education, health, water and electricity

## The Artisanal Fisheries in

Average per capita food-fish supply in ASEAN countries in 1997 was estimated at 22.9 kilos  
Contribution of fish to animal protein intake estimated at 45%.  
More than 300 million people in the region depend significantly on fish as a source of protein

## The Artisanal Fisheries in

lose access to their traditional fishing grounds due to the massive conversion of coastal areas to reclamation, intensive aquaculture and tourism sites  
coastal zones have been turned into dumpsites of household, industrial and mining wastes  
belong to the poorest and most socially, politically and economically disadvantaged segments of the society

### The Southeast Asia Fish for

SEAFish for Justice was established in August 2003 in a regional conference of NGOs and fisher organizations working on fisheries. Members are from Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia\* and Thailand\*. Bounded by SEAFish Pool of Consensus

For

Justice

### The Financial Crisis in the

Domestic consumption of fisheries products has declined, and wholesale and retail prices are much lower than before. Export of fish for Asian market has dragged. Prices of input materials sharply go up.

For

Justice

### The Southeast Asia Fish for

SEAFish envisions equity in access to and control over off-shore, coastal, and inland aquatic natural resources including the end to sufferings seen as severe infringements on basic human rights of people depending (by choice or by circumstance) on it due to unsustainable use of natural resources and/or privatized control over public resource rents.

For

Justice

### The Financial Crisis in the

Consumers look for cheaper food products. Strong push to over-exploitation of coastal resources, and discourages processors to continue their operation.

For

Justice

### The Southeast Asia Fish for

Currently, SEAFish work evolve on the four themes of: Fisheries and Trade; Community-based Coastal Resource Management and Market Shrimp and Aquaculture; and Gender Equity and Women in Fisheries.

For

Justice

### The Financial Crisis in the

Lost of market for small producers since processors and exporters are unable to secure orders from importing countries. Labor cuts as processors trim their production due to weakening demand for high value fisheries products. Continued threat of over-exploitation of fisheries resources.

For

Justice

### The Financial Crisis in the

“Small fishers can be resilient to the global financial crisis in short term due to their subsistence characteristic but considering that small and artisanal fishers are the poorest among the poor with resources comparatively lower than other sectors, in the end they will suffer most”

For

Justice

### The Financial Crisis in the

Export-oriented market cannot insulate the basic sector from this crisis. State and intergovernmental initiatives must shift their role to regulation of the market and intensify their programs in rehabilitating the coastal, marine and natural resources which are the source of the “real” economy

For

Justice

### The Financial Crisis in the

Developing rural assets and distributing them equitably could increase economic viability of the majority and spur meaningful growth that is based not on mere speculation of financial transaction but on real commodities

Improving Fisheries Governance  
Developing human resource and labor

For

Justice

# Community Organizing

Download this presentation at [http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial\\_crisis\\_presentation\\_bina\\_desa.ppt](http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial_crisis_presentation_bina_desa.ppt)

## Global Financial Crisis: its Impact to Rural Community Organizing

Bina Desa/InDHRRA

### Impact of the Crisis

- Decreasing of Export
- Triggering of inflation rate
- Triggering of increasing prices of food, agriculture inputs, fuel and other basic needs
- Collapse of real estate sector

### Impact of the Crisis

- Mass Laid Off—flood back to their places of origin in poor rural communities. More stress on families already struggling to feed themselves
- Collapse of rural informal sector
- For Fishery; Increase of Indonesian debt to ADB for 'fishery sector development'

### **Impact to the Rural Communities (Peasant, Women and Artisan Fisher)**

- Majority of rural community live in agriculture sector (small food producer). However, they did not get any benefit from the increasing price of food.
- In the contrary, cost of production is soaring up:
  - seed, fertilizer and other inputs-- peasant
  - fuel, ice and food for fishing, even they can't fishing-- fisherfolk

### **Impact to the Rural Community Organizing**

- The community is forced to look for income, difficult to find time for social activities and limited space for awareness raising efforts
- Decrease the community contributions for various capacity building activities
- More children working in the field for more income

### **Impact to the Rural Communities (Peasant, Women and Artisan Fisher)**

- While selling price of their produce is lower:
  - Their income supported by off farm activities (small trader, small enterprise etc) while the sector is collapse
  - Rural women should find other jobs that means adding more work and working hours
  - Women are among the poorest and most disadvantaged socially, economically and politically

### **Ways to challenge the crisis**

- Community empowerment through Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Aquaculture using local available resources, local wisdom, where gender equality is recognized for sustainable livelihood
- Develop critical engagement among stakeholders with government for pro-poor policies and nation sovereignty

# Indigenous Peoples

Download this presentation at [http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial\\_crisis\\_presentation\\_indigenous.pdf](http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial_crisis_presentation_indigenous.pdf)



## Indigenous Peoples Show Another Way Out of the Financial Crisis

Rukka Sombolinggi  
Asia Indigenous Peoples' Pact (AIPP)



108, Moo 5, Soi 6  
Tambone Sampranate, Amphur Samsat  
Chiang Mai - 50210, Thailand  
Phone: +66 (0)53 280 188  
Fax: +66 (0)53 380752  
Email: [support@aippnet.org](mailto:support@aippnet.org)

### Source of Livelihood: Traditional Occupation



Photos source: AIPP Photo Library

**Traditional Occupation: Swidden farming, hunting, gathering of forest products, fishing etc. (used to be sustainable and self sufficient)**

### Indigenous Peoples in Asia



There are about 370 million World's indigenous peoples, 2/3 or 250 million live in Asia (WB, ADB, UNPFII)

Photos source: AIPP Photo Library

### Understanding of & Impacts of Financial Crisis

- Lack of understanding due to their remote locations & the global complexity of the crisis
- Yet, IPs relate the crisis to increased cost of goods & services, low demand & or price of their cash crop, and lesser work or job opportunities
- Adverse Impacts :Loss of Land and natural resources for development projects (ethnoidal effects)



Photos source: AIPP Photo Library



## Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

- A regional organization established by indigenous peoples' organizations in 1992 To strengthen the building of cooperation & solidarity among IPs of Asia.
- It is committed to the cause of promoting human rights; protecting & revitalizing indigenous systems and institutions, control over their ancestral homelands, as well as their own development and future.
- 26 active members from 14 countries, including four national indigenous alliances.
- Its key activities are related to capacity building of indigenous organizations, communities and leaders, information dissemination, advocacy & lobby work at the local, national, regional & international levels.



Photos source: AIPP Photo Library

# SMEs

Download this presentation at [http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial\\_crisis\\_presentation\\_binawadaya.ppt](http://www.asiadhrra.org/activityblogs/financialcrisis/ppt/financial_crisis_presentation_binawadaya.ppt)

## Impact the Financial Crisis for SMEs in Indonesia



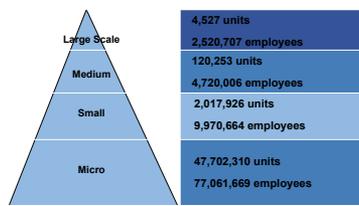
Ign. Wahyu Indriyo  
Bina Swadaya

## Bina Swadaya

- **Development of Microfinance** : 13 MFI Branches, 5 Rural Bank, 12 koops
- **Society Empowerment** : Empowerment Community based organization (Self Help Groups), Community Health, and Sanitation, Environment/Agriculture. Employment.
- **Agribusiness Development Services**: center for agriculture information and offering various services such as agricultural library, training, CD and VCD, Agriculture products and marketing accessories.
- **Communication Media for Development**: publishing agriculture books, skill books, health, language, management, and applied technology.



## Indonesia Micro Enterprises & SMEs Composition



Source : BPS – Statistics Indonesia 2007

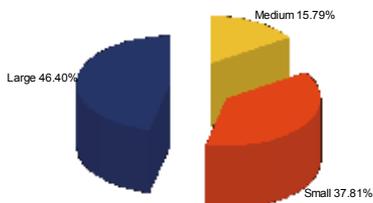
## Understanding Financial Crisis

*'Financial global crisis is difficult to be understood. If the situation is crisis, why many consumers still want to buy our product ? Domestic market still give good prospect' (a handicraft businessman in Klaten, Central Java).*

The phenomena of financial crisis for micro enterprise & SMEs :

Increasing of production cost & living cost ( fuel price, imported raw material price – flour mills, pesticide, food, transportation, etc)

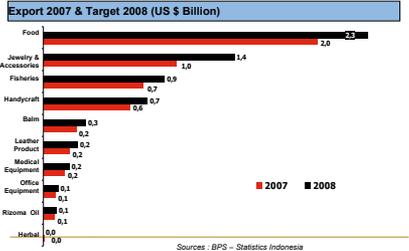
## Share to GDP (2007)



### Impact of Financial Crisis for Micro & Small Medium Enterprises

- Increasing of production cost :
  - Imported raw materials (flour, corn, wheat, soybean, etc)
  - Imported machine & production equipment
- Decreasing of demand : handicraft ( 50%), palm, dairy milk.
- Unregulated market create more vulnerable condition : salt trader (imported salt).
- Politics of Food security Vs term of trade for more than 38 million farmer households.

Indonesia - 10 potential product dominated by micro enterprises & SMEs, (high number of employees, creativity, cultural and traditional wisdom, domestic & international market)



### Strategy to survive :

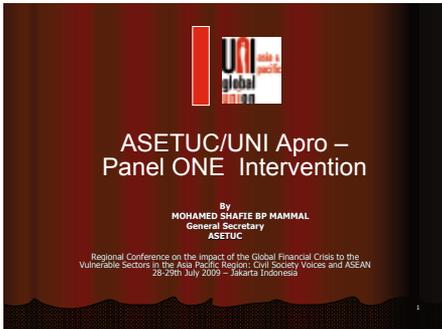
- Substituting the raw materials.
- Lessen quality & size of the product.
- Lessen employee.
- Innovation to create value added → creative industry

### Recommendations

- Regulating and facilitating to protect micro & small, medium enterprise.
- Indonesia case :
  - The strength of local (domestic) market → 70% GDP = households consumption.
  - Creative economy = 8% GDP and absorb 7.4 million employees.
  - Main creative industry in Indonesia : Fashion, art & handicraft, television, radio & cinematography, print & publishing, computer & software, interactive game, music & showbiz.

# Labor

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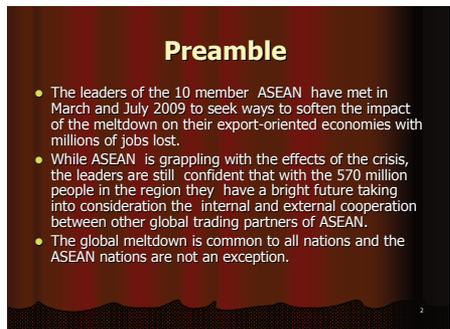


## ASETUC/UNI Apro – Panel ONE Intervention

By  
MOHAMED SHAFIE BP MAMMAL  
General Secretary  
ASETUC

Regional Conference on the Impact of the Global Financial Crisis to the Vulnerable Sectors in the Asia Pacific Region: Civil Society Voices and ASEAN  
28-29th July 2009 – Jakarta Indonesia

1



## Preamble

- The leaders of the 10 member ASEAN have met in March and July 2009 to seek ways to soften the impact of the meltdown on their export-oriented economies with millions of jobs lost.
- While ASEAN is grappling with the effects of the crisis, the leaders are still confident that with the 570 million people in the region they have a bright future taking into consideration the internal and external cooperation between other global trading partners of ASEAN.
- The global meltdown is common to all nations and the ASEAN nations are not an exception.

2



## Collapse of the Global

- The Global Financial markets continue to be hit by the adverse effects of the United States financial crisis.
- With the collapse of the Reagan-Thatcher theory of Capitalism Global Governments are looking for a new economic order which will sustain the international and local financial systems.
- ASETUC is closely monitoring how the ASEAN partners are coping with the increasing unemployment as numbers of retrenched workers increase. There is also serious discussions on how ASEAN partners will deal with foreign migrant workers.

3



## The impact of the Crisis on the Malaysian Economy

- While it is widely agreed that the unregulated Global Financial System has led to serious and widespread economic downturn, the closed-door economic policy is still subject to the adverse effects from the Global Financial turmoil.
- Some of Malaysia's protectionist policies made the local companies less competitive over the years. In the words of Milton Friedman *"there is no such thing as a free lunch"*

4

## Stimulus Packages

- The Malaysian government has so far introduced two stimulus packages totalling RM67 billion. A stimulus package of RM7 billion was introduced in November 2008 and RM60 billion will be spent over the next two year period. The government hopes that the stimulus packages will work and put the economy back on the track to financial and economic recovery

5

## Stimulus Packages

- As of June 2009 government have spent RM6.8billion from the first stimulus package of RM7billion and RM1.6billion from the second stimulus package of RM60billion. The preliminary report for the 2nd quarter of 2009 shows that the construction Sector has shown good results and the other sectors have started to recover. But the results of the 2nd stimulus package which will be spent over two years will only be known after 2010. To achieve the growth rate of the golden year 1997 is still far off.

6

## Free market regulates itself?

- The theory that in a free-market economy the market should control the market and the market should regulate itself is not working (Dr. Mahathir)
- This regulation and some flexibility in the market will free itself from the abuses of the freedom given to the banks and financial institutions before the crisis.

7

## Impact of the global crisis on ASEAN community

- Rapid increase in unemployment for locals and migrants workers.
- Contraction of Trade and Investments.
- Reduced revenue from Tourism
- Reduced access to Credit and business financing
- And others.

8

## Conclusion

- While the ASEAN member countries grapple with problems of unemployment and other related problems in their own countries, the creation of a single market with free movement of goods and services in ASEAN is already taking shape.

9

## Conclusion

- Asetuc is also concerned with the unemployed, retrenched workforce in ASEAN and the plight of migrant workers from the sending countries (Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, India, SriLanka and others from all over Asia) who have work permits but no jobs as promised. The task force on ASEAN migrant workers and ASETUC-UNI-Apro are in constant discussion with the ASEAN governments to cope with the situation.
- Thank you

10

# Global and Regional Responses



# ASEAN

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## ASEAN Beyond the Crisis: Prospects and Challenges of Recovery

Aladdin D. Rillo,  
Head, Finance Integration Division,  
The ASEAN Secretariat

Regional Conference on Impact of the Global Economic and Financial  
Crisis on the Vulnerable Sectors in the Region  
28-29 July 2009 | Jakarta, Indonesia

ASEAN has not decoupled from the global  
financial crisis, with impact on real economy  
more severe than expected ...

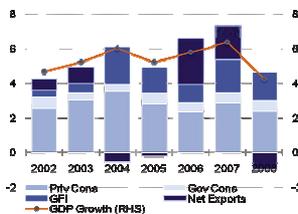
Real GDP Growth (% change)

Countries	2006	2007	2008				2008
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Indonesia	5.6	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.4	5.2	6.1
Malaysia	5.8	6.3	7.4	6.7	4.7	0.1	4.6
Philippines	5.4	7.2	4.7	4.4	5.0	4.5	4.6
Singapore	8.4	7.8	6.7	2.5	0.0	-4.2	1.1
Thailand	5.2	4.9	6.0	5.3	3.9	-4.3	2.6
<b>ASEAN 6</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Brunei	5.1	0.6	-4.9	-2.8	-	-	0.4
Cambodia	13.3	9.6	13.6	12.3	8.0	-	7.0
Lao, PDR	8.3	7.6	-	-	-	-	7.9
Myanmar	13	12	-	-	-	-	11.9
Viet Nam	8.2	8.5	7.4	5.9	6.5	-	6.2
<b>BCLMV</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>9.2</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>7.5</b>
<b>ASEAN</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.7</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>5.0</b>

Source: ASEC database

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Contribution to Growth: ASEANS  
(in percent, per year)



Source: ASEC database

... with decline in economic growth now more evident in 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2009

Real GDP Growth: ASEAN-6 and Viet Nam (year-to-date, % change)

Country	Real GDP Growth (%)	
	2008: Q4	2009: Q1
Indonesia	5.2	6.1
Lao PDR	n.a.	4.6
Malaysia	0.1	-6.2
Philippines	1.8	0.4
Singapore	-4.2	-10.1
Thailand	-4.2	-7.1
Viet nam	5.7	3.2

Source: ASEAN Statistics (ASEAN Secretariat, 2009)

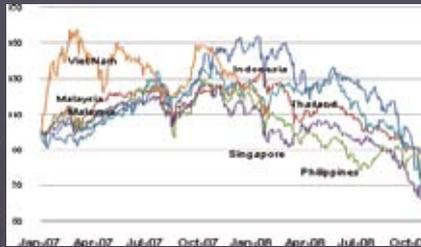
Export and Import Growth: ASEAN-6 and Viet Nam (year-to-date, % change)

Country	Change in X (y-o-y)		Change in M (y-o-y)	
	2008 Q4	2009 Q1	2008 Q4	2009 Q1
Indonesia	9.43	52.15	27.87	35.85
Malaysia	-33.46	-26.00	-36.16	-28.20
Philippines	-22.81	-16.84	-21.53	-26.18
Singapore	-7.21	-26.20	1.50	-16.70
Thailand	8.27	16.16	7.56	27.08

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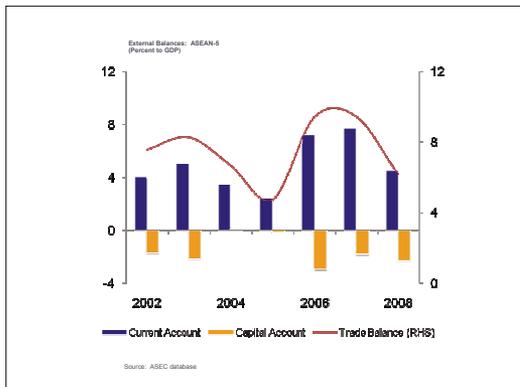
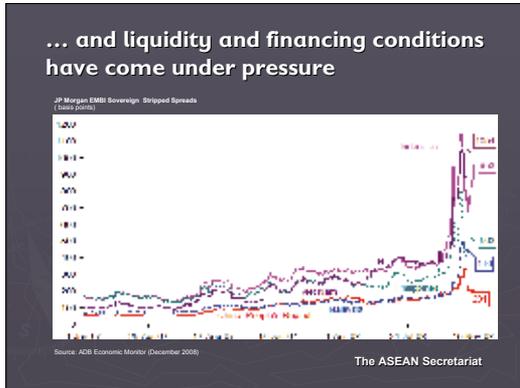
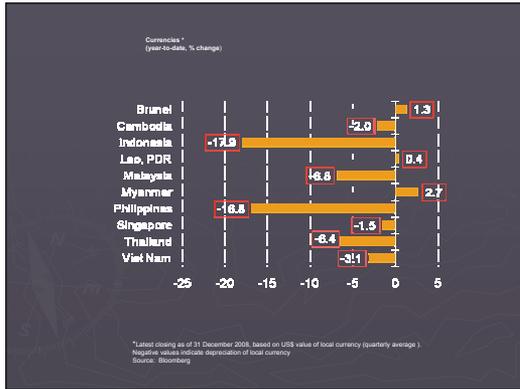
...as asset prices and currencies have fallen sharply

Stock Price Indexes\* (year-to-date, % change)



\*Listed closing as of 30 September 2008  
Source: Bloomberg

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## Amid the crisis, ASEAN has remained resilient so far but will continue to be tested this year

- Countries in the region have responded with individual stabilization measures, comprising of monetary easing measures ...

ASEAN Policy Rates (in percent)

Country	Benchmark Rate	Jan-07	Jan-08	Jan-09	% Change (Basis Points) 08-09
Indonesia	BI Rate	9.5	8	8.75	75
Malaysia	Overnight Policy Rate (OPR)	3.5	3.5	2.5	-100
Philippines	Repurchase Rate (RRP)	7.5	5.0	5.0	0
Thailand	1-Day Repurchase Rate	4.75	3.25	2.0	-125

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## ... and well-targeted fiscal stimulus programs

Fiscal Stimulus Packages in ASEAN (% to GDP, US\$ billions)

Country	Size of Fiscal Stimulus (% of GDP)	Fiscal Stimulus (% of GDP)	2009 Fiscal Stimulus (% of GDP)	Remarks
Indonesia	Rp. 71.3 billion (US\$ 3 billion)	1.4	-0.1	Mostly aimed at supporting firms and households through tax relief and additional funds for infrastructure projects.
Malaysia	RM 67 billion (US\$ 16.1 billion)	0.5	-4.8	Focus is on construction of infrastructure projects, such as low and medium cost houses, maintenance of public facilities in both urban and rural areas. Current stimulus package was announced on 10 March 2009, which will be implemented over 2009 and 2010. This involves spending on training, job creation, improving public infrastructure, school operations, as well as establishing guarantee facilities.
Philippines	PHP 330 billion (US\$ 7.3 billion)	4	-0.9	ERP focuses on smart, community level infrastructure (P160 billion), pooled fund for government corporations and financial institutions (P100 billion), additional tax breaks (P40 billion) and additional social insurance and health care benefits (P30 billion).
Singapore	S\$ 20.8 billion (US\$ 12.3 billion)	0.2	-0.8	Resilience Package consists of S\$ 0.1 billion to preserve jobs, S\$ 9 billion to stimulate home lending, S\$ 2 billion of various tax concessions, S\$ 2 billion to support households, and S\$ 4 billion of government spending on services and infrastructure.
Thailand	THB 110.7 billion (US\$ 3.7 billion)	-	-1.1*	The government approved large stimulus packages. The main package offers direct cash handout to civil servants, funds for promoting "efficiency economy", free school education. Additional measures on which government will infrastructure and investment funds projects.
Viet Nam	US\$ 6 billion	1	-4.9	Spend \$1 billion from 2009 budget to support SME and exporters.

- Regional measures have so far been encouraging, but more coordinated responses are still needed

### Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralization (CMIM)

- US\$120 billion swap facility as liquidity support
- Supplementary to international financing arrangements

### Asian Bond Markets Initiative (ABMI)

- focuses on local-currency denominated bond markets
- increases the region's resilience to external shocks

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## How can ASEAN contribute to global economic recovery?

- ▶ **Rebalance growth away from external demand toward domestic demand**
  - ASEAN needs to adjust by restructuring production away from exports to domestic markets
  - need to implement vigorous measures that promote domestically sourced growth
  - increase reliance on private investment as key source of growth

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## ▶ **Stabilize financial systems and promote financial market development**

- strengthen risk assessment, management and surveillance of financial systems
- develop local currency bond markets by mobilizing regional savings (e.g., Asian Bond Markets Initiative)
- develop and integrate capital markets, including the need to strengthen supervisory and regulatory frameworks

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## ▶ **Strengthen and deepen regional cooperation**

### *Trade Liberalization*

- maintain open trade and FDI regimes
- rotation of demand away from exports to advanced markets in favour of regional sources (e.g., intra-regional trade)
- promote existing integration initiatives (e.g., ASEAN Economic Community 2015) and free trade areas

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### *Financial Integration*

- information exchange to facilitate collective assessment of economic conditions, risks and vulnerabilities
- strengthen financial and liquidity support by exploring
- other regional financing arrangements

### *Exchange rate coordination*

- avoid "beggar-thy-neighbour" policies
- movement toward greater exchange rate flexibility

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## ▶ **Participate in credible reforms of global and regional financial architecture**

- need to increase Asia's participation and voice in international forums like G-20, IMF, WTO and BIS/FSF
- need for reforms in key areas such as regulation and supervision; early warning systems; regulatory cooperation and coordination; and crisis management
- need to act promptly and collectively to respond to changing financial and economic conditions

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## **Final thoughts: crisis and challenges of development**

- ▶ Key challenge: rejuvenate economic growth without derailing development strategies
- ▶ need to look beyond and not to lose sight of social impact of the crisis to vulnerable groups
- ▶ Economic recovery must be accompanied by social development and social cohesion
- ▶ But, more coordinated responses are needed to facilitate recovery

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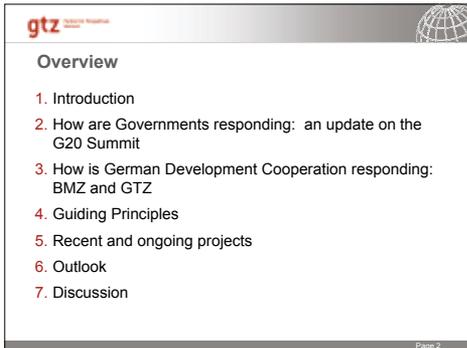
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gtz German Technical Cooperation

**Financial and Economic Crisis:  
Responses from German  
Development Co-operation**

28 July 2009  
Johanna Knoess  
GTZ Social Protection Policy Project, Indonesia



gtz German Technical Cooperation

**Overview**

1. Introduction
2. How are Governments responding: an update on the G20 Summit
3. How is German Development Cooperation responding: BMZ and GTZ
4. Guiding Principles
5. Recent and ongoing projects
6. Outlook
7. Discussion

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**G20 Summit April 2009 - A Joint Call for  
(Re)Action**

- Restore growth and jobs by undertaking fiscal expansion, lowering interest rates
- Strengthen financial supervision: New Financial Stability Board & Early Warning System
- Ensure price stability, restoring domestic lending
- Strengthen global financial institutions
- Promote global trade and investment
- Ensure a fair and sustainable recovery for all: reaffirm MDGs, ODA, Aid for Trade, debt relief and the Gleneagles Commitments
- Increase Social Protection, and invest in education and training, create employment opportunities
- Work towards a sustainable, green and resilient recovery

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### The Asia region and the crisis: Guiding principles of the response

- Need for a new development paradigm to address the crisis: socially balanced development
- Export-oriented development model reaching its limits
- Strengthening of the domestic (and regional) economies. Removing structural barriers to intra-Asian trade
- Stabilisation of domestic demand through the expansion of social security systems
- Continue efforts to prevent and mitigate adverse impacts of climate change

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### GDC – Continued Commitment at All Levels

- Active in G20 and other international initiatives to respond to the crisis
- Support increased involvement of developing and middle income countries
- ODA commitment will be maintained and Minister supports WB position to use 0.7% of national stimulus packages for global vulnerability fund
- Key areas of GDC will be strengthened
- Sustainable development and, gender equality and empowerment of vulnerable groups continue to be guiding principles
- A revision of State, Private Sector and Civil Society relationship will be promoted

*Heide Marie Wieczorek-Zeul: Use the opportunity to reshape the world economy in a constructive way!*

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### Crisis-relevant GDC support: >>> labour market and skills development

- Stronger labour markets are better suited to provide new opportunities to those affected by the crisis
- Vocational education and training improve employability and self-employability
- Tackling youth unemployment important for current and future growth – break intergenerational poverty cycle
- Skills development important for returning migrants
- GDC currently involved at the ASEAN regional level as well as in Vietnam, Malaysia, Lao PDR and Indonesia.

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### GDC - Crisis Response Priority Areas

The diagram consists of four blue rounded rectangular boxes arranged in a 2x2 grid, connected by lines. The top-left box is labeled 'Macro-Economic Stability', the top-right 'Public Finance', the bottom-left 'Social Protection System', and the bottom-right 'A Stronger State'. In the center, overlapping all four boxes, is a smaller white rounded rectangle with a blue border containing the text 'Social and Ecological Market Economy'.

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### Crisis-relevant GDC support: >>> competition policy

- Fair competition rules are key element of social market economy
- An integrated regional competition policy can be part of the framework to encourage intra-regional trade and investment
- Regional integration as response to current crisis and element of resilience against future global shocks
- GDC with long-standing experience in Indonesia, now also supporting ASEAN Secretariat

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### Crisis-relevant GDC support: >>> climate-friendly policies and measures

- Pro-active climate-friendly policies/measures contribute to the prevention and/or management of climate-related social risks (e.g. loss of livelihood due to flooding or drought)
- Economic crisis should weaken long-term policy priorities like climate change and food security – rather support comprehensive approaches
- GDC implementing projects in several countries in Asia including Southeast Asia
- GDC is also starting up a project on Capacity Development for developing & implementing the ASEAN Multi-Sectoral Framework on Climate Change & Food Security

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## Crisis-relevant GDC support:

>>> social protection

- > Social protection systems can help crisis-affected households avoid negative coping strategies that would have negative long-term effects on health, human capital and the capacity to re-emerge from the crisis.
- > Social protection helps ensure pro-poor-growth, promote employability of workforce, secure minimum living standards.
- > Increasing importance of social protection systems in countries across the region and key component of ASEAN Socio-cultural Community Blueprint.
- > GDC involved in Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, and at ASEAN level (e.g. in 2008 workshops on coordination of social protection in ASEAN countries)

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## Guiding principles for social protection:

- **Systemic approach:**
  - No blueprint
  - TA tailored to the needs & circumstances of partner country
  - coherent approach to tackle all major risks of falling into poverty
- **Aim:** comprehensive and inclusive social protection systems (for formal and informal sector, private and public), including the extreme poor and vulnerable
- **Values-based:** universal access, solidarity, fair financing, equity

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## Country examples social protection I

**Indonesia:**

- Systemic advice on comprehensive social security system
- Support to the management unit for conditional cash transfers
- Micro-insurance against flood risks

**Vietnam:**

- Social health financing
- Vocational training system
- Systemic advice on comprehensive social protection system
- Capacity building for basic protection through cash transfers (especially in rural areas) (in preparation)

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## Country examples social protection II

**Philippines:**

- Micro-insurance in social protection
- Social health insurance

**India:**

- Social protection for the informal sector (Karnataka state)
- Support to the development of an integrated insurance product for women; (partner: Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA))

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## Outlook

- Crisis requires joint and co-ordinated response by states, civil society actors and international community
- Co-operation at national and regional levels is beneficial
- Crisis helps to re-focus sectors that are of central importance for long-term and equitable growth: education, health, social protection

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## The Global Financial and Economic Crisis

### UNDP's RESPONSE

Regional Conference on the Impact of the Global Economic and Financial Crisis to the Vulnerable Sectors in the Region: Civil Society Voices and ASEAN

Jakarta, 28-29 July 2009

## Human Development Impact of Crisis in Asia

- Progress towards MDGs under threat
- While poverty incidence decreased sharply many remain vulnerable to economic shocks
  - Recent food and fuel crisis forced 200 million into poverty
  - An estimated 60 million in 2009 and up to 100 million in 2010 more pushed into poverty
- Children, women, working poor, migrants and people already at a disadvantage among most vulnerable

## Human Development Impact of Crisis in Asia

- Unemployed in Asia projected to increase from 80 million in 2007 to 93 million in 2009
- Slow-down in job creation (a 4% drop in growth will reduce employment growth by 2- 4% per year)
- Female and migrant workers often most vulnerable to lose jobs

## Responding to Crisis

- Asymmetry between industrialized and developing countries in capacity to respond
- Most countries focus on fiscal stimulus packages
- Support for vulnerable remains fragmented and under-resourced

## Global Responses

- **Conference on World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development June 2009**
  - Tackling crisis can be consistent with tackling poverty and climate change
  - Highlighted systemic fragilities and imbalances
  - Called for renewed multilateralism
  - Called for intensification of efforts to reform and strengthen international financial system and architecture



## UN Summit Proposals

- Adopting a comprehensive approach to address
  - climate change, environmental issues
  - food/fuel price crisis
  - MDGs
- Keeping a long-term perspective
- Looking beyond national benefits
- Improving monitoring of vulnerabilities



## UN Summit – Some Proposals for Action

- Suggests counter-cyclical measures of stimulus
- Calls on countries to avoid protectionist actions
- Proposes better regulation over financial markets
- Calls for creation of new credit facility and mechanisms of innovative financing
- Calls for better coherence between policies governing trade and finance
- Proposes institutional reform of Bretton Woods institutions



## UNDP Response – Country Level Support

UNDP's support includes

- Policy dialogue and consultations
- Assessment and advocacy
- Monitoring human development impact
- Support through existing and new programs and projects
  - Design of social protection programs and safety nets
  - Job creation schemes (e.g. labor intensive infrastructure)
  - Increasing income and productivity of farmers



## Asia Pacific – Regional and Country Level Responses

- Regional
  - Shift from more localized response to higher policy level
- Philippines
  - Local government unit intervention
  - High level policy advice
- Laos
  - UNDP Round Table Implementation Meeting
  - Follow up workshop in December with key ministries – discussion of implications of crisis on next National Socio-Economic Development plan with concrete recommendations



## Asia Pacific Country Level Responses, Continued . . .

- China
  - Discussion with government on South South financial flows in trade, aid and investment
  - China-Africa Business Council involvement
- Cambodia
  - Insights for Action initiative (UNDP Cambodia) is exploring ways of facilitating information sharing and providing advisory assistance to the government



## UN Response - Indonesia

- Harmonized UN Approach: UNDP, WFP, UNICEF and ILO
- Technical Workshop March/April 2009 laid groundwork for Crisis Monitoring and Response System
- Assist Government in Setting up Crisis Monitoring and Response System
  - Institutional framework
  - In-depth analysis of impact
  - Assessing response mechanisms
  - Data management system

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## ***Developing Indonesia's Crisis Monitoring and Response System***

**World Bank Jakarta Office**

**Regional Conference on the Impact of the Global Economic and Financial  
Crisis to the Vulnerable Sectors in the Region: Civil Society Voices and  
ASEAN**

**28 July 2009**



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**CRISIS MONITORING AND RESPONSE IN INDONESIA**

***The Government of Indonesia is establishing a Crisis Monitoring and Response System (CMR)***

- CMR should allow the government to:
  - understand the impact of the current global economic crisis on vulnerable households and individuals in Indonesia
    - who, where, how deep, through what channels?
  - undertake the appropriate policy response in a targeted and effective manner
- AusAID is financially supporting the government to develop CMR
- The World Bank is assisting the government by:
  - identifying key indicators to monitor and potential data sources
  - developing an analytical framework
  - linking monitoring to appropriate response

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**The crisis has multiple mechanisms requiring multiple responses**

Transmission Mechanisms	Coping Mechanisms	Possible Outcomes	Possible Responses
Increasing cost of food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced food consumption</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malnutrition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UCT (unconditional cash transfer), Rice for the Poor</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced food consumption</li> <li>Reduced health expenditure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malnutrition</li> <li>Low birth weight</li> <li>Infant and child mortality</li> <li>Maternal mortality</li> <li>Disease and illness</li> <li>Reduced labour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UCT, Rice for the Poor, Public works (PNPM)</li> <li>UCT</li> <li>Rice for the Poor</li> <li>Public works (PNPM)</li> </ul>
Reduced household income (reduced labour demand)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced education expenditure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School drop-out</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School-directed financial support, CCT (conditional cash)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women and children working</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School drop-out</li> <li>Absenteeism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UCT, CCT, public works</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reliance on assets and borrowing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of income</li> <li>Greater vulnerability to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UCT</li> <li>Public works</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk-pooling</li> </ul>		

**Note** Possible responses are examples only. Further work is required to understand the effectiveness and feasibility of various responses. For example, with respect to PKH, management and supply side issues would need to be addressed before possible expansion

**Key quantitative indicators will be monitored quarterly**

Indicators	Indicator Comments	Collection Tool	Indicators	Indicator Comments	Collection Tool
Food prices	Rice price, food price index, other selected food price	Existing Survey	Changes in food consumption	Meals per day	New HH Survey
Wages	Informal: Self-employed construction, domestic workers	Existing Survey		Replacement of principle staple with lower quality food	New HH Survey
	Informal: Agriculture	Existing Survey	Use of health services	Health center attendance rates	Facility Data
Changes in working hours	Formal and informal	New HH Survey		% pregnant women with 1st, 4th ante-natal visit, neo-natal visit	Facility Data
	Changes in medium/large firm employment and labour hours	Existing Survey		Under-five coverage of DPT3, % 12-23 months who have basic immunization/UCT	Facility Data
	Layoffs	Existing Survey	Malnutrition	% of children not gaining weight	Facility Data
Changes in employment	Changes in working hours	New HH Survey	Health consumption	Can afford health treatment	New HH Survey
	Formal to informal, non-agricultural to agricultural	New HH Survey	Sale of household assets	Savings withdrawals, sale of household assets, loans taken out	New HH Survey
Changes in household labour	Workers leaving kabupaten	New HH Survey	Use of social support structures	Inter-household loans, charitable support	New HH Survey
School attendance	Women and children entering work force or increasing hours	New HH Survey	Crime	By type: violent and property	Facility Data, Media Monitoring
Changes linked to total consumption	Drop-out rates	New HH Survey			
	Absenteeism	New HH Survey			
	Reduced rice, transportation consumption	New HH Survey			

**The household survey must be low burden yet cover the entire country**

- Objectives
  - collect household data to provide indicators not available from existing sources
- Requirements
  - frequent (quarterly)
  - nationwide but at the district level
  - timely to process and analyse
  - low cost
    - to field
    - to process
  - low technical capacity required in the field

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**Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) meets these requirements**

- Overview of LQAS
  - sampling method allowing very small sample sizes
  - used widely in public health evaluation throughout the world
- Required steps
  - setting acceptable and unacceptable thresholds for each indicator
  - determining desired accuracy
  - selecting sample size and decision rule
    - sample sizes could be as low as 25 households per district
- LQAS provides a quick indication of regions affected and urgent issues...
  - indicate districts requiring action or deeper analysis
    - classify each district as acceptable or unacceptable on each indicator
  - provide provincial and national estimates for each indicator
  - but cannot assess indicator levels and trends at a district level
- ... however, is insufficient by itself to understand causes and required responses

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**Qualitative analysis will deepen understanding of the context driving the indicators**

- Rapid qualitative assessment is required to support the quantitative analysis
  - accuracy of signals
  - understanding underlying causes
  - confirming indicator triggers require action
  - determining effective policy responses
- SMERU will conduct such a diagnosis
- The qualitative and quantitative components of CMR will interact with each other dynamically
  - indicator results will provide direction on policy areas for qualitative diagnosis next quarter
  - indicator mix may change as qualitative diagnosis identifies underlying causes and areas requiring most attention

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**Implementation of Household and Health Facility Survey**

- Implementing Agency
  - BPS-Statistics Indonesia
- Household survey design
  - three rounds quarterly (August 2009, November 2009, February 2010)
  - is a subsample of and piggy-backed on SAKERNAS (Labor Survey)
    - a panel 14,130 households
    - 6 households x 5 census blocks x 471 districts
- Health facility survey design
  - three rounds quarterly (August 2009, November 2009, February 2010)
  - administrative data collection
    - district health office
    - health centers (5 health centers per district)

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**Both quantitative and qualitative analyses will establish specific response triggers**

Triggers and Responses

Indicator	Possible Indicators	Qualitative Analysis	Possible Response
Changes in working hours and employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Firms planning to reduce employment levels reaches 20%</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Demand for firm output down</li> <li>● Surplus production capacity</li> </ul>	Public works (PNPM)
Food prices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 20% increase in rice price last quarter</li> <li>● Food price index up 50% on year</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Higher prices reducing food consumption</li> <li>● Increases not due hoarding</li> </ul>	UCT, Rice for the Poor

**Note:** Possible responses are examples only. Further work is required to understand the effectiveness and feasibility of various responses.

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**CRISIS MONITORING AND RESPONSE IN INDONESIA**

**A number of next steps are imminent**

- Set up data management system
- Establish an analytical framework for assessing indicators
- Develop a reporting system for policy makers
- Identify required and feasible responses

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# List of Participants



Country	Name	Organization	Designation
<b>Farmers</b>			
Philippines	Mr. Vicente Fabe	Asia Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA)	Pakisama Chairperson, AFA Treasurer
Thailand	Dr. Pote Chunsri	AFA	Sorkorpor, Secretary General
Thailand	Ms. Sudaporn Sittisathapornkul	AFA	AFA Chairperson
Indonesia	Mr. Nur Uddin	AFA	API Secretary General
Indonesia	Mr. Mudzakir	AFA	API Chairman
Indonesia	Mr. Muhammad Rifai	AFA	API Program Officer
Indonesia	Ms. Julia Pujilestavi	AFA	API
<b>Fishers</b>			
Philippines	Mr. Glenn Ymata	Southeast Asia Fisherfolks for Justice (SEAFISH)	Secretariat Head
Indonesia	Mr. Erwin Usman	SEAFISH	WALHI -SEAFish Regional Empowerment Head
<b>IPs</b>			
Thailand	Ms. Rukka Somblonggi	Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)	Executive Council
<b>Trade Union</b>			
Singapore	Mr. Christopher Ng	UNI-Apro	Regional Secretary, UNI Apro
Malaysia	Mr. Mohamed Shafie BP Mammal	UNI-Apro	Secretary General ASETUC
Indonesia	Mr. Kun Wardana Abyoto	UNI-Apro	Director Telecom Sector, UNI Apro
Singapore	Mr. Jayasri Priyalal	UNI-Apro	Director Finance Sector, UNI Apro
Malaysia	Mr. Sandagran Solomon Joseph Pitchay	ASETUC	General Secretary, NUBE Malaysia
Malaysia	Mr. Mohamad Shamsul Bin Ibrahim	ASETUC	Branch Committee, NUBE Malaysia
Malaysia	Mr. Mohamad Nazir Bin Mahajal Abidin	ASETUC	Head Quarters Task Force, NUBE Malaysia
Malaysia	Mr. Syed Abdul Halim Bin Syed Alwi	ASETUC	Working Committee, NUBE Malaysia
Indonesia	Mr. M. Rusdi	ASETUC	Secretary General, ASPEK Indonesia

Country	Name	Organization	Designation
	Ms. Robiatin Latin	ASETUC	Project Officer, ASPEK Indonesia
	Ulfa Alaphah	ASETUC	Project Officer, ASPEK Indonesia
	Rusmanto	ASETUC	Finance Officer, ASPEK Indonesia
	Sabda Djati	ASETUC	ASPEK Indonesia
	Zuraidi	ASETUC	ASPEK Indonesia
Geneva	Mr. Alberto Emilio Yuson	BWI	AP Regional Secretary, BWI
Singapore	Ms. Katherine Loh	PSI	
Indonesia	Mr. Supiarso	PSI	
<b>Business / SME</b>			
Indonesia	Mr. Wahyu Indriyo	Bina Swadaya	Director Research Center
<b>National CSOs</b>			
Indonesia	Ms. Ika Krishyani	Binadesa/InDHRRA	Program Officer
Vietnam	Dr. Bùi Quang Toan	VietDHRRA-CAEV	VietDHRRA Chairperson, CAEV Executive Director
Laos	Mr. Khampha Koemanichanh	Community Development and Environment Asso (CDEA)	President
Myanmar	Mr. Zaw Zaw Han	Food Security Working Group-Ever Green Group	Member, FSWG/ Program Director, EGG
Philippines	Mr. Filomeno Sta. Ana III	Action for Economic Reform (AER)	Executive Director
Indonesia	Mr. Peni	VECO	
Indonesia	Mr. Abdul Halim	KIARA	
<b>Regional CSOs</b>			
	Mr. Jayson Cainglet	Agribusiness Accountability Initiative (AAI)	Asia Coordinator
	Ms. Marlene Ramirez	AsiaDHRRA	Secretary General
	Ms. Esther Penunia	AFA	Secretary General,
	Mr. Jacques-chai Chomthongdi	Focus on Global South	Research Associate
	Ms. Anni Mitin	Southeast Asian Council for Food Security and Fair Trade (SEACON)	Regional Coordinator

Country	Name	Organization	Designation
	Ms. Hira Jhamtani	Third World Network (TWN); YKLI	TWN Associate/YKLI Associate
	Ms. Lutfiyah Hanim	TWN	TWN Associate
	Mr. Rafendi Jamin	ASEAN Peoples Center/ Human Rights Working Group (APC/ HRWG)	Executive Director, HRWG/APC Convenor
	Mr. Juno	ASEAN Peoples Center/ Human Rights Working Group (APC/ HRWG)	Program Coordinator
	Mr. Redemto Parafina	Affiliated Network for Social Accountability in East Asia Pacific (ANSA-EAP)	Program Officer
	Ms. Josefa Franciso	Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)	General Secretary
<b>Academe/ Research</b>			
	Dr. Alexander C. Chandra	Trade Knowledge Network (TKN)	Senior Policy Adviser on ASEAN
<b>Donor Community</b>			
	Mr. Chris Adams	OXFAM HK	Regional Manager, Mekong Team
	Mr. Raja Siregar	OXFAM GB	Advocacy and Campaigns Coordinator, Jakarta.
	Ms. May Miller Dawkins	OXFAM Australia	Research Manager, Oxfam Australia
	Ms. Johanna Knoess	GTZ - Indonesia	GTZ-Indonesia, Policy Adviser for Social Protection
	Dr. Apichai Sunchindah	GTZ - Thailand	GTZ-Thailand, Senior Policy Adviser
	Ms. Rina	FES - Indonesia	FES Indonesia
<b>ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDP)</b>			
Lao PDR	Mr. Si Pheng Sengphompanh	The Prime Minister Office	Head of Division of Administration and Finance, The Committee for Rural Development and Poverty Eradication

Country	Name	Organization	Designation
Kingdom of Cambodia	Dr. Chan Darong	Ministry of Rural Development	Director General for Technical Affairs
<b>ASEAN Senior Officers Meeting for Labor and Migration Issues (SLOM)</b>			
Lao PDR	Mr. Khamkhan Phinsavanh	Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare	ASEAN SLOM Chairperson/ Director General of Labour Management
Lao PDR	Mr. Viengkeo Khaopaseuth	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Official, ASEAN Department
Kingdom of Cambodia	Mr. Khuon Saingpagnarith	Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MLVT)	Deputy Director of International Cooperation Department
Malaysia	Mdm. Zaharah Binti Zainal Abidin	Ministry of Human Resources	Director Employment Services Division, Labour Dept of Peninsular Malaysia
Malaysia	Mdm. Betty Hasan	Ministry of Human Resources	Principal Assistant Secretary (Safety and Social), Labour Policy Division
Thailand	Mrs. Niyada Kuvantrarai	Ministry of Labour	Director, Planning & Information Division, Department of Employment
Vietnam	Mr. Bui Ton Hien	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Vietnam.	Director
	Dr. Alladin D. Rillo	The ASEAN Secretariat	Head of Finance Cooperation Division
	Dr. Donald Tambunan	The ASEAN Secretariat	Head, Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Dept
	Ms. Mega Irena	The ASEAN Secretariat	Senior Officer, Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division
	Mr. Ade Cahyadi	ASEAN Foundation	Head of Finance & Admin

Country	Name	Organization	Designation
<b>Inter-government Agencies/Financial Institutions</b>			
	Ms. Ririn Pushnanarin	WB - Indonesia	Senior Policy Officer
	Mr. Randy Salim	WB - Indonesia	
	Ms. Benni Sormin	FAO - Jakarta	FAO Asst. Representative, Jakarta
	Ms. Caroline Kenye	UNDP Indonesia	UNDP reporting Officer
	Ms. Felicity Pascoe	UNDP Indonesia	UNDP Project Adviser
	Ms. Michaela Prokop	UNDP Indonesia	
	Ms. Jessica Hovernan	AusAid	1st Secretary Asia Regional Coordinator
	Dr. Choomjet Karnjanakesorn	Royal Thai Embassy, Jakarta, Indonesia	Minister Counsellor (Agriculture)
<b>Media</b>			
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	Tio Subrata	Harian Merdiha	Reporter
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	Vita	TVRI	Reporter
	Etwin	TVRI	Reporter
	Sigit	Sinar Harapan	Reporter
	Sidik	Pelita	Reporter
	Theo Yusuf	Antara	Reporter
	Aat Sunya S	Antara	Reporter
	M. Rethinasangan	Singapore Post Ltd.	Asso Engineer
<b>Conference Secretariat</b>			
	Ms. Ma. Elena Rebagay	AsiaDHRRA	Program Officer
	Ms. Lorna M David	AsiaDHRRA	Program Officer
	Ms. Marilou Ibanez		Event Documentor

# Program



## Day 0, Monday, July 27, 2009

Arrivals of Participants /Hotel Billeting / Early Registration  
Steering Committee Briefing

## Day 1, Tuesday, July 28, 2009

08:00	08:30	Registration
08:30	09:30	Opening Session
		<p>Welcome Remarks: Mr. Alberto Emilio Yuson, BWI, AP Regional Secretary Opening Remarks: Ms. Marlene Ramirez, AsiaDHRRA, Secretary General</p> <p>Messages: ASEAN Amidst Global Financial Crisis and Opportunities Post G20 Summit and UN High Level Conference on Financial and Economic Crisis</p> <p>Opening Message: Dr. Donald Tambunan, Head, Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Dept, The ASEAN Secretariat</p> <p>Keynote Message: Mr. Christopher Ng, Regional Secretary, UNI-Apro</p> <p>Introduction of participants</p> <p>Over-all moderator Day 1: Mr. Jayasri Priyalal, UNI-Apro, Director Finance Sector</p>
09:30	9:45	<p>Program Orientation: Ms. Esther Penunia, AFA Secretary General - Overview of the Conference Program - Objectives</p> <p>Workshop Administration Announcements</p>
09:45	10:30	<p>PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION I: Impact of Financial Crisis to Development Work: Voices from vulnerable sectors and development workers</p> <p>Intro by Moderator: Atty. Filomeno Sta. Ana III, Action for Economic Reform</p> <p>Overview of the impact of financial crisis in the region, its linkage with formal/informal sectors, food crisis and climate change.</p> <p>Articulation of sectoral impact (5 mins each)</p> <p>Farmers: Mudzakir, Asian Farmers Association Fishers: Mr. Glenn Ymata, Southeast Asia Fisherfolks for Justice Trade Union: Mr. Mohamed Shafie BP Mammal, UNI-Apro/ASETUC Women: Ms. Josefa Francisco, DAWN Migrant workers: Mr.Sinnapan Samyodorai, Task Force on ASEAN Migrant Workers IPs: Ms. Rukka Somblonggi, Asian Indigenous Peoples Pact Consumers: Ms. Hira Jhamtani, YLKI Business/SMEs: Mr. Wahyu Indriyo, Binaswadaya Development Organizations: Ms. Dwi Astuti, AsiaDHRRA-InDHRRA</p>

10:30	10:45	Tea Break/Photo Session
10:45	12:00	<p>PLENARY PANEL DISCUSSION II: Global and Regional Responses to Global Financial Crisis</p> <p>Intro by Moderator: Dr. Aladdin Rillo, Head of Finance Cooperation Division, the ASEAN Secretariat</p> <p>Presenters: (7 mins each)</p> <p>ASEAN: Dr. Alladin Rillo, Head of Finance Cooperation Division, the ASEAN Secretariat</p> <p>World Bank: Dr. Riri Alatas, Senior Economist, WB Indonesia</p> <p>GTZ: Ms. Johanna Knoess, GTZ-Indonesia, Policy Adviser for Social Protection</p> <p>MF Indonesia: Mr. Anggito Abimanyu, Office of the Minister, Ministry of Finance</p> <p>UNDP: Ms. Michaela Prokop, UNDP Indonesia</p> <p>CSO: Mr. Sandagran Solomon Joseph Pitchay, NUBE Malaysia, General Secretary</p> <p>ASEAN: Ms. Mega Irena, Senior Officer, Social Welfare, Women, Labour and Migrant Workers Division, The ASEAN Secretariat</p> <p>GTZ: Dr. Apichai Sunchindah, GTZ-Thailand, Senior Policy Adviser</p> <p>OxfamHK: May Knoess</p> <p>AusAid: Ms. Jessica Hovernan, 1st Secretary Asia Regional Coordinator</p> <p>Open Forum</p>
12:00	13:30	Lunch Break
13:30	15:00	<p>Workshop 1: Defining people-centered programs and policies to respond to financial crisis in the context of other challenges (e.g. food crisis, climate change, labor issues)</p> <p>Workshop Moderator: Ms. Esther Penunia</p> <p>Groupings according to sectoral/thematic clusters, looking at cross-cutting issues of women, climate change, financing (incl. aid for trade), social protection. ASEAN and international agencies can choose the theme of interest to them.</p> <p>Group A: Agriculture Sector (farmers, fishers, IPs)</p> <p>Group B: Migrant workers and labor</p> <p>Group C: Consumers</p> <p>Group D: Small and Medium Enterprises</p>
15:00	15:30	Coffee/Tea Break
15:30	16:30	Presentation of Workshop results (10 mins each group)
16:30	17:30	Consensus building on CSO Recommendations to Regional and International Policy Making Bodies
17:30	17:45	Synthesis / Consensus points: Esther Penunia, AFA Secretary General
17:45	18:00	Announcements
18:30		Welcome Dinner/Socials hosted by UNI-Apro ASETUC

## Day 2, Wednesday, July 29, 2009

08:30	09:00	Review of the Previous Day's Sessions and Activities: Over-all Moderator Day 2: Ms. Marlene Ramirez
09:00	09:15	Presentation of CSO Recommendations to Regional and International Bodies
09:15	10:15	DIALOGUE WITH REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES:  Intro by Moderator: Ms. Mega Irena, Senior Officer, ASEAN Secretariat and Ms. Hira Jhamtani Semestha (TWN)  Responses / Comments on CSO Recommendations ASEAN WB GTZ G20  Open Forum
10:15	10:30	Break
10:30	11:15	Workshop 2 : Action Planning per thematic/sectoral concern  Workshop Moderator: Ms. Elena Rebagay, AsiaDHRRA
11:15	11:45	Plenary Reporting of Workshop Results (5 mins each group)
11:45	12:00	Synthesis of Plenary Session: Esther Penunia, AFA Secretary General
12:00	12:30	CLOSING PROGRAM  Closing Reflections Dr. Chan Darong, Director General for Technical Affairs, Ministry of Rural Development, Royal Government of Cambodia ASEAN SOM Representatives  Mr. Glenn Ymata, Secretariat Head, Southeast Asia Fisherfolks for Justice (SEAFISH) CSO Delegate  Closing Remarks Mr. Khamkhan Phinsavanh, Chairman, ASEAN Senior Officers Meeting for Labor and Migration Issues (SLOM) and Director General of Labour Management, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Lao PDR  Closing Message from the Organizers Ms. Sudaporn Sittisatahpornkul, AFA Chairperson
12:30	14:00	Lunch Break
		Departure of Regional Workshop Participants Steering Committee Post workshop Assessment Other Side Meetings

# About the Co-Organizers and Donors



# Co-organizers

## AsiaDHRRA

The Asian Partnership for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia (AsiaDHRRA) is a regional network with members in 10 Asian countries mostly in Southeast Asia. The network has been working with rural communities for the past 34 years employing musyawarah and community organizing approach towards building sustainable empowered rural communities. AsiaDHRRA also recognizes the importance of engaging national and regional intergovernmental bodies like ASEAN to advocate policies supportive of sustainable rural development. AsiaDHRRA together with other CSOs in the region has been engaging ASEAN on various initiatives ranging from policy dialogues on key rural development issues to on-ground project cooperation e.g. linking small farmers to market.

Its member in Indonesia, InDHRRA/Binadesa, supported the conference as recipient of the GTZ-Indonesia Fund transfer for the conference.

Website: [www.asiadhrra.org](http://www.asiadhrra.org)

## AFA

The Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), is a regional federation of 10 million small-scale farmers from eight Asian countries. Established in May 2002, its formation was a fruit of a three-year, five farmers'exchange visits. AFA endeavors to build a strong and dynamic regional lobby for genuine agrarian reform and sustainable rural development while facilitating the exchange of creative local grassroots initiatives that attempt to address the roots of rural poverty. It aims to promote and advocate for the rights of Asian farmers, promote cooperation and solidarity and support capacity building among them.

Website: [www.asianfarmers.org](http://www.asianfarmers.org)

## UNIAPRO

The Asia Pacific Region of UNI has more than 2.6 million members. The region comprises 6+ of the 10 largest countries (by population) in the world - China, India, Indonesia and Russia. Over one half of the world's population is in the Asia Pacific Region.

UNI-Apro as an integral part of UNI is fully committed to UNI's objectives and will co-operate closely with UNI and the other regional organisations to live up to the expectations of all our affiliates.

UNI-Apro will develop practical activities and services to strengthen the capacity and capability of affiliates in meeting the challenges of economic and technological globalization.

We will be strategic in our response and working closely with ICFTU-Apro, ITSs and NGOs operating in this region ensure that human and trade union rights are respected in all countries and by all employers.

Uni-APRO's member in Indonesia, ASETUC provided logistical support to the conference.

Website: <http://www.union-network.org/UNIAPRON.nsf/EnIndex?OpenPage>

## Donors

### GTZ-BMZ

As an international cooperation enterprise for sustainable development with worldwide operations, the federally owned Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH supports the German Government in achieving its development-policy objectives. It provides viable, forward-looking solutions for political, economic, ecological and social development in a globalised world. Working under difficult conditions, GTZ promotes complex reforms and change processes. Its corporate objective is to improve people's living conditions on a sustainable basis.

GTZ is a federal enterprise based in Eschborn near Frankfurt am Main. It was founded in 1975 as a company under private law. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is its major client. The

company also operates on behalf of other German ministries, the governments of other countries and international clients, such as the European Commission, the United Nations and the World Bank, as well as on behalf of private enterprises. GTZ works on a public-benefit basis. All surpluses generated are channelled back into its own international cooperation projects for sustainable development.

Website: <http://www.gtz.de/en/index.htm>

## **Oxfam Hongkong**

Oxfam Hong Kong is an independent development and relief agency based in Hong Kong. We work with poor people regardless of race, sex, religion or politics to find lasting solutions to problems of poverty and suffering, many of which are caused by exploitation and injustice.

We believe that people should be equally assured of their rights with dignity and respect, including access to food, shelter, employment, education and health, in a sustainable manner.

Oxfam Hong Kong is a member of Oxfam International. All Oxfam International members share a common vision but are autonomous, with different areas of focus. The Oxfams work together internationally to achieve greater impact on fighting poverty and injustice around the world.

Website: <http://www.oxfam.org.hk/public/main?>

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# Regional Conference on Impact of the Global Economic & Financial Crisis to the Vulnerable Sectors in the Region: Civil Society Voices and ASEAN

July 28-29, 2009 | Hotel Millennium Sirih, Jakarta, Indonesia



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<http://financialcrisisasia.blogspot.com/>

[www.asiadhrra.org](http://www.asiadhrra.org)

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