



ASEAN Foundation Supporting ASEAN Farmers



ASEAN
FOUNDATION

ASEAN at A Glance

The Association of the Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a grouping of 10 (ten) countries in Southeast Asia region which was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand. The current members of ASEAN are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.

The main purpose of the establishment of ASEAN as an inter-governmental organization is to “accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavors” and “promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and rule of law” (Bangkok Declaration 1967).

Since its establishment almost 50 years ago, ASEAN has evolved progressively. In 1997, the ASEAN Leaders adopted the ASEAN Vision 2020 which calls for a more stable, peaceful and prosperous ASEAN for everyone.

To achieve this goal, the leaders agreed that an ASEAN Community shall be formed by 2020 and it consists of three pillars:

**ASEAN Political-Security
Community**

ASEAN Economic Community

**ASEAN Socio-Cultural
Community**

Each pillar has its own Blueprint, and together with the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Strategic Framework and IAI Work Plan Phase II (2009-2015), they form the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015.



Based on the ASEAN leaders’ decision in 2007 to accelerate the establishment of ASEAN Community, the ASEAN Community was formally launched on 22 November 2015 reiterating its vision for “a peaceful, stable and resilient Community” (ASEAN Community Vision 2025). The ASEAN Economic Community comes into effect on 31 December 2015 and the Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015 is succeeded by “**ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together**”.

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Since its establishment in 1997, the ASEAN Foundation (AF) has supported various agricultural projects through the Japan-ASEAN Solidarity Fund (JASF). In line with its mandate to address socio-economic disparities and alleviating poverty as well as to develop human resources and capacity building, AF continues and is committed to supporting farmers, rural entrepreneurs and agricultural workers which are essentially the backbone of the ASEAN community.

Over the years, AF has also established networks with key agricultural players in the region such as the Asian Partnership

ASEAN has funded :



for the Development of Human Resources in Rural Asia (AsiaDHRRA), Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA), Network of Aquaculture Centers in Asia Pacific, ASEAN Fisheries Working Group, Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture established by the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation (SEAMEO), Regional Volunteer Experts for Agricultural Modernisation, and Southeast Asian Council for Food and Security and Fair Trade (SEACON).

With the launch of the ASEAN Community in 2015 and to help move forward the objective of ASEAN 2025 which calls for an inclusive Community that is people-oriented and engaging, AF currently works on facilitating and coordinating the engagement and participation of the ASEAN farmers in the ASEAN processes and mechanisms through

the ASEAN Farmers' Organisations Support Programme (AFOSP), a multi-stakeholder project funded by the European Union (EU) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) under the consortium of the Asian Farmers' Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA) and La Via Campesina (LVC).



AFOSP – Engaging with ASEAN

The role of the ASEAN Foundation (AF) in AFOSP falls into the key activities focusing on promoting policy dialogues and interactions between farmers and rural organisations and the ASEAN level institutions. The overall mandate of AF is to actualise and energise the ASEAN Blueprint especially the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) blueprint.

Specifically, the key role of AF is to bridge the coordination between the relevant sectoral ASEAN bodies in support of AFOSP, such as those under the ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) and ASEAN Ministers Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (AMRDPE); and to facilitate the engagement and participation of the ASEAN farmers in the regional policy-making processes.

Activities of AF include:

- Familiarisation of FOs on the ASEAN structure, processes and dynamics.
- Monitoring/research the implementation of the relevant ASEAN work plans affecting ASEAN FOs.
- Convening forums to share monitoring/research findings.
- Promoting policy forums between ASEAN FOs and relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies.
- Facilitating thematic learning exchanges/knowledge.



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ASEAN Farmers' Organisations' Support Programme
(AFOSP) – Engaging with ASEAN

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