# LEVERAGING HUMAN CAPITAL: THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF SKILLED LABOR MOBILITY IN THE ASEAN REGION

### GUNTUR SUGIYARTO ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

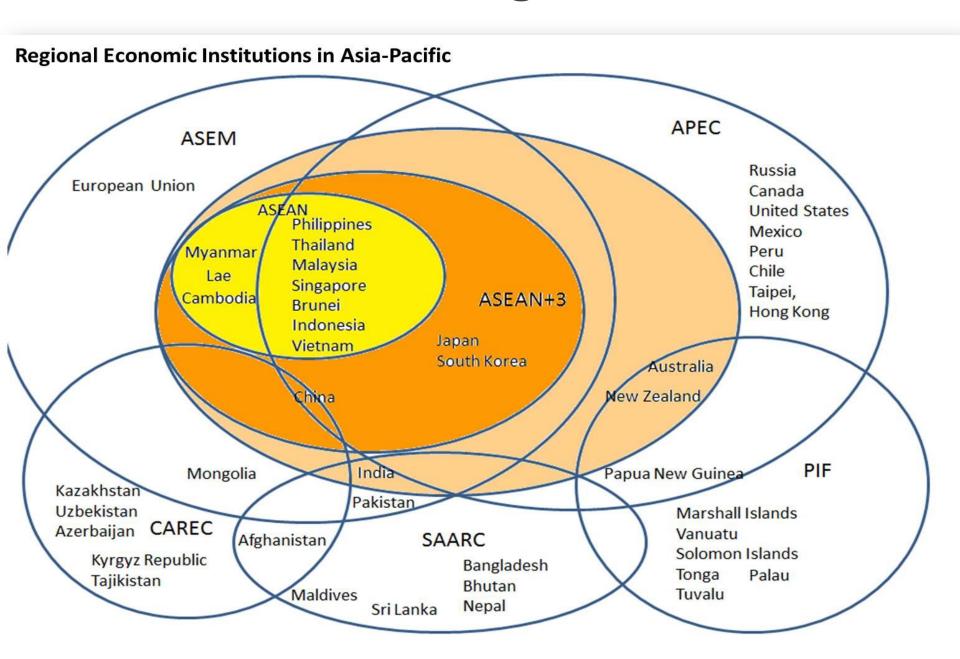


Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction





### **ASEAN** in the global context





#### The three pillars of ASEAN Community



# ASEAN Economic Community 2015 and beyond....

Single market and production base

Competitive economic region



Equitable economic development

Fully integrated region in the global economy

#### **KEY COMPONENT OF AEC: SKILL MOBILITY**

- Free Flow of Workers.... as part of the Single Market and Production Base.
- Foreign workers are really needed for:
  - A country cannot produce all skills needed.
  - Existing economic and demographic imbalances.
  - Overall condition of a country that can be rich or scarce in capital or labor creating

capital or labor demand.

How to manage the skill mobility.....!!!

#### SKILL MOBILITY IN ASEAN UNDER AEC

- But ASEAN Leaders wanted for "Freer flows of Professionals" under the Managed and Transparent Skill Mobility System:
  - based on the existing supply and demand gaps
  - started from professional groups and expanded to other skilled workers.
- Therefore, the direct benefit of skill mobility in ASEAN under AEC is very obvious, augmenting the domestic production and increasing productivity.

### OTHER DIRECT BENEFITS...

 Flexible and efficient labor market that would attract investments and skill workers.

#### Thus:

- Greater inflows of FDI
- Expanded trades in goods and services
- Rise in per capita income
- Narrower development gaps
- Competitive region...

### OTHER POTENTIAL BENEFITS...

- Encourage mutual recognitions of skills and talents.
- Promote regional cooperation among training institutes, universities, and research institutions.
- Better paid and better job for Skilled workers.
- Services and firms will benefit from increased employment and productivity.
- Increase human capital and knowledge generation.
- Makes ASEAN attractive to investors and workers.

### **HOW TO ACHIEVE...**

- Facilitate the skill mobility..
   (visas and employment passes for business and skilled workers)
- Recognition of professional qualifications (under the MRAs)
- Improve human resource development
- Strengthen labor market efficiency

#### POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT ...

Based on BAU + new measures in line with AEC By 2025 AEC could lead to:

- A significant increase in output and job.
- GDP increase by 7.1 per cent from the baseline, with the largest gains for lower-income ASEAN Member States.
- A net increase of 14 million jobs in six ASEAN economies, accompanied by the expansion and decline of specific sectors (ADB-ILO 2014).

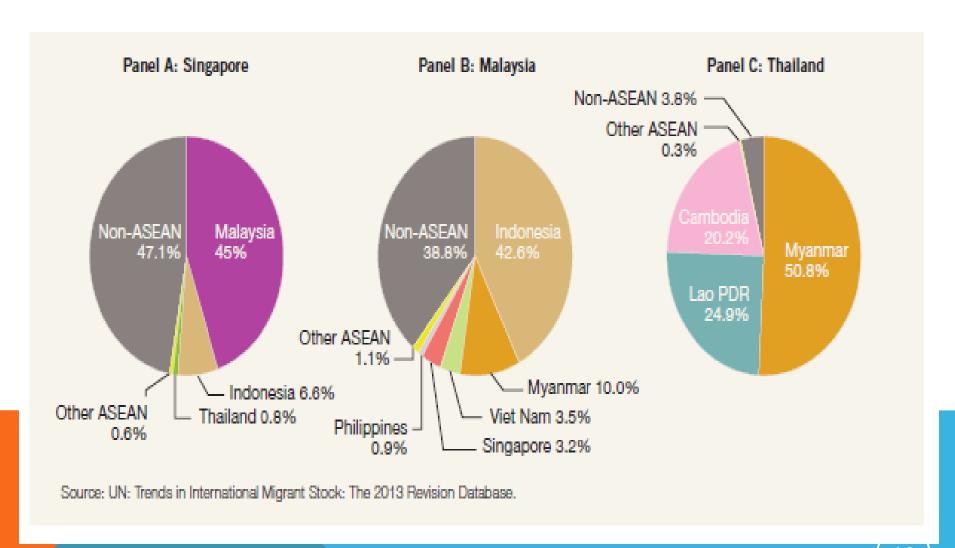
### POSITIVE FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO THE IMPACTS ...

- The labor migration in ASEAN is also occurs independently of trades, driven by the large inter-country differences in labor supply/demand, wage differentials, and demographic factors.
- The labor migration in ASEAN is temporary due to the "contract" nature and national regulations limiting permanent migration.
- The intra ASEAN-migration:
  - has been increasing and it tends to continue to increase after 2015.
  - Has a long term historical link and dynamic response to economic fluctuations.

### OTHER COUNTER FACTUAL SUPPORTING THE IMPACTS ...

- Some 6.5 million ASEAN citizens were reported to reside in other ASEAN states (UN Global Migration Database 2013).
- A significant number of non-ASEAN workers working in ASEAN countries
- Significant number of ASEAN university student studying abroad, including to other Asean countries (OECD report on Talent...good for knowledge transfer creating win-win situation).

## ORIGINS OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT STOCK IN SINGAPORE, MALAYSIA, AND THAILAND, 2013

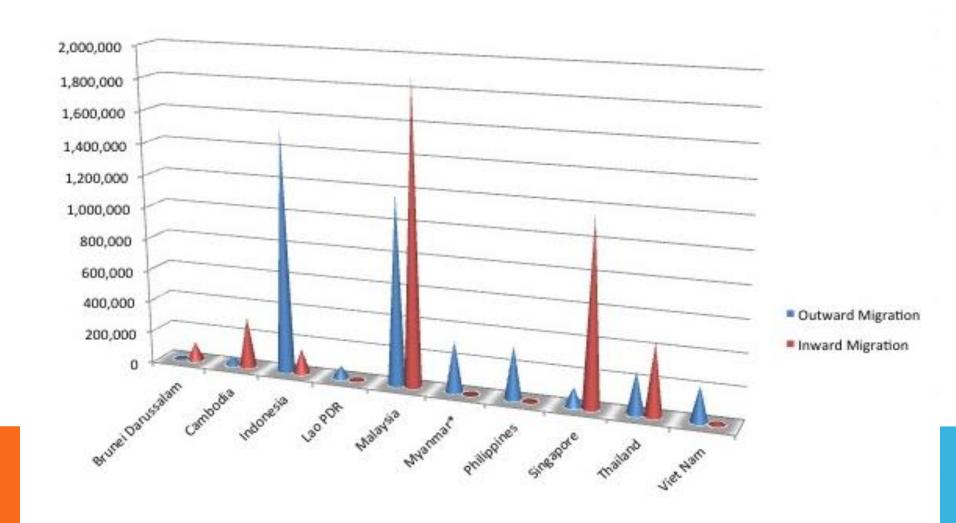


# ESTIMATE OF ASEAN AND INTRA-ASEAN INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT STOCKS IN 2000-13

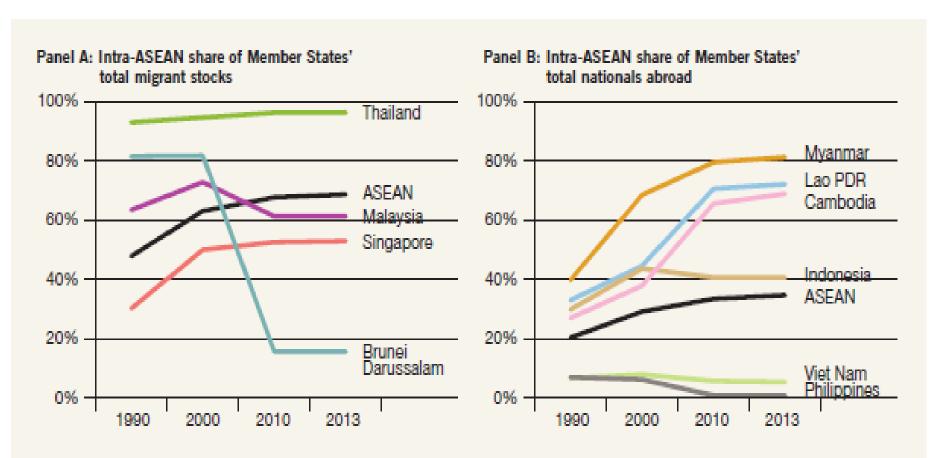
Source	Year	Total migrants in ASEAN	ASEAN migrants from another Member State	Intra-ASEAN share of ASEAN migrants (per cent)
World Bank: Global Bilateral Migration Database	2000	4 517 322	2 729 908	60.4
UN: Trends in International Migrant Stock Database	2000	5 265 008	3 315 514	63.0
Migration DRC: Global Migrant Origin Database (v.4)	2000-02	4 888 742	2 504 719	51.2
World Bank: Bilateral Migration Matrix	2010	6 700 932	3 954 547	59.0
UN: Trends in International Migrant Stock Database	2010	8 683 940	5 871 325	67.6
UN: Trends in International Migrant Stock Database	2013	9 497 690	6 513 354	68.6

Source: ADB/ILO:2014

### **INTRA-ASEAN MIGRATION, 2010**

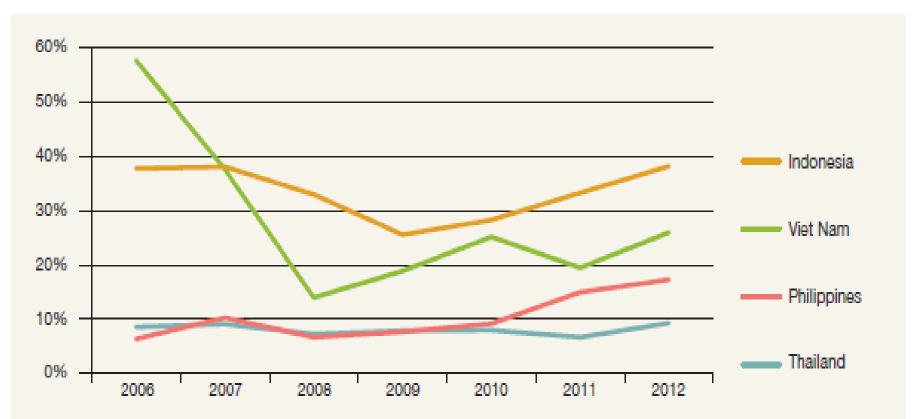


### INTRA-ASEAN MIGRATION SHARES 1990-2013 (PERCENT OF TOTAL)



Note: Data on ASEAN give the aggregated shares for the region as a whole. Source: UN: Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2013 Revision Database.

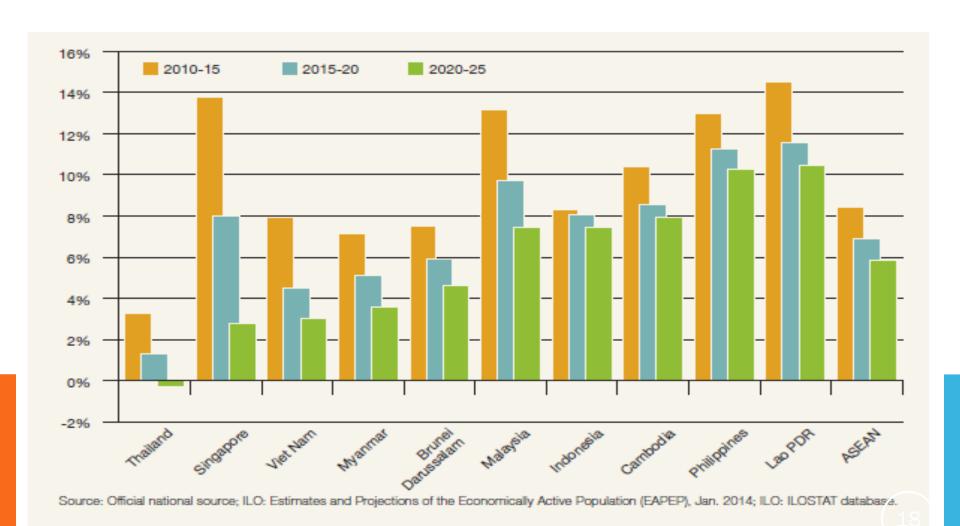
### INTRA-ASEAN SHARE OF OUTFLOW OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANT WORKERS, 2006-12 (% OF TOTAL)



Source: Indonesia: administrative records of the National Authority for the Placement and Protection of Indonesian Overseas Workers based on the annual number of workers placed abroad; the Philippines: administrative records of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration based on daily departures of land-based overseas Filipino workers (including new hires and rehires); Thailand: administrative records of the Department of Employment, Ministry of Labour, including all registered workers; Viet Nam: administrative records of the Department of Overseas Labour, including only workers under contract-based employment.

#### STILL RELATIVELY YOUNG POPULATION:

### PROJECTED GROWTH OF LABOR FORCE 2010-15, 2015-20, AND 2020-25 (%)



#### TRENDS IN THE FUTURE...

- Changes in the sectoral distribution of employment will shift occupation demand. The largest demand will continue to be for low- and medium-skill workers, but the demand for skill workers will increase faster.
- Bigger and more integrated market will under AEC will create more demand for different types of labor increasing employment and reducing skill mismatch.
- The skill mobility will attract more skills and mobility, creating a productive self reinforcing mechanism.

### Thank you...!