ISEAS-RIETI Webinar **SDGs and Business Contribution in Southeast Asia**

Tuesday, 25 May 2021

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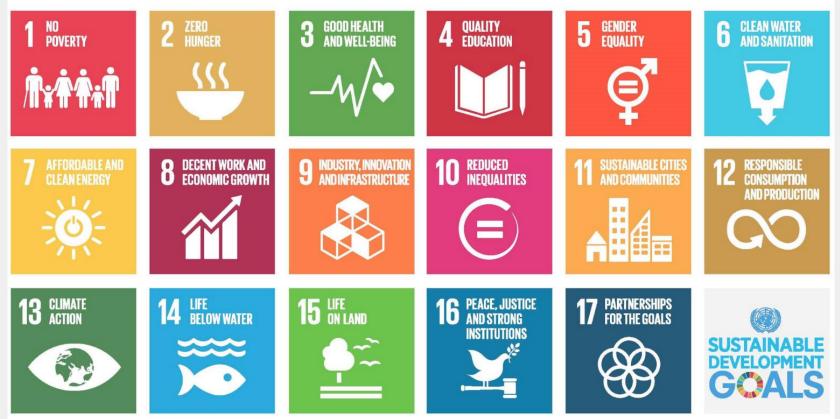


Southeast Asia's Progress on the SDGs

Sharon Seah Senior Fellow Coordinator, ASEAN Studies Centre ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute

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Southeast Asia's SDG Progress: Main trends since 2000



Significant progress for Goals 1, 2 and 3



Southeast Asia is on track for Goals 4 and 9



Negative trends on Goals 10, 13 and 16

UNESCAP Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2021

ASEAN's SDG Key Achievement: 2016-2018





Growth rate of GDP per capita increased, unemployment rates decreased



Proportion of seats held by women in parliaments increased

Proportion of women in managerial positions increased



Increased participation in organised learning, gender parity indices increased, access to facilities for primary schools, increased proportion of trained teachers

Still Fighting Environmental Challenges

Certain areas for improvement overlap with climate change drivers and impacts



Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters in the region reached 3,524 per 100,000 population in 2016



Proportion of natural forest in total land area decreased from 44.7% to 43.8% in 2016-2018



Share of renewable energy in total final energy consumption is declining, energy intensity staying relatively constant

Climate Change is Critical

Climate change has cascading impacts on other SDG indicators. Its potential impacts in Southeast Asia include:

- Reduced agricultural yields and forest harvests
- Reduced availability of clean water
- Greater incidence of diseases like malaria and dengue fever
- Economic losses of 6.7% of GDP each year by 2100
- Threatening the livelihoods of millions



Climate Change is Critical

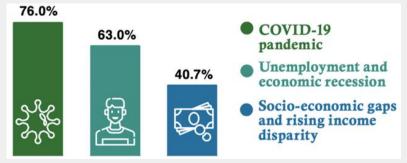
In turn, some SDG indicators affect drivers of climate change and climate action:

- Renewable energy share and energy efficiency
- Forest cover
- Infrastructure and industrialisation (including transport and manufacturing)



COVID-19's impact on Southeast Asia's SDGs

What are the top 3 challenges facing Southeast Asia?



Source: State of Southeast Asia Survey 2021

- Greater socio-economic gaps and rising income disparity (Goal 10)
- Reduced spending on critical goals
 - Goal 3 (health and well-being)
 - O Goal 4 (education)
 - O Goal 7 (clean energy)
 - O Goal 10 (income inequalities)
 - O Goal 13 (climate action)

Southeast Asia Perceptions on Climate Change and Climate Action

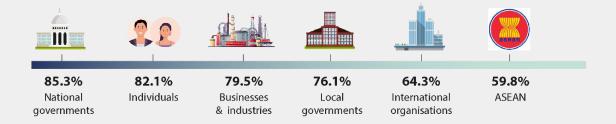


Download the report here



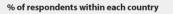
Burden of Climate Change

Who, in your opinion, is responsible for tackling climate change?



In your opinion, who should bear the costs of climate change measures?

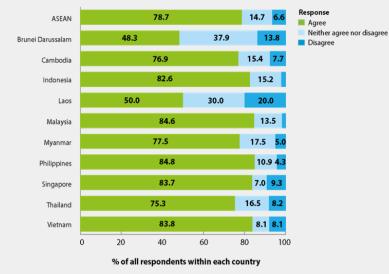




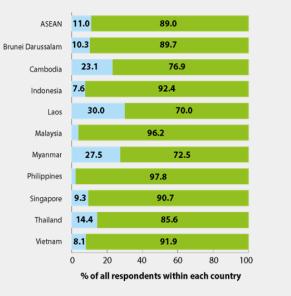


Renewable Energy and Decarbonisation

16. "Reduction of dependence on fossil fuels will be painful in the short term but beneficial to ASEAN economies in the long term." Do you agree?



17. "There is potential for ASEAN to tap into the renewable energy sector." Do you agree?

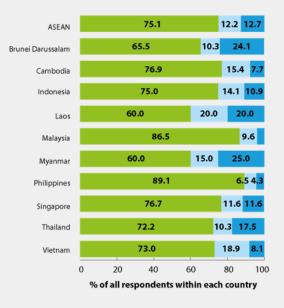




Response 📒 Agree 📃 Neither agree nor disagree

Renewable Energy and Decarbonisation

18. Are you confident that adopting climate change measures and policies will drive innovation and competitiveness of your economy?



Response Not confident Not comment Confident







ASEAN-Japan cooperation in SDG advancement



Public Health

O Strengthening of Disaster Health Management in ASEAN



Sustainable Energy

- O ASEAN-Japan Energy Efficiency Partnership Programme
- Energy Efficiency Market Transformation with Information Provision Scheme (EMTIPS)



Transportation

- O ASEAN-Japan Best Practices on Green Logistics
- O Green Logistics Vision and Action Plans



Opportunities for Partnership with Japan

- SEA needs help with Green Recovery post-Covid.
- Major powers (e.g. China, Japan and South Korea) are accelerating investments in low-carbon technologies → falling costs



Closer trade relations between ASEAN and major powers (AFTA, RCEP, CPTPP) Greater access to digital technologies, low-carbon technology + economic diversification

Meet demand for bridging digital divide, low-carbon production







Faster, greener and sustainable recovery



Opportunities in climate action and sustainable development





- Wind turbine production potential
- Lithium ion and electric vehicle production potential
- Nature-based solutions

- Specialises in producing components for smart grids, solar PV and energy storage
- Supportive policies for investment in solar



- Exports seven times the global average in solar PV components
- Moratorium on coalfired power
- Will allow 100% foreign ownership in geothermal projects
- Nature-based solutions





Thank you



Questions? E: climatechange@iseas.edu.sg