

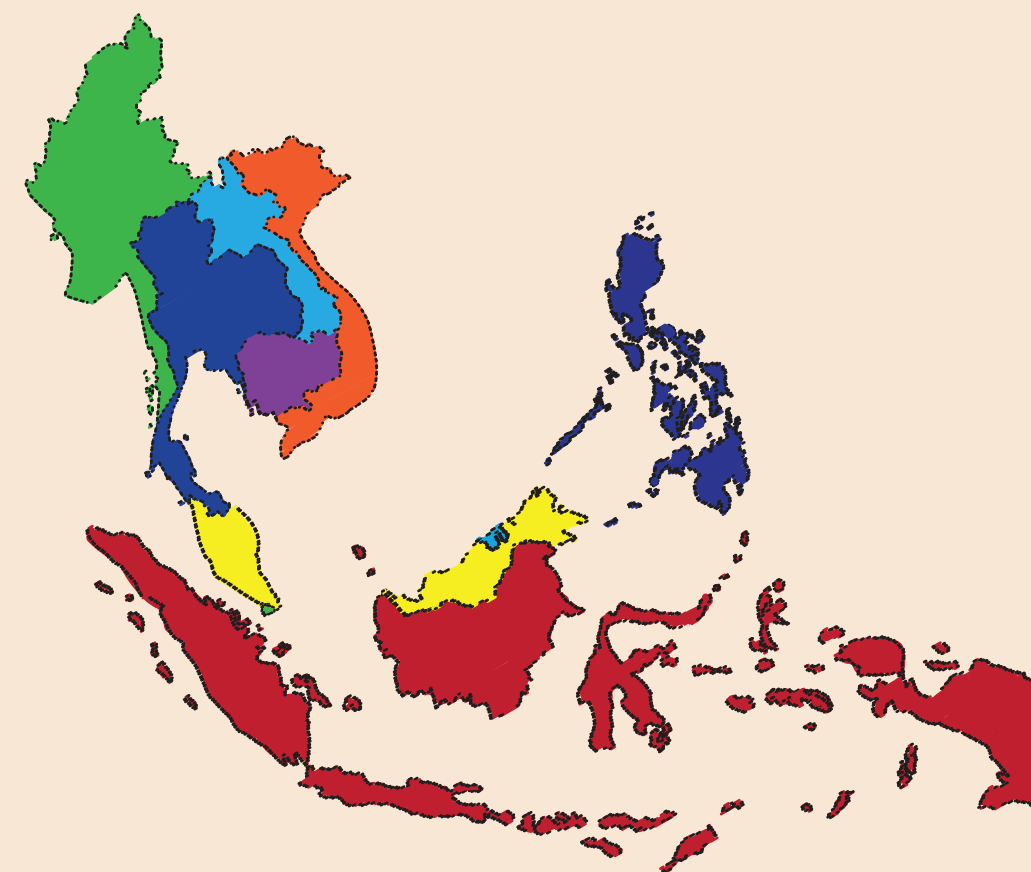
The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) will create a single market and production base and new opportunities for prosperity for the region's 600 million women and men. This will have implications for job gains and losses, skills development, wages and productivity, labour migration, social protection systems, and building connectivity. However, unless managed properly, the AEC may not translate into benefits for everyone and could increase existing inequalities.

To realize the full potential of the AEC to deliver more and better jobs, decisive action is necessary, including better management of structural change, ensuring that economic gains lead to shared prosperity while strengthening regional cooperation and tripartite dialogue.

Ultimately, the success of ASEAN regional integration will depend on how it affects the labour market – and therefore on how it improves the quality of life of women and men in the region.

The full report, *ASEAN Community 2015: Managing integration for better jobs and shared prosperity*, can be accessed at www.ilo.org/asia

ASEAN COMMUNITY 2015: MANAGING INTEGRATION FOR BETTER JOBS AND SHARED PROSPERITY



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International
Labour
Organization

Current situation

DESPITE IMPRESSIVE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE, TOO MANY PEOPLE IN ASEAN STILL HAVE POOR QUALITY JOBS.



40% (121 million) of ASEAN workers are in low-income agriculture.



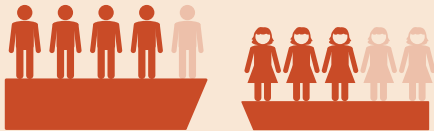
59% (179 million) of ASEAN workers are in vulnerable employment.



Youth unemployment is high (13%).



Massive wage and development gaps exist between countries.



Fewer women than men enter the labour market.



Labour migration is driven by low-skilled workers lacking rights and protection.



Inequality is on the rise.

Challenges and opportunities of the AEC 2015

THE AEC WILL DELIVER BENEFITS TO THE REGION BUT RISKS LEAVING SOME BEHIND AND AGGRAVATING INEQUALITIES.



Job gains could exceed job losses by 14 million in 2025.



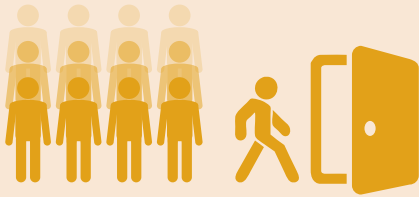
Gains will be distributed unevenly.



Increasing labour productivity could boost wages.



Growing demand for high-skilled workers worsens skill shortages.



Less than 1% of workers benefit from the free flow of skilled labour under AEC.



The migration of medium- and low-skilled workers will increase.

Priorities for action

TO REALIZE THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE AEC AND DELIVER SHARED PROSPERITY, ASEAN MUST TAKE DECISIVE ACTION.



Manage structural change.



Ratify and implement international labour standards to promote rights and create a fair business environment.



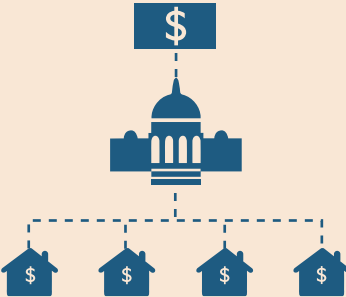
Enhance social protection for all.



Support small enterprises.



Upgrade and recognize skills, including those of migrant workers.



Share prosperity through stronger labour market institutions.



Strengthen regional cooperation and implement existing commitments.