

**ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS** 

Inter-Sectoral Consultation on the Development of a Plan of Action for the Implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection 8-9 December 2014, Siem Reap, Cambodia

> H.E. Alicia dela Rosa-Bala Deputy Secretary-General for ASCC The ASEAN Secretariat



• **ASEAN Charter**: "To enhance the well-being and livelihood of the peoples of ASEAN by providing them with equitable access to opportunities for human development, social welfare and justice".

 ASCC Blueprint: realising a people-centred and socially responsible ASEAN Community, where the well-being, livelihood and welfare of the peoples are enhanced



- Relevant ASEAN Declarations
- ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, Article 30(1): "Every person shall have the right to social security, including social insurance where available, which assists him or her to secure the means for a dignified and decent existence".
- Ratification of CEDAW, CRC, CRPD (majority of AMS) and other related instruments



#### **Relevant ASCC Sectoral Bodies**

- Senior Labour Officials Meeting (SLOM)
- Senior Officials Meeting for Social Welfare and Development (SOMSWD)
- Senior Officials Meeting on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE)
- ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW)
- Senior Officials Meeting on Health and Development (SOMHD)
- ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM)

## History

- 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum on Social Welfare and Development (20 Sep 2011, Bangkok)
  - Recommended for strengthening social protection in ASEAN and development of a declaration
- 7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum (11 Sep 2012, Ha Noi)
  - Recommended the parameters of the proposed an ASEAN declaration on the strengthening social protection
- Workshop on Social Protection and Promoting Social Services for Vulnerable Groups (12 Sep 2012, Ha Noi)
  - Recommended actions towards universal coverage and better delivery of social protection
- 8<sup>th</sup> SOMSWD (13-14 Sep 2012, Ha Noi)
  - Agreed with the 7<sup>th</sup> ASEAN GO-NGO Forum's recommendation to develop the declaration in consultation with other relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies for adoption by the Leaders

## History

- Inter-Sectoral Workshop on Strengthening Social Protection in ASEAN (24-25 June 2013, the ASEAN Secretariat)
  - SOMSWD, SLOM, SOMRDPE, SOMHD, ACDM, ACW, and SOMDP were invited
  - Declaration was drafted
- Consultations of the Declaration's text with the sectoral bodies
- Adoption at the 23<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Summit



### ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection:



- Everyone, especially those who are poor, at risk, persons with disabilities, older people, out-of-school youth, children, migrant workers, and other vulnerable groups, is entitled to have equitable access to social protection that is a basic human right and based on a rights-based/needsbased, life-cycle approach and covering essential services as needed;
- Extending coverage, availability, quality, equitability and sustainability of social protection should be gradually promoted to ensure optimal benefits to the beneficiaries;
- Social protection covers, but is not limited to, social welfare and development, social safety-nets, social insurance, social assistance, social services, in ASEAN Member States;

- Implementation of social protection should be based on respect for fundamental freedoms, promotion and protection of human rights, promotion of social justice, social solidarity, non-discrimination, accessibility, reasonable accommodation, gender equality, social inclusiveness, coherence, and accountability;
- Implementation of social protection towards progressive realisation in ASEAN Member States is the main responsibility of the respective governments based on national legislations, policies, programmes, strategies, standards and guidelines;
- Social protection is a cross-cutting issue, hence its implementation requires coordinated and holistic approaches with the involvement of governments, private sectors, development partners, civil society, service providers, and other stakeholders, where appropriate;

- Family unit and the community are an important element in supporting and delivering social protection services and therefore should be strengthened and preserved;
- Inclusive and participatory approach should be ensured in the planning, programming and budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes of social protection at all levels in the region to realise the strengthening of institutional capacity, transparency and responsiveness to the needs of those concerned;
- Social protection is **an investment in people** that should be supported by adequate resources in order to empower them to meet their basic needs;
- Social protection shall be adaptive to the different risks such as lifestyle and individual risks, social risks, and emerging risks and vulnerabilities faced by the region such as, but not limited to, changes in the economy and labour markets and impacts of climate change, disasters and economic crises.

#### ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection:

#### **Strategies and Mechanisms**



## Priorities

- Support national policies, strategies, mechanisms, targeting systems of social protection services;
- Advocate strategies that promote the coverage, availability, comprehensiveness, quality, equitability, affordability and sustainability of social protection services;
- Collectively accelerate the progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in all ASEAN Member States by strengthening capacity to assess and manage health systems to support UHC through sharing of experiences, information and experts;

### Assessment

- Promote results-based and evidence-based national assessments and benchmarking of social protection delivery services;
- Explore and develop assessment tools and regional statistical indicators where appropriate to measure the impact of social protection;



### Resources

- Allocate adequate financial resources for social protection in line with national targets and subject to the capacity of each Government;
- Strengthen the capacity of government officials, communities, service providers, and other stakeholders for better responsiveness, coordination and effectiveness;



### Mechanisms

- Foster the involvement of the existing mechanisms of ASEAN sectoral bodies in promoting social protection in the region through projects and activities to support ASEAN Member States;
- Assign the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Social Welfare and Development (AMMSWD), with the support of SOMSWD, as the focal point for inter-sectoral cooperation on social protection at regional level, while acknowledging the different national coordinating mechanisms in ASEAN Member States;

### Mechanisms

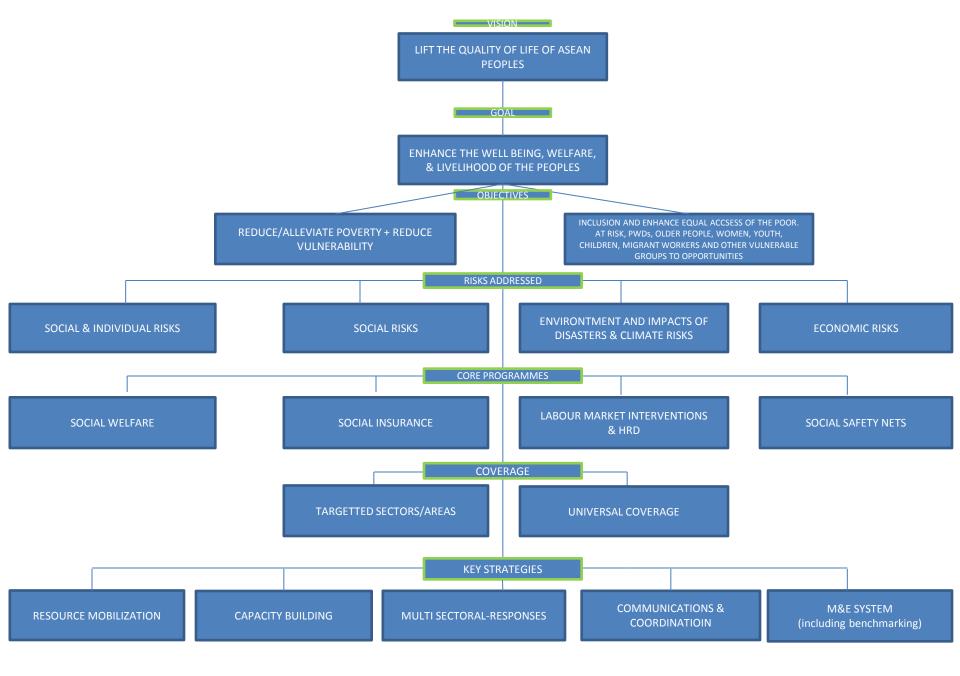
- Promote multi-sectoral responsiveness of social protection through consultations, sharing of information on good practices and policies, knowledge management, cooperation, and coordination on social protection amongst the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies with the support of the ASEAN Secretariat;
- Build and strengthen the networking and partnerships within and among ASEAN Member States as well as with Dialogue Partners, UN Agencies, civil society, private sectors, development partners, and other stakeholders in supporting adequate resources and effective implementation of the commitments reflected in this Declaration.

#### **Proposed Definition of Social Protection**

**Social Protection as public intervention consists of** policies and programmes designed to reduce poverty and vulnerability by assisting the poor, at risk and vulnerable groups such as but not limited to women, children, youth, person with disabilities, migrant workers, older people, families and communities to enhance their capacities to better manage risks and enhance equal access to essential services and opportunities on a rights based/needs based.

### Proposed Social Protection Framework





# Thank you

