



# Mekong Migration Network (MMN)

Recognize, Respect and Promote the Human Rights of  
All Migrants in Mekong



## ASEAN INTEGRATION AND THE RACE TO THE BOTTOM APF in Yangon, March 22, 2014

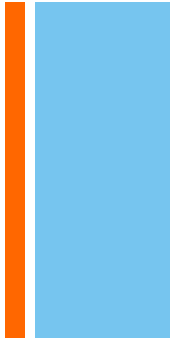
BY Ms. Vichuta Ly

Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW)

Migration Mekong Network (MMN)



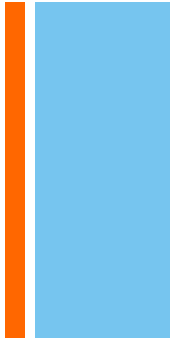
# ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Roadmap to 2015



1. Is a wish list of the —convergence of interests of ASEAN member countries;
2. is to deepen and broaden economic integration through initiatives with clear timelines;
3. is to transform ASEAN into a single market and production base;
4. is a commitment to use new mechanisms and measures;
5. will address the development divide by accelerating the integration of Cambodia, Laos PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) with the older member countries.



# AEC's goals in the *Roadmap*



- Single market and production base
  - a) Free flow of goods
  - b) Free flow of trades
  - c) Free flow of services
- A highly competitive economic region
- A region of equitable economic development, and
- A region fully integrated into the global economy



# ASEAN Economic Community



AEC Scorecard

## ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

### Single Market and Production Base

Free flow of goods

Free flow of services

Free flow of investment

Free flow of capital

Free flow of skilled labor

Priority Integration Sectors

Food, Agriculture, and Forestry

### Competitive Economic Region

Competition Policy

Consumer Protection

Intellectual Property Right

Transport

Energy

ICT

Taxation

E-Commerce

### Equitable Economic Development

Small and Medium Enterprises

Initiative for ASEAN Integration

### Integration into the Global Economy

Coherent Approach towards External Economic Relations

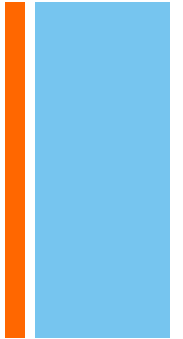
Enhanced Participation in Global Supply Networks

#### Key to ASEAN Economic Community

- Political will
- Coordination and resource mobilization;
- Implementation arrangements;
- Capacity building and institutional strengthening; and
- Public and private sector consultations.



# ASEAN integration and its impacts on workers



Stages of economic integration	Main characteristics
Free Trade Area (FTA)	No tariffs among member countries
Custom Union (CU) FTA	Common external tariff (CET)
Common Market (CM) CU	Free movement of labour and capital
Economic Union (EU) CM	Common economic policy and institution



# Impacts on workers through Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)



## Negative Impact

- Displacement of communities through mega development projects and land concessions
- Lack of skills development due to the development of low skilled industries – unskilled workers have less opportunity for new jobs
- Lack of job security due to increasing use of short term and casual contracts even in the formal economy
- Weak legal framework, no complaints mechanism, no access to justice
- Increase government oppression
- Cross cultural conflict
- Implications on migration – lead to exploitation and trafficking

## Positive Impact

- Jobs creation, decrease unemployment, and earn higher wages
- Greater choice of employers – no longer only the “cronies” providing the jobs
- Developing industries other than natural resources
- Improvements in infrastructure and technology
- Change to gender relationships as new industries and technologies give women more opportunities for leadership
- Create opportunities for Small and Medium Enterprise's (SME's)
- Reduced visa restrictions and more interaction between workers within ASEAN
- Better labour standards



Thank you for attention!

Any Question?

