

OECD/ESCAP/ADB
Regional Consultation
Inclusive Growth in
Southeast Asia

Agenda

9 June 2015,
UN Conference Centre,
Bangkok, Thailand



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DRAFT AGENDA

OECD/ESCAP/ADB REGIONAL CONSULTATION

In partnership with the OECD Development Centre

Inclusive Growth in Southeast Asia

*United Nations Conference Centre, Meeting Room H
Bangkok, Thailand*

9 June 2015

Over the past two decades, Southeast Asia (SEA) has experienced a period of remarkable economic and social gains, with millions being lifted out of poverty and several countries attaining middle-income status. The region's ability to capitalise on open global markets for goods and services has been crucial to its economic transformation and social improvement. It is also actively engaged on an ambitious path of regional integration, including through the formation of the ASEAN Economic Community. Yet, the drivers which have powered growth in recent years cannot be relied upon indefinitely. In many cases, the same forces that drove productivity and income growth — i.e. technological progress, globalisation and market-oriented reform — have also contributed to increasing inequalities in many SEA countries, leaving some of the poor in the region languishing in informal labour markets, cut-off from the benefits of growth and opportunity enjoyed by increasing numbers of their fellow countrywomen and men.

If left unaddressed, rising inequalities may pose real dangers to political stability and threaten to leave long-term economic potential unfulfilled, if a substantial section of a society is excluded from the benefits of growth. To sustain economic progress over the coming years and buttress continued improvements in broad-based living standards, it will be increasingly necessary for SEA governments to ensure that the proceeds of growth are more evenly and efficiently spread. In the context of a sluggish global recovery, combined with pressure on competitiveness that makes exporting more challenging, there is a need to discuss what can be done to support SEA in sustaining robust economic growth with greater inclusiveness. This conversation is particularly timely in light of the ongoing discussion on the Post-2015 development agenda, and emphasis of the Sustainable Development Goals on equity and inclusion.

A number of paths are open to governments to pursue more inclusive growth. Investing in the skills, health and social welfare of all SEA citizens will provide a platform for future growth, helping the region to move up global value chains in trade, and shift economic activity towards higher productivity sectors. At the same time, putting in place an adequate social safety net will help to facilitate the reallocation of labour to higher productivity sectors, and stop those at the bottom from falling too far behind.

The OECD/ESCAP/ADB regional consultation on inclusive growth will engage experts, policy makers, practitioners and civil society from SEA in a dialogue on the trends and drivers of inclusive growth in the region, conceptual approaches to inclusive growth, and policies to promote inclusive growth. These discussions will touch upon those areas – such as social protection systems, education and skills, trade and investment – that are at the heart of the region's continuing pursuit of rapid economic development and social progress.

There will be four moderated sessions: Session 1: Trends and Drivers of Growth and Inequalities in Southeast Asia; Session 2: Towards a Relevant Concept of Inclusive Growth for the Region; and Session 3: Key Policy Drivers of Inclusive Growth in Southeast Asia in the Post 2015 Development Landscape – Social Protection Systems, Education and Skills; Session 4 Key Policy Drivers of Inclusive Growth in Southeast Asia in the Post 2015 Development Landscape – Trade and Labour Markets. All participants are invited to actively engage in discussions; the aim of this meeting is to encourage open and intimate conversations, for this reason there will be no PowerPoint or prepared presentations.

OPENING SESSION

09:00-09:30 Welcome Session

- Mr. Shun-ichi Murata, Deputy Executive Secretary, ESCAP
- Mr. Rintaro Tamaki, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD
- Mr. Juzhong Zhuang, Deputy Chief Economist and Deputy Director General, Economic Research and Regional Co-operation Department (ERCD), ADB

SESSION 1

09:30-10:30 TRENDS AND DRIVERS OF GROWTH AND INEQUALITIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Moderator: Mario Pezzini, Director, OECD Development Centre

Discussions during this session will set the scene for the consultation, providing an overview of the trends and drivers of growth and inequalities in SEA, raising questions on the causes of inequalities in the region, looking at the question of inequality of opportunity and income, and discussing the scope and nature of the types of actions and policies, in particular fiscal policies, that may foster more inclusive growth.

Elements for Discussion

- *Is income inequality an inevitable consequence of vigorous economic growth in SEA countries? Why are different countries' experiences different in both respects?*
- *What have been the defining trends with regards to inclusiveness of growth in SEA countries, and what have been the countries' responses?*
- *How much fiscal margin for manoeuvre do different SEA countries for financing and implementing more ambitious social programmes?*
- *How much further scope is there for: (i) "static" fiscal policies (i.e. taxing the better-off and transferring income directly to the disadvantaged) and for (ii) "dynamic" fiscal policies (i.e. taxing the better off in order to finance health, education and other social policies targeted at the disadvantaged)?*

10:30-10:45 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 2

10:45-12:00 TOWARDS A RELEVANT CONCEPT OF INCLUSIVE GROWTH FOR THE REGION

Moderator: Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, Senior Advisor and Co-ordinator of Inclusive Growth and Knowledge-Sharing Alliance, OECD

Discussions during this session will focus on the institutional approaches (OECD, ESCAP, ADB) to inclusive growth with a view to identifying the dimensions of inclusive growth that are most relevant in the SEA region, followed by an open exchange on the different approaches and concepts. Each of the three organisations has been actively involved in the Inclusive Growth agenda, and an objective of this session is to share knowledge on the issue in the specific regional context of SEA.

Presentations on OECD, ESCAP and ADB approaches to Inclusive Growth:

- Mr. Aynul Hasan, Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, ESCAP
- Mr. Paul Schreyer, Deputy Director, Statistics Directorate, OECD
- Mr. Juzhong Zhuang, Deputy Chief Economist and Deputy Director General, ERCD, ADB

Elements for Discussion

- *What do the different approaches to Inclusive Growth frameworks proposed by OECD, ESCAP and ADB have in common, and how can they complement each other when applied to SEA countries?*
- *How can spatial disparities be best reflected in an Inclusive Growth framework alongside inequalities?*
- *What are the main methodological challenges, including in terms of data collection, that need to be addressed to implement Inclusive Growth in the regional context?*
- *How can specific regional characteristics such as informal labour markets, gender inequality be integrated into a relevant Inclusive Growth concept?*

12:00-13:00 LUNCH

SESSION 3

13:00-14:45 KEY POLICY DRIVERS OF INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IN THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT LANDSCAPE:

SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS, EDUCATION AND SKILLS

Moderator: Bart W. Édes, Director, Social Development, Governance and Gender Division, ADB

Discussions during this session will focus on the social policies that can drive inclusive growth, and experiences with the implementation of effective inclusive policies in the region. Special attention will be devoted to identifying trade-offs and complementarities among policies.

Elements for Discussion

- *How can we build an inclusive social protection system that addresses risks and vulnerabilities at all critical stages of the entire life cycle? How are such systems best financed: progressive taxation; consumption taxes; social insurance schemes?*
- *What are the main challenges in terms of public sector capacities, skills and tools to design and implement Inclusive Growth policy packages?*
- *How can governments and development partners support the sharing of experiences and good practices in social policy implementation in the region? Can the ASEAN framework play a role?*
- *How can education and skills policies be better connected with development strategies and serve as an engine for decent jobs?*

14:45-15:00 COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 4

15:00-17:00 KEY POLICY DRIVERS OF INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN SOUTHEAST ASIA IN THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT LANDSCAPE:

TRADE AND LABOUR MARKETS

Moderator: Susan Stone, Director, Trade and Investment Division, ESCAP

Discussions during this session will focus on complementary policies required to foster more inclusive economic development and improve functioning of labour markets in the landscape of greater openness and regional connectivity. Special attention will be devoted to identifying trade-offs and complementarities among policies.

Elements for Discussion

- *How did trade drive structural change in SEA?*
- *What is the impact of increased participation in production networks on wage inequality in SEA countries?*
- *Is there a trade-off between job protection and job creation in the export-oriented manufacturing sector?*
- *Are there trade policies that could improve the employment prospects of the lowest skilled workers?*
- *What are the main challenges in terms of public sector capacities, skills and tools to design and implement Inclusive Growth policy packages?*

17:00-17:30: CLOSING SESSION

Moderator: Aynul Hasan, Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division, ESCAP

- Summary of discussions and closing remarks

预览已结束，完整报告链接和

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