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Towards sustainable development - policy oriented, practical and strategic research on global environmental issues

Sustainable Development Goals in the Context of the ASEAN Community 2015

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SDGs and ASEAN Economic Community

SDGs

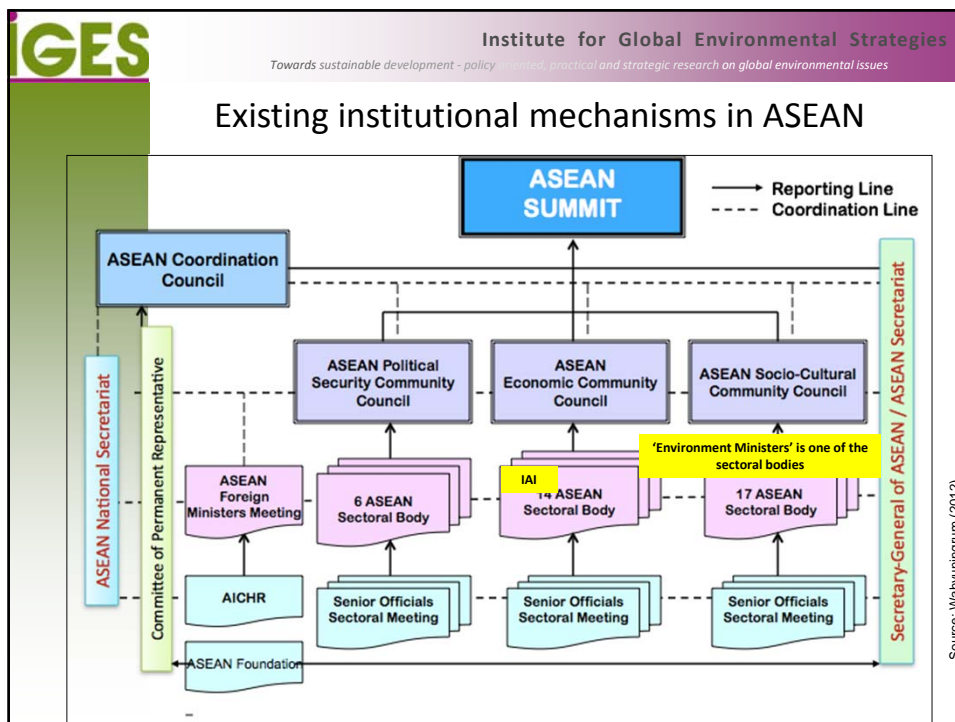
- New set of global development goals to guide development (2015-2030)
- For economic development, social equity and environmental sustainability
- Compared to the MDGs, the SDGs will be integrated, universally applicable and transformative

ASEAN EC

- Integration to officially begin in 2015;
- 3 pillars of ASEAN Community: Economic Community, Political and Security Community, Socio-cultural Community
- ASEAN to “ensure sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations and to place the well-being, livelihood and welfare of the peoples at the centre of the ASEAN community building process” (ASEAN charter 2008)

Links between ASEAN EC and the future SDGs:

- ✓ *Convergence between the objectives of SD and that of ASEAN's mandate*
- ✓ *Time overlap (both SDGs and the ASEAN Community will start in 2015)*
- ✓ *ASEAN already incorporated the MDGs into their main strategies for Regional Integration*
- ✓ *It seems logical that ASEAN should take into account SDGs and 3 dimensions of sustainable development in their RI process as well*



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How did ASEAN approach the MDGs?

MDGs	Occurrence in the three blueprints for RI			Corresponding mechanisms
	AEC	APSC	ASCC	
Goal 1 (poverty eradication)	✓		✓	Other relevant bodies include: ASEAN Heads of Statistical Offices Meeting, Ministers Meeting on Development Planning, and IAI Task Force (narrowing development gaps).
Goal 2 (education)			✓	
Goal 3 (gender equality)			✓	
Goal 4, 5, 6 (health)	✓		✓	
Goal 7 (environment)			✓	
Goal 8 (global partnership)	✓	✓	✓	


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Some of the possible SDGs

From the recently concluded OWG sessions in NYC

- Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all
- Reduce inequality within and among countries
- Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Compared to the MDGs the SDGs are more complex and must deal with cross-sectoral effect between pursuit of different goals



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Proposed approach to SDGs

Level of action	Recommended actions by T1	Recommended actions by T2
High-level Expression of Commitment	ASEAN Leaders to incorporate SDGs as the successor to MDGs at future ASEAN Summits ASEAN Coordinating Council to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarify/specify/mandate responsibility of SDG-RI activities to CPRs and ASEAN National Secretariats • establish ASEAN Development Fund with support for SDG activities within ASEAN framework 	UN agencies to build awareness about SDGs among ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN member states and aid with capacity for implementation
Policy making	Revise the ASEAN Roadmap on the Attainment of MDGs into a new Roadmap for Attainment of SDGs	IGES, ARCMDGs and ESCAP to initiate close connections to official ASEAN dialogue partners and T1 (governments) regional policy coherence
Implementation	CPR and ASEAN National Secretariat to link directly with country-based implementing agencies such as ADB, WB, UNDP, WHO, UNICEF etc.	IOs with access to T1 processes to propose implementation mechanisms, and offer funding resources or coordination services
Monitoring & Evaluation	Same as above, in terms of collecting data and information for M&E across multiple ministries	
Intra-ASEAN Coordination among SDGs	Create 'coalitions of willing' among countries with common challenges in specific SDG thematic areas	IOs support implementation capacity among those 'coalitions of willing'
Overall multi-stakeholder Coordination	Governments support emerging participation mechanisms as proposed by NGOs in the region	NGOs develop closer working relationship and trust with T1

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Recommendations

- ASEAN incorporated MDGs (former development goals) into their strategic documents (2009)
- ASEAN Community and SDGs both have 2015 as starting date
 - Many environmental impacts are expected from increased regional economic and social integration in ASEAN (transboundary/trans-national solutions.
 - ASEAN could prioritize SDGs as part of their integration post 2015
 - Use existing institutional framework (EC, PSC, SCC) but make greater effort at institutional coordination
 - For example expand the two track approach T1/T2 to plan and implement for future goals and targets (both RI and SDG related goals)

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Thank you

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