



ASEAN FOUNDATION

ANNUAL REPORT

2020





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ASEAN FOUNDATION



ABOUT US





Decades after ASEAN was established, ASEAN leaders recognised that there remained inadequate shared prosperity, ASEAN awareness and contact among people of ASEAN. It was because of this concern that ASEAN leaders established the ASEAN Foundation during the ASEAN 30th Anniversary Commemorative Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 15 December 1997.

Since the formation of ASEAN in 1967, ASEAN has gone on a long journey to accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region. And the ASEAN Foundation has been an integral part of this mission for the last two decades.



Our Vision

To build cohesive and prosperous ASEAN communities



Our Mission

To commit to promoting ASEAN awareness through people-to-people interaction, and collaboration with ASEAN stakeholders to build a caring, cohesive, equitable and peaceful ASEAN Community.

OUR PILLARS



Arts and Culture

Celebrating and preserving ASEAN's diversity, but also uniting its people as one ASEAN, and instilling a pride in being a part of ASEAN.



Community Building

Strengthening the relationships between ASEAN citizens, advancing their common interests, and getting them involved and benefiting from ASEAN's integration.



Education

Capacity building for ASEAN citizens, especially youth and students, with the skills and knowledge to be highly competitive and to advance ASEAN's socio-economic growth.



Media

Helping members of the media understand ASEAN better so that they can showcase the real stories of the real people of ASEAN.

MESSAGES FROM THE LEADERS



**H.E. Ambassador
Phasporn Sangasubana**
Chair of Board of Trustees, 2020

“

I am pleased to present the 2020 ASEAN Foundation Annual Report. This report chronicles the ASEAN Foundation's efforts in raising ASEAN awareness and, more importantly, in supporting the theme of 2020 Viet Nam's ASEAN Chairmanship, which is Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN, amidst the pandemic.

In spite of the unprecedented period that we experienced in 2020, the ASEAN Foundation has shown its commitment to continue to strengthen young people in the region by moving its entire regional initiatives to virtual engagement. While the COVID-19 poses challenges to how the Foundation operates regularly, the pandemic does not deter us to keep empowering youth as the future leaders of the region. In the time of pandemic, digitalisation is no longer an exclusivity, but necessity.

I am proud to witness that the ASEAN Foundation has welcomed this moment of rapid digital transformation with open arms. Since 2019, many of the ASEAN Foundation's projects are already dealing with the "Digital", such as the ASEAN Digital Innovation Programme, which aims to build youth's computer science skills, and ASEAN Data Science Explorers, which serves to improve the digital talents, skills, dynamism and resilience of its peoples.

In this difficult time, we will continue to explore ideas and initiatives that can deliver stronger impact to all ASEAN citizens, in the hope that all shall be benefitted from ASEAN's presence, to show that we all are in this together hand-in-hand, and to leave no one behind.

Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues at the Board of Trustees, ASEAN Member States, and all partners for their collaboration and continued support to the ASEAN Foundation's work.



Dr. Yang Mee Eng
Executive Director

“

The year of 2020 was truly a transformative year for us! It was a year full of new challenges and opportunities, but more importantly, it was a year that has made us all stronger.

The 2020 Annual Report will further detail our efforts of resilience, perseverance, and collaborative partnerships, all in the spirit of realising the goals of ASEAN Community.

This report is a reflection of adaptation and innovation. We adapted the implementation methods of our activities under our three pillars: Arts and Culture, Community Building and Education to fit the needs of our youth in the time of pandemic. We innovated our ways of awareness-raising beyond on-the-ground activities, shifting it into impactful virtual engagement. We did all this with one purpose in mind: to bring ASEAN closer to us all and solidify people-to-people interactions.

Since the arrival of the COVID-19 pandemic in ASEAN, our youth have been the most affected group in the region. Which is why, we focused our initiatives in 2020 to contribute to equipping them with skills that are critical in the job market, during and post-pandemic. Existing flagship programmes, such as ASEAN Data Science Explorers and ASEAN Digital Innovation Programme, were reinvented to deliver online capacity building sessions on data analytics, computer science and virtual competitions.

At the same time, we also launched a new programme called Bridges to the Future – ASEAN Youth Employment in partnership with Google.org and Plan International, which aims to help youth in the region acquiring the necessary 21st-century skills to reenter the workforce and also building a more sustainable and secure post-pandemic economy. In response to the pandemic, we also implemented the ASEAN COVID-19 Active and Robust Response (ASEAN CARES) programme with the support of 3M, Community Chest of Korean and United Way Worldwide, which aims to help at-risk communities with food security and hygiene crises in Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand.

I wish to convey my deepest appreciation to Ambassador Phasporn Sangasubana and the members of the Board of Trustees for their leadership and guidance. I am also grateful to our key stakeholders – donors, partners, alumni and social media followers – for their support and trust in the Foundation. Last but not least, I would like to specially thank my team for their hard work and dedication in realising the Foundation’s mandate amidst the pandemic.



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ASEAN FOUNDATION'S PROGRAMMES

Arts and Culture



KONNECT ASEAN

Launched in July 2020 with the support of the ASEAN Korea Cooperation Fund and ASEAN Secretariat, KONNECT ASEAN serves as the ASEAN Foundation's core arts and culture programme designed to encourage arts and cultural exchange between artists and art workers. Covering the ten ASEAN Member States and the Republic of Korea (ROK), the programme champions the richness of ASEAN and ROK's arts and culture to general audiences. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the programme activities were implemented as virtual events in 2020 e.g. webinars, online workshops, and virtual exhibitions.

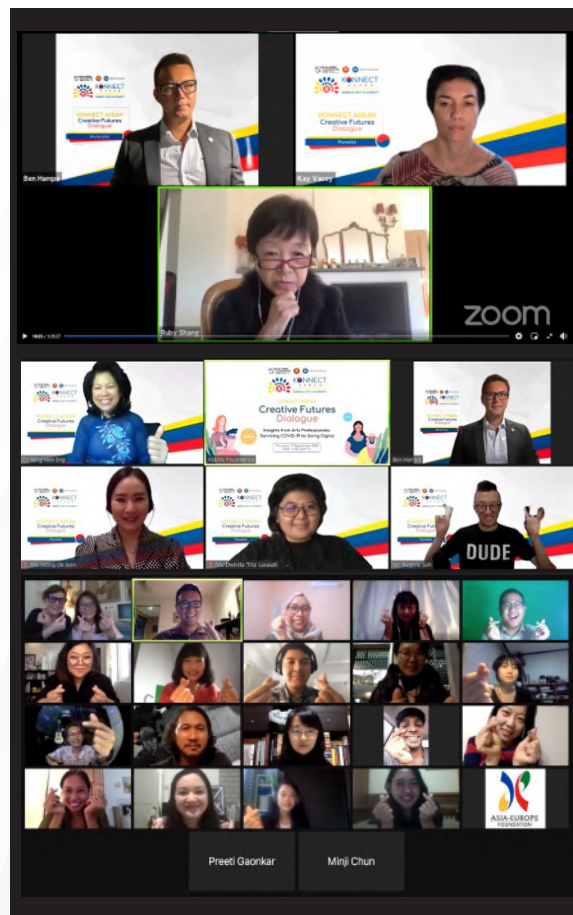
Amidst the global pandemic, the programme connected the three major stakeholder groups of government, private sector, and civil society to achieve the vision of an ASEAN Community and implemented several activities to encourage a multi-stakeholder approach to promote an ASEAN mindset and identity while increasing the appreciation for ASEAN's histories, arts, traditions, and values. KONNECT ASEAN addresses the work plan of ASEAN-ROK's Plan of Action 2016-2020 by promoting cooperation in the area of culture and arts and is a reflection of a sincere relationship between the two entities. KONNECT ASEAN signals both an eagerness by ASEAN to revitalise its once integral role in contemporary visual arts and ROK's sincerity in establishing closer ties with ASEAN.

These are the key activities of KONNECT ASEAN that were implemented in 2021:

ASEAN Ko-mmuniti Convention

The Convention was a part of the KONNECT ASEAN campaign. It was projected to develop sustainable and effective community art practices in ASEAN with the involvement of artists from ROK.

The Convention engaged with 26 community artists with participants from ASEAN and ROK, to exchange practices that promote intercultural learning. Among them were storytellers, an artistic director (theatre), theatre artists, musicians, filmmakers, and dancers. At the convention, the artists shared their views and experience in community arts. They were also concerned with personal and social challenges experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The topic of diasporas was also discussed due to the various forms of separation that exist within ASEAN and ROK. The programme took place from 24 to 27 August 2020 in the digital space and participants were divided into six working groups.



Virtual360 Konnect: Emerging Arts Leaders Residency

The virtual residency promoted virtual connections and online collaborations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, facilitated via cultural exchange between 20 emerging artists and cultural practitioners across all arts disciplines from the ASEAN and ROK. Participants were paired to collaborate online over one month in October 2020. The outputs are ten jointly written articles and a series of social media posts published in partnership with the Asia-Europe Foundation in late 2020.

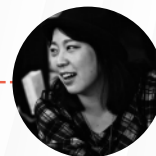
KONNECT ASEAN Short Video Contest

A Video Contest under the theme of "Celebrating ASEAN Day 2020: How Arts and Culture Unites Us during the Pandemic" was held in conjunction with the ASEAN Day 2020. Over two weeks, the programme received 85 submissions, from almost all ASEAN countries. The winning videos were from the Philippines and Indonesia.

KONNECT ASEAN Creative Futures Dialogue

In response to the new COVID-19 reality facing artists and creatives, the programme organised the Creative Futures Dialogue under the theme "Post-Pandemic Pathways for the Arts and Cultural Sector". The Dialogues consisted of three webinars highlighting priority areas for young artists and creatives to remain resilient in their careers, namely digital acceleration, social impact, and environmental sustainability.

The webinars were welcomed with high enthusiasm with 1,459 registrations and 555 attendees.



"In this Covid-19 period, many artists can't go abroad (including me). It makes many of us fell in to lethargy, but when I found this project (Virtual360 KONNECT), I feel like 'OK, now I can do something new with far away friend!' and it really does. It was not just cultural exchange, but can also take care someone abroad continuously and heard the news in another country in another view. I think this experiment make me feel more comfortable and It gave me the power to sustain my creation with a sense of relief that I am not the only one so helpless."

Jade (Sunok) Park

Virtual360 Konnect Resident Artist, Republic of Korea



Digital Acceleration



Social Impact



Environmental Sustainability



555 people attended the webinar series





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ASEAN FOUNDATION'S PROGRAMMES

Community Building



eMpowering Youths Across ASEAN: Cohort Two

eMpowering Youths Across ASEAN (EYAA) is a collaborative programme by ASEAN Foundation and Maybank Foundation. Launched in 2018 with a dedicated mission to empower youth and communities across ASEAN, the programme provides an experiential and educative learning platform for youth, aged 18 to 34, through social volunteerism where they have to work together with a group of people from diverse backgrounds to implement their ideas and advocate solutions to grounded issues in local communities, focusing on arts and culture, community empowerment, education and environment.

Continuing the success of the first programme, 3,180 youths from ten ASEAN countries applied for EYAA: Cohort Two. From this pool of applicants, 110 young changemakers were selected to take part in the programme. However, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the key activities of EYAA: Cohort Two, namely the regional workshop and community project, had to be postponed to 2021.

EYAA Webinar Series

Amidst the pandemic, the programme has accelerated us towards continued innovation through organising a series of webinars in order to keep all the youths connected. The webinar launched in December 2020 raised a theme on Becoming the Volunteer of Change and received interests for participation from 651 youths and practitioners across ASEAN.



"I learned that being young does not mean that I am not good enough. The Webinar made me realise that I should not limit myself. The speakers had their fair share of failures, but they innovated until they achieved success. As a young person, making a difference is actually a good thing. And being young does not exempt me from trying to think about ways to solve a problem of our society and actually do something rather than just focusing on myself doubt."

Krishna Immaculate Orcullo
Webinar Participant, the Philippines



Key achievements of the first EYAA webinar



The webinar's Facebook Live reached **3,800** people



of the youth participants found the webinar inspiring



of the youth participants stated the webinar enhanced their knowledge of social volunteerism

ASEAN CARES

The ASEAN COVID-19 Active and Robust Response (ASEAN CARES) is a relief programme to help the most vulnerable communities impacted by COVID-19 pandemic. Funded by 3M and Community Chest of Korea, and supported by United Way Worldwide, the programme focused on the distribution of food supplies and hygiene kits to help at-risk communities, such as jobless or low income families with children, people with disabilities, elderlies, women headed households and pregnant or lactating women, ethnic and indigenous people, refugees, and migrants in Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand. At the same time, the programme also rolled out nationwide and regional scale campaigns on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19.



- > **12,000** people in 140 villages across Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand benefited from the programme, with more than 50% being female beneficiaries
- > **2M** people reached through the nationwide and regionwide online campaign
- > **13,500** people empowered through the educative information about COVID-19
- 85%** of beneficiaries expressed satisfaction with the distribution of relief items



"ASEAN CARES allows me to connect deeper with humans who I might not had the chance to meet on a day-to-day basis. It's very easy to be caught up or stay in our own little bubble or circle of people, so getting to meet and engage with people from other parts of the communities, is something I won't trade."

Fara Amina
EcoKnights, Malaysia



"The rations we have received through ASEAN CARES have been great for the children, because many of our students come from families who are daily wage earners and cannot spare that much money to keep buying food. Especially now in the months after lockdown in March and April when there was a heavy police presence in areas with a lot of refugees, it had become more difficult to buy fresh produce and many families have to rely on instant noodles, bread or whatever else is lying around the house."

Ratna Dewi
Local Partner from the Children's Activity Centre of Yayasan Chow Kit



Bridges to the Future: ASEAN Youth Employment

ASEAN Foundation, with the support of Google's philanthropic arm, Google.org and in partnership with Plan International, implemented the “Bridges to the Future: ASEAN Youth Employment”, as an effort to reduce the youth unemployment rate in ASEAN that has been exacerbated by the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Launched in November 2020, the programme aims to offer market-driven vocational and job-matching solutions, starting with a two-year pilot project that targets the most vulnerable young people in ASEAN. The programme is designed with an umbrella objective to equip unemployed youth in ASEAN with the relevant skills and help match these trained beneficiaries with available job opportunities.



Research

Research on the current state of the labor market and skills demand in ten ASEAN countries in light of the COVID-19



Skills Building

Implement a one to three month online vocational and skills-building training programme



Job-matching Solution

Hold a series of online job fairs, in partnership with at least 30 government agencies, corporations, and civil society organizations





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ASEAN FOUNDATION'S PROGRAMMES

Education



ASEAN Digital Innovation Programme

Through ASEAN Digital Innovation Programme, ASEAN Foundation and Microsoft stand ready in facilitating the upskilling of the ASEAN youth. The programme offers quality digital skills training, specifically computer science education training, to underserved youth aged 15 to 35 across the region. Below are some of the key interventions of the programme:



a. Established a free online learning platform on digital skills and computer science education that has an ASEAN context;



b. Developed a framework and toolkit which has inclusive gender-sensitive approach to computer science that each educator and non-profit trainer can readily execute;



c. Built the capacity of educators from schools and non-profit partners through trainings delivered by the ASEAN Foundation and Microsoft learning partner; and



d. Created broad demand for online resources by aligning the delivery of digital skills training to regional competition for ASEAN and marketing initiatives.

One of the key instruments of the programme is an integrated website called Future Ready ASEAN (www.futurereadyASEAN.org), which provides a free learning platform for ASEAN youth to learn contemporary digital skills. The platform is also useful for trainers to curate learning journeys on computer science and digital skills, and for students for self-learning. Four learning journeys are offered via the platform, namely digital citizen, dream team player, data wizard, and social innovator. The platform is available in English, Burmese, Indonesian, Thai and Vietnamese.

As of December 2020, the programme has benefited 34,822 underserved youths and 1,075 educators and non-profit trainers in ASEAN.



Digital Citizen:

Boosting digital presence by learning how to engage in professional networks and to use web development tools.



Dream Team Player:

Making a successful team by gaining productivity, collaboration and project management skills.



Data Wizard:

Equipping youth with artificial intelligence knowledge through understanding, visualising and making sense of big data sets.



Social innovator:

Tackling big societal challenges through learning the making of technological products and applications.



35,897 youths, educators and non-profit trainers
empowered by the programme



"My experience with the programme was excellent. The online training was convenient, practical and had a great structure. Since the mandatory programming courses were carefully designed to be fun and educational, our training process was enjoyable. Moreover, we had a good time in the competition event where exposure to new ideas from different teams helped open my eyes."

Nguyen Ngo Hoai Linh
Winner of Future Ready ASEAN
Competition 2020, Viet Nam



"This experience allowed me to acquire the digital skills I need to become a trainer and empower others. Some of the most pivotal lessons I've learned are those regarding HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. The FutureReadyASEAN training is online, free to access, and greatly helped me throughout my professional journey."

Aung Myint Myat Kyaw
Master Trainer, Myanmar

ASEAN Data Science Explorers

The ASEAN Foundation works with SAP to equip today's youth, tertiary students and educators, with the digital skills to perform data analysis, which is required to thrive in the digital economy and Industrial Revolution 4.0 through its flagship ASEAN Data Science Explorers (ASEAN DSE).

ASEAN DSE was recognised by the 10 ASEAN leaders as a creative Digital Initiative at the 31st ASEAN Summit in 2017 in Manila, the Philippines, and acknowledged by the ASEAN leaders as a Digital Skills Development initiative to prepare ASEAN youth to be future-ready at the 35th ASEAN Summit in 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The programme is manifested through two core activities: the enablement sessions and data analytics competitions.



The ASEAN DSE enablement session is a data analytics training session with the main focus on the exploration of SAP Analytics Cloud (SAC) for data analysis and analytics, targeting both educators and tertiary students across ASEAN. Throughout 2020, the enablement sessions engaged a total of 4,563 participants. Ninety one percent of the participants expressed their satisfaction with the overall sessions while 85% of them said that the sessions helped them to understand about ASEAN, the ASEAN Foundation, and ASEAN Meetings. Furthermore, 86% of the participants believed that the sessions were helpful in improving their analytical skills.

The call for applications for the data analytics competition has attracted 1,858 students from 215 institutes of higher learning across ASEAN. A total of 426 data analytics proposals were submitted, which marked a significant improvement compared to 2019 (304 proposals submitted). Majority of the proposals came from Indonesia, Malaysia and Myanmar.

The first winner of the ASEAN DSE 2020's Regional Competitions was Viet Nam, followed by Singapore and Malaysia in second and third place, respectively.



Since its inception, the ASEAN DSE programme has empowered 16,409 students from 370 higher education institutions across the ten ASEAN Member States. It has inspired 2,260 students to successfully develop data analytics proposals that can help address socio-economic issues in the region. Eighty seven percent of students partaking ASEAN DSE programme believed that it helped them improve their analytical and critical thinking skills and take decision-making and problem-solving skills. It also helped 73% of student participants better in understanding the ASEAN Blueprint 2025 and ASEAN Community.



4,073 students and 490 lectures
benefited from ASEAN DSE enablement session



of the participants said that the sessions helped them to understand about ASEAN



of the participants believed that the sessions were helpful in improving their analytical skills



"The journey of ASEAN Data Science Explorers has taken us from our observations of the surroundings to data-driven solutions, and ultimately actions. From this, we now truly believe that, even as young people, we can contribute to building a better future. And as we've said in our presentation: 'Let's work together for a future that works.'"

Hoa Phung and Thinh Nguyen
Winners of ASEAN DSE 2020 Regional Final, Viet Nam



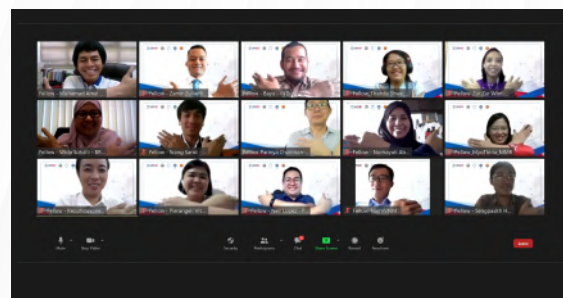
"I believe this initiative is of great importance for ASEAN youth, particularly in today's increasingly digital world. Our young people need both technical skills, such as on data analytics, as well as 21st century skills to succeed amidst the Fourth Industrial Revolution."

H.E. Kung Phoak
Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for
ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community

ASEAN Science and Technology Fellowship

Science, technology and innovation have become critical in realising a dynamic, innovative and resilient ASEAN Community. Therefore, with the support of the ASEAN Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation, the U.S. Government, through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Science and Technology Division of ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Foundation implemented the ASEAN Science and Technology (S&T) Fellowship to select a group of bright and talented scientists from ten ASEAN Member States to empower them by providing them with opportunities to collaborate with regional and national level policymakers in promoting evidence-based policymaking in ASEAN.

In the 2019/2020 edition, 17 dedicated scientists were selected from nine ASEAN countries to work on the selected themes, namely digital economy, innovative startups and science and technology innovation for the 2030 Agenda.



17 policy recommendations developed in the area of digital economy, innovative startups and STI for 2030 Agenda



21 Fellows and Alumni involved as resource persons at the first Working Group ASEAN-Japan STI Coordinator Meeting in September 2020



19 Fellows and alumni have teamed up to disseminate knowledge and developments in COVID-19 response



"This fellowship allows me to enhance my network, to be heard as a researcher, and to help improve my country's food safety policies. I had a wonderful opportunity connecting with other experts and policy makers."

Dr. Pierangeli Vital
2019-2020 Fellow, the Philippines

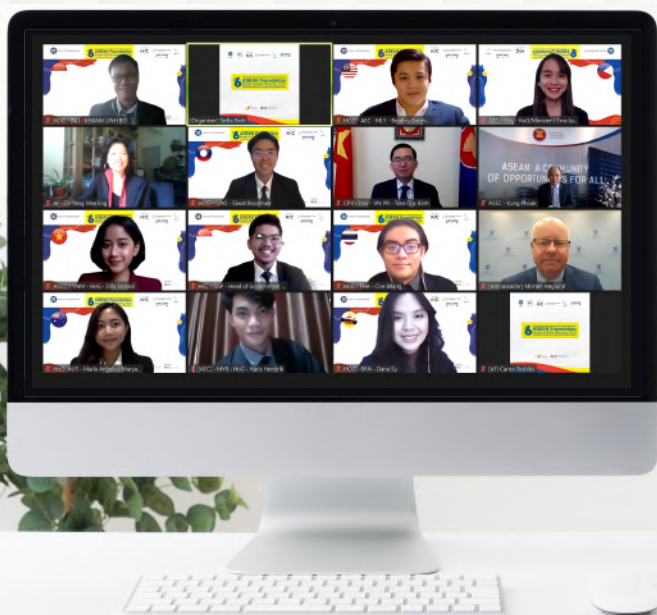
ASEAN Foundation Model ASEAN

The ASEAN Foundation Model ASEAN Meeting (AFMAM) serves as a flagship programme of the Foundation since its inception in 2015. AFMAM is dedicated to raising the awareness of ASEAN, its mechanisms and decision-making processes. It provides opportunities for tertiary education students from all ASEAN Member States to learn ASEAN processes through authentic, high-level ASEAN and ASEAN Plus meetings, aligned with the ASEAN Work Plan on Education 2016 – 2020 and the ASEAN Work Plan on Youths 2016 – 2020.

AFMAM equips and increases the soft skills of young people, particularly in critical and inventive thinking, negotiation, public speaking, consensus-building as well as leadership. Along with awareness—through the ASEAN meeting simulation, the AFMAM also provides an avenue for the students to discuss important issues in ASEAN, which align the ASEAN priorities and explore the solution.



In 2020, the ASEAN Foundation, with the support from the Singapore ASEAN Youth Funds by the National Youth Council Singapore and the ASEAN-Norwegian Cooperation Project on Local Capacity Building for Reducing Plastic Pollution in the ASEAN Region - Center for Southeast Asian Studies implemented the 6th AFMAM 2020 from 4 to 7 September 2020 with a theme that follows the key priorities of the ASEAN Viet Nam Chairmanships—the “Cohesive and Responsive ASEAN.” The programme also raised the thematic focus of “The Role of ASEAN Youths in Promoting Networking and Cooperation to Build a Clean and Green ASEAN Community through Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Protection of the Environment.”



Due to the global pandemic, the 2020 edition of AFMAM was organised online with the overall objectives to:

1. To promote interest in and educate selected students on ASEAN diplomacy within the ASEAN region and external partners through an authentic hands-on simulation experience. Covering the practices of ASEAN Member States in decision-making that addresses various regional issues, including marine debris and microplastics, and
2. To equip the students with essential 21st century competencies, particularly on global awareness, cross-cultural skills, critical and inventive thinking, negotiation, public speaking, and consensus-building, as well as leadership.



The 6th AFMAM 2020 was successful in bringing together youths from across ten ASEAN Member States to promote regional friendship and develop the participants' skills in negotiation, public speaking, and consensus-building. Through the series of the ASEAN authentic simulation meetings, the participants learned how decision making is made at the ASEAN level.

On its 6th edition, AFMAM selected 96 delegates to participate in the 6th AFMAM 2020 from a total of 187 team applications consisting of 1,122 youth and 187 team advisors from 10 ASEAN Member States.

Before participating at AFMAM, the selected delegates participated in four online preparatory sessions that focused on equipping the delegates with a certain level of knowledge on ASEAN, the themes and the topics, and how the AFMAM would be conducted.



96 students empowered with leadership skills
and better understanding of ASEAN Diplomacy

AFMAM Training of Trainers

To strengthen the implementation of AFMAM, the ASEAN Foundation implements AFMAM Training of Trainers (AFMAM TOT). This programme aims to train AFMAM alumni who are interested to organise Model ASEAN Meeting (MAM) at their own countries. The programme seeks to generate greater interest in ASEAN affairs among a wider audience by encouraging the establishment of local MAM chapters by alumni of AFMAM. Similar to the organisation of regional, the local MAMs will also maintain the authenticity of the role-playing and simulation elements of the programme. Upon completion of the AFMAM TOT, the ASEAN Foundation will monitor the progress of its certified MAM trainers closely to ensure that they initiate a local MAM chapter at their universities.

As an indirect result of the organisation of AFMAM TOT, six local MAM initiatives were successfully conducted throughout 2020.



1 Dagon University Youth Parliament Training 2020

5 January 2020 | Myanmar

2 Model ASEAN Meeting Myanmar 2020

1 - 2 February 2020 | Myanmar

3 KHMER Model ASEAN Meeting 2020

23 - 25 October 2020 | Cambodia

4 Model ASEAN Meeting Universitas Pertamina 2020

10 - 13 November 2020 | Indonesia

5 Ateneo Model ASEAN Meeting 2020

11 - 13 December 2020 | The Philippines



"I was honoured to have been given the opportunity to chair the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community on behalf of Viet Nam. Chairing an online conference was enlightening, the importance of patience, empathy and understanding were strongly ingrained in me throughout the process!"

Matthew Ooi

Delegate of AFMAM 2020, Malaysia

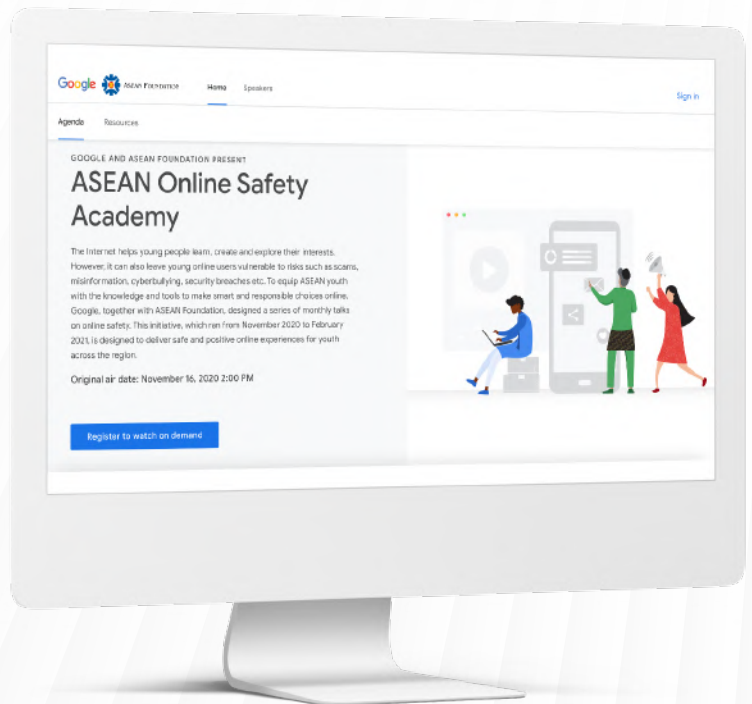


ASEAN Online Safety Academy

Nearly nine out of ten youths in the region reported increased reliance on digital tools in the past year, while almost half (42%) had picked up at least one new device. By turning to the digital world, individuals are able to continue exploring their interests and expanding their views in spite of the ongoing circumstances. Although the internet offers a myriad of opportunities, it may also be accompanied by threats such as cyberbullying, misinformation, security risks and identity fraud.

With the support of Google, the ASEAN Foundation has sought to prepare youth for these challenges by organising the ASEAN Online Safety Academy for Youth, a webinar series, which aimed to not only promote safe and positive online experiences for youth in ASEAN but also advocate the value of digital citizenship. The episodes of the webinar include the topics of 'Digital Footprint and Cyberbullying', 'Misinformation -- Don't Fall for Fake', and 'Privacy -- Secure Your Secrets'. The webinars were attended by distinguished speakers namely Tenzin Norbhu (the Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy in Southeast Asia for Google APAC), Ambassador Phasporn Sangasubana (the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Thailand to ASEAN), Lucian Teo (the Online Safety Education Lead at Google APAC), Ryan Rahardjo (the Head of Public Affairs in Southeast Asia for Google APAC), H.E. Kung Phoak (the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN for the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community), Michael Rose (the Head of Data Governance at Google APAC), Ambassador Tran Duc Binh, (then Permanent Representative of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to ASEAN), and Ellen Kusuma (the Head of Digital At-Risks Subdivision at SAFEnet).

So far, the initiative has deemed to be successful. As a new initiative, the first 3 sessions were attended by more than 1,200 ASEAN youths. During a session, the Foundation also launched an ASEAN Online Safety Academy website, with valuable resources so more people can continue learning about being safe online.





ASEAN Foundation Virtual Internship Programme

To solidify and further explore the potentials of the ASEAN youths, the ASEAN Foundation provides an Internship Programme. The programme offers undergraduate and postgraduate students from the ten ASEAN member countries and the dialogue partners to engage in a two to six months long internship programme that provides a wide range of activities of learning and contributing to ASEAN community-building processes towards a dynamic, prosperous, and resilient region.

The interns are working under the Foundation key working units, such as Programme Unit, Communications Unit, and Operations Unit, to further unleash their skills and potential. The interns are tasked to work on a day-to-day basis with responsibilities surrounding programme and research proposal development, implementation, and monitoring. They might also be asked to develop contents for the Foundation's social media platforms for better outreach.

In 2020, the Foundation initiated virtual internship programme to continue providing an immersive learning platform for ASEAN youth amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. This format allowed interns to develop their 21st century skills as well as contributing to the ASEAN Community building from the comfort of their home or dormitory. To ensure seamless working process, mentoring and delegation of tasks were done virtually using various digital tools.

The virtual internship programme received positive responses from students with more than 300 applications submitted. A total of 28 students from various ASEAN countries and ASEAN's dialogue partners were welcomed to intern at the Foundation:

Country	Number of Interns
Australia	2
British	1
Brunei Darussalam	1
Chinese	2
Germany	1
Indonesia	8
Japan	1
Malaysia	1
Philippines	5
Singapore	1
Singaporean	1
Thailand	2
Viet Nam	2

28

28 students empowered with
project management, communications
and financial skills



"The most memorable task was when I was assigned as one of the moderators for AFMAM online discussion with the alumni. I never once thought that I would get such an opportunity, and I was thrilled and honored to get to experience it. With each task, I stepped a little further out of my comfort zone and gradually became more creative and productive in my work."

Fernanda Rizkianita

Communications Intern, Indonesia



"Interning at the ASEAN Foundation was such an eye-opening and enriching experience. It was such a pleasure and honour to be a part of and contribute to programmes that aimed to foster an ASEAN identity and empower the people of ASEAN. Here I learned about the inner workings of how organisations of this scale operate and reach people all across ASEAN."

Meerza Helmi Uzapuspa

Programme Intern, Brunei Darussalam



ASEAN FOUNDATION



ASEAN FOUNDATION WEBINAR SERIES



ASEAN Foundation Webinar Series

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, more people are spending time online to stay connected. The ASEAN Foundation organised a series of webinars to continue empowering ASEAN youth during the pandemic through online initiatives such as Committee of Permanent Representatives Webinar Series and ASEAN Foundation Alumni Townhall Series.

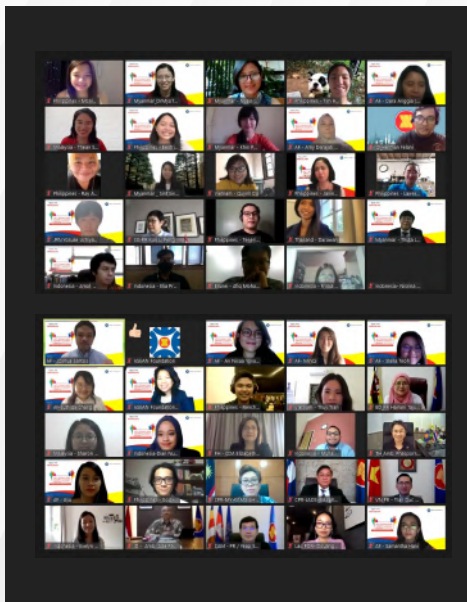
CPR Webinar Series

Under the Chairmanship of Viet Nam, the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR) has sought to continue implementing their tasks, including promoting ASEAN cooperation. During the pandemic, such a task is done remotely through the CPR Webinar Series holding.

The CPR Webinar Series is attended by roughly more than 60 participants, comprising university students, academics, representatives of think tanks from the ASEAN Member States, and representatives of ASEAN chambers of commerce, regardless of their physical location.

In 2020, the CPR Webinar Series were conducted carrying the following themes, namely Cohesive and Responsive under the 'New Normal' and ASEAN Community-Building and Education under the New Normal.

This broader scope of the audience is very much in line with ASEAN's initial purpose of holding these outreach events, which is to inform the public at large on ASEAN's activities and bring together diverse stakeholders to identify areas in the implementation of ASEAN's mandate.



ASEAN Foundation Alumni Townhall Series

This first interactive alumni town hall highlights various stories of ASEAN Foundation alumni at the community level during COVID-19 and success stories post of the ASEAN Foundation programmes. The speakers shared the challenges they could potentially face and insightful experience gained by joining the Foundation.

The alumni town hall also featured an interactive segment with members of the ASEAN Foundation Board of Trustees (BOT), who are also members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to ASEAN (CPR). This session provided a perfect avenue for the alumni of the ASEAN Foundation programmes to discuss how ASEAN handled COVID-19, Career pathways, and how youths can contribute to raising ASEAN Awareness at the national level.



150 youths benefited from the webinar series



ASEAN FOUNDATION

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH





Our Communications

The ASEAN Foundation was established with the sincere intention to strengthen ASEAN Community building process and solidify the people-to-people connection between citizens of ASEAN. Henceforth, it is within our strategy to ensure two-ways communications in our engagement. This is simply being done with a realisation that a common vision and identity can only be achieved through an organic method of communications, that the people themselves speak on their behalf.

With this spirit, we continue to make our communications channels publicly accessible openly and freely. Our objective is to gather wide public participation and synergy in our programmatic approach, that reach all layers of the ASEAN communities.

The Importance of Communications

Communications is central to our success. Without communications we neglect the most essential ASEAN spirit, which is 'leave no one behind'. Through our approach, we try our best to ensure that the words we chose, language, visual are acceptable to all.

It matters to us that our communications brings ASEAN forward, closer, and reachable to its people.

Our Interventions

Beyond the conventional use of our website, our content sharing and outreach has also expanded in external social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Line and YouTube. We also generate e-newsletter to keep our audience engaged with our programmes.



2020 Communications Scorecard

Social Media:



Facebook:
67,148 followers



Twitter:
25,264 followers



Instagram:
86,500 followers



LinkedIn:
19,515 followers

No. of social media posts circulated:

2,541

No. of reach generated:

10,445,005

No. of impressions generated:

14,206,046

No. of engagements generated:

1,307,777



Websites:

(www.aseanfoundation.org)

221,587 pageviews

Media Relations:

258 media clippings

USD 10.7 Millions in PR Value

E-Newsletter:

28,468 subscribers

Virtual Events:



+80,000

live views generated





Celebrating Partnerships

It is the duty of the ASEAN Foundation to support the work of the ASEAN Secretariat in raising awareness of ASEAN, ASEAN identity and take up the role of intensifying people-to-people interactions towards strengthened community-building processes in the region.

Collaboration is key in achieving this fundamental objective. Henceforth, the Foundation works together, hand-in-hand, with donors, private corporations, civil society organisations, international organisations and other stakeholders in national and international playing fields to be able to work in strengthening the ASEAN Community.

Through its many initiatives, the ASEAN Foundation aims to be adaptive and responsive to the present problems faced by the region and further explore and offer opportunities of solutions, in particular, to solve today and future challenges, primarily in reaching an agile digital transformation.

We underscored the importance of ‘mutual partnerships’ as ‘the enabler’ for the Foundation in achieving its goals amid the unprecedented time of uncertainty throughout the world in 2020.

In 2020, the Foundation launched a collaboration, “Bridges to the Future: ASEAN Youth Employment”, together with Google.org and Plan International. This project seeks to equip unemployed youth in ASEAN with relevant skills and help match these trained beneficiaries with job opportunities, especially during and post-pandemic.

Furthermore, as a result of collaboration between the United Way Worldwide, 3M, and Community Chest of Korea, The Foundation tries to also take part in addressing the impact of COVID-19 by distributing food supplies and hygiene kits to help at-risk communities in Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand through ASEAN CARES. The relief programme targets particularly the jobless or low-income families with children, people with disabilities, elderlies, women-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, ethnic and indigenous people, refugees, and migrants. It delivers access to basic food security and basic hygiene and rolls out nation- and region-wide awareness campaigns to educate the public about the danger of COVID-19 and how to prevent transmission.

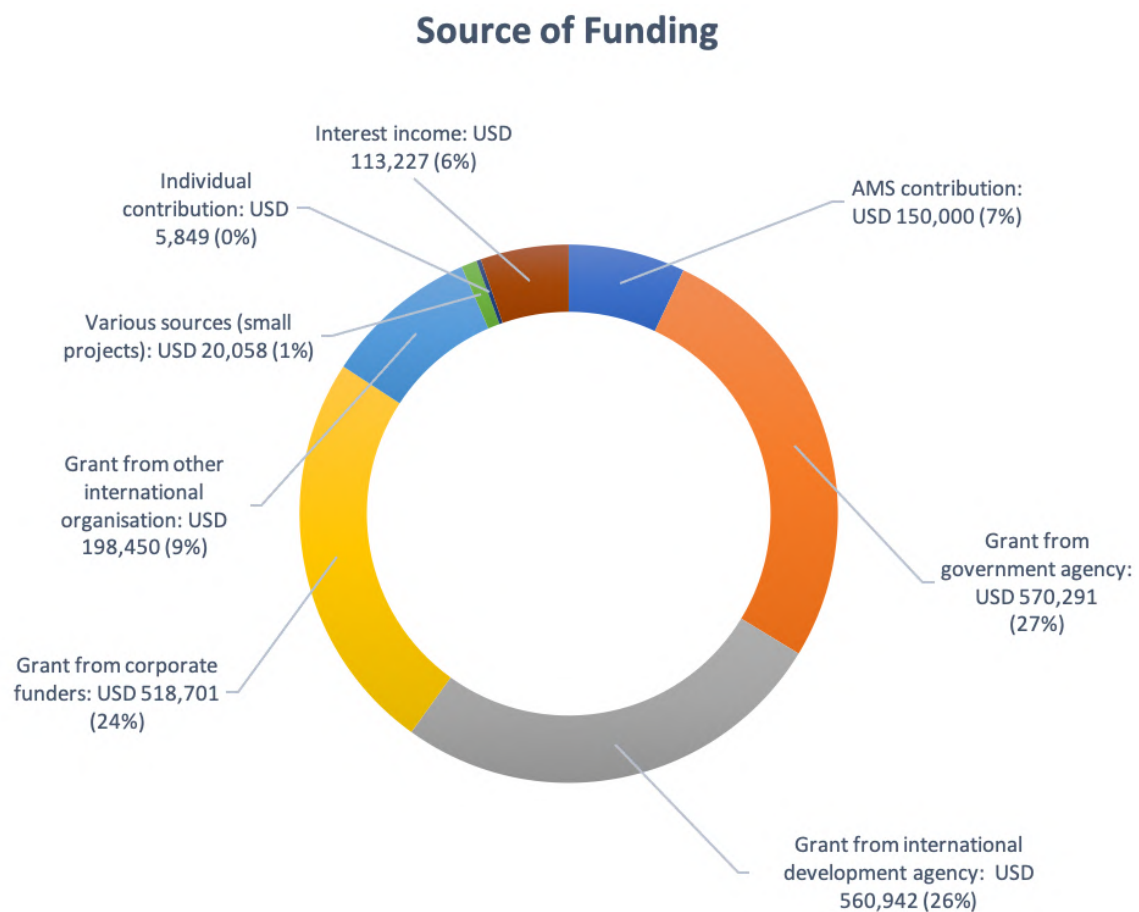
These are only two examples of the Foundation’s partnerships in 2020. We are thankful to our partners for their ongoing support and flexibility for adjusting the programmatic approaches to the project implementation that is adhered to health protocols, especially to keep ourselves safe in performing our activities during the pandemic.



Financial

Source of Funding (Income)

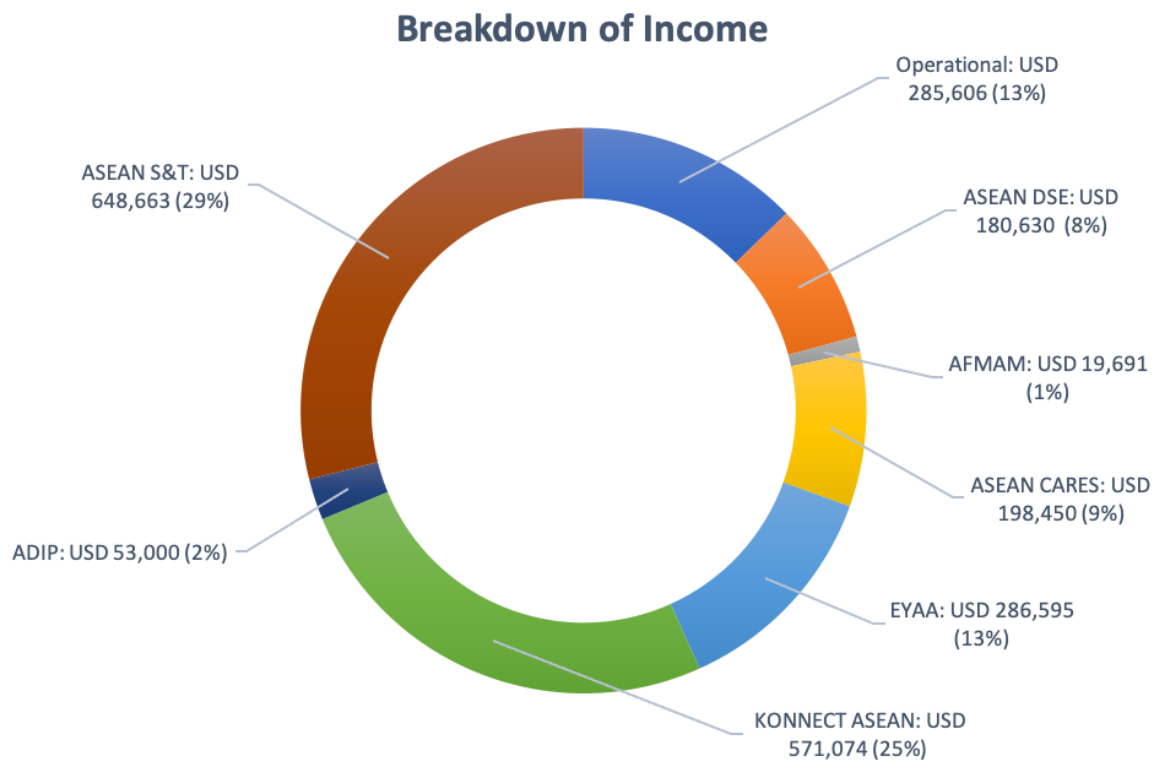
The Foundation's source of income comes from ten ASEAN Member States annual contribution, grant from government agency, grant from international development agency (USAID), grant from corporate funders (Maybank Foundation, Microsoft, SAP Asia Pte Ltd.), grant from other international organisation (United Way Worldwide), individual contribution, interest income from ten ASEAN Member States' equity and interest income from project dedicated bank accounts.





Source of Funding (Income)

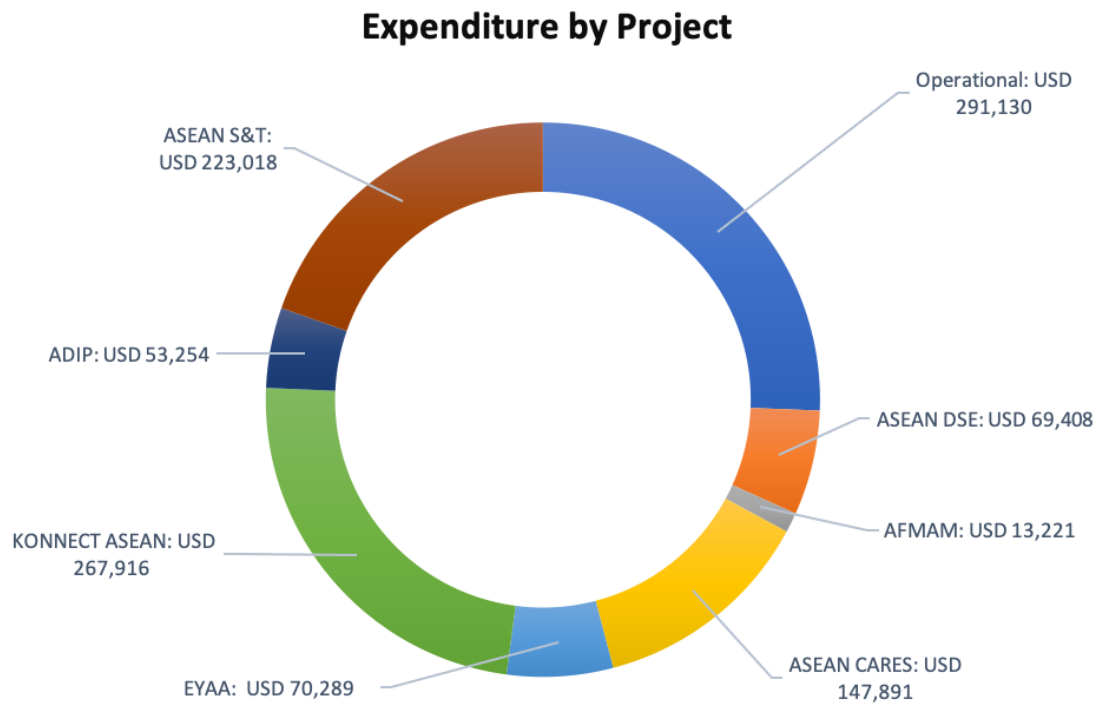
Income earned from various sources each is dedicated to the project the Foundation has committed with such as ASEAN Data Science Explorers (ASEAN DSE), ASEAN Foundation Model ASEAN Meeting (AFMAM), The ASEAN Covid-19 Active and Robust Response (ASEAN CARES), eMpowering Youths Across ASEAN (EYAA), KONNECT ASEAN, ASEAN Digital Innovation Programme (ADIP), ASEAN Science and Technology (S&T) Fellowship and including operation to fund management and general expenses.





Expenditure by Project

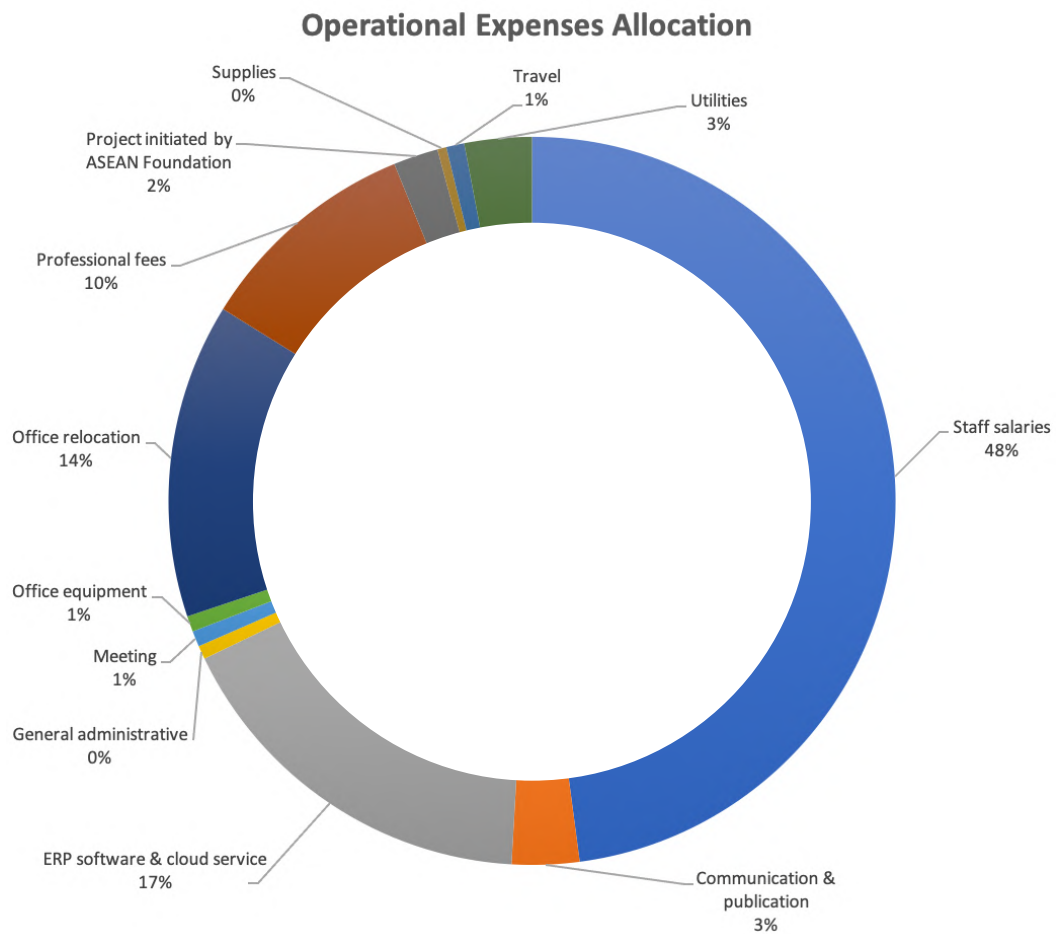
Referring to breakdown of income, ADIP has the highest burning rate (100%). The lowest burning rate (25%) is EYAA which caused by the delay of field activities due to the pandemic situation. This situation also occur to other projects. This year, average rate of project burning rate is only 55%.





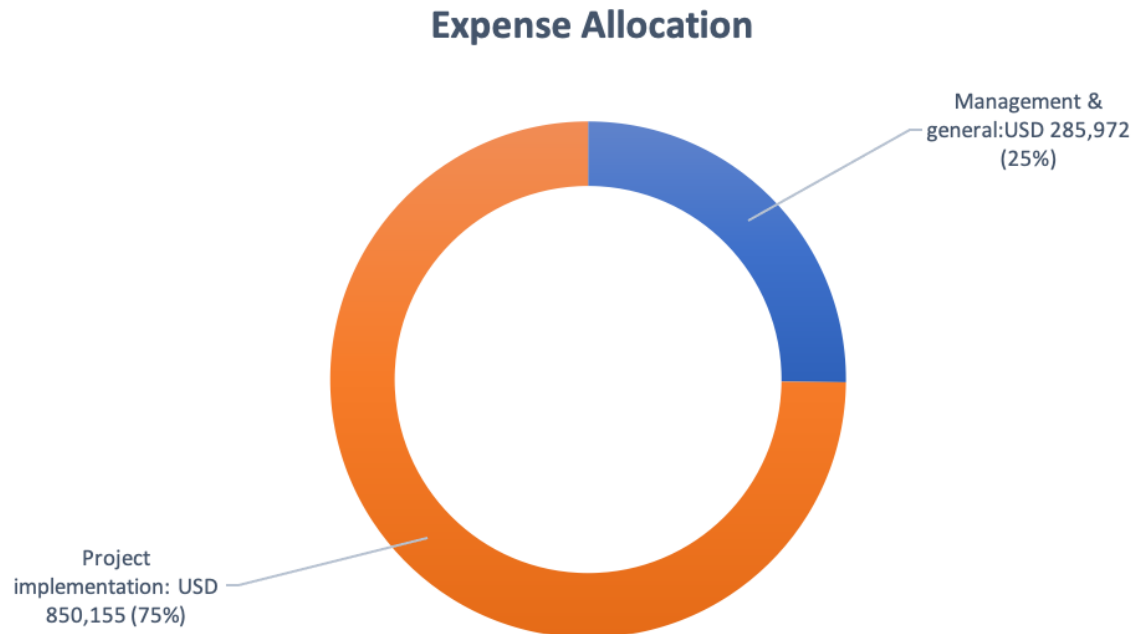
Allocation of Operational Expenses

The Foundation's operational costs are mostly funded by ten ASEAN Member States annual contribution, interest income generated from the ASEAN countries' equity, various small contribution and (3% - 20%) project cost share. The ten ASEAN countries' commitment to support the Foundation enable us to operate smoothly. These funds are used to support staff salaries, communication and publication, general administrative, meeting, office equipment, professional fees, programme initiated by ASEAN Foundation, supplies, travel and utilities.



Allocation of Expenses

Over the years the Foundation has always been aiming high efficiency in terms of expense allocation. In this case, we have managed to ensure that the administrative costs are within the level of 15% to 30% from total spending.



Audit Report 2020

This year the Foundation will conduct general audit for fiscal year 2020 in the third week of March 2021 and the final audit report which consists of financial statement is expected to be finished in the third week of June 2021. The report will be published in the Foundation's official website.



OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chair of the Board of Trustees

H.E. Amb. Phasporn Sangasubana

Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Thailand to ASEAN

Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees

H.E. Amb. Tran Duc Binh

Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to ASEAN

H.E. Amb. Kasmalati Dato Kassim

Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to ASEAN (completed her official duty in May 2019)

H.E. Amb. Pengiran Hairani Pengiran Tajuddin

Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to ASEAN (started her official duty in July 2020)

H.E. Amb. Yeap Samnang

Permanent Representative of Cambodia to ASEAN

H.E. Amb. Ade Padmo Sarwono

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to ASEAN

H.E. Amb. Ekkaphab Phanthavong

Permanent Representative of Lao PDR to ASEAN

H.E. Amb. Kamsiah Kamaruddin

Permanent Representative of Malaysia to ASEAN

H.E. Amb. Min Lwin

Permanent Representative of Myanmar to ASEAN (completed his official duty in January 2020)

H.E. Amb. Aung Myo Myint

Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to ASEAN (started his official duty in March 2020)

H.E. Amb. Noel Servigon

Permanent Representative of the Philippines to ASEAN

H.E. Amb. Kok Li Peng

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Singapore to ASEAN

H.E. Dato Lim Jock Hoi

Secretary-General of ASEAN



OUR TEAM

Dr. Yang Mee Eng Executive Director

Programme Unit

Mahmudi Yusbi Head of Programme

An Nisaa Yovani Programme Management Coordinator

Caron Toshiko Monica Programme Coordinator (joined in February 2020) and Programme and Communications Officer (resigned in February 2020)

Ilan Asqolani Project Manager for ASEAN Data Science Explorers Programme

Dina Wintyas Saputri Project Manager for ASEAN Science and Technology Fellowship Programme

Muhamad Nuzul Project Coordinator for ASEAN Digital Innovation Programme

Amy Darajati Utomo Project Coordinator for KONNECT ASEAN (joined in March 2020) and Programme Support Officer (resigned in March 2020)

Indah Yusari Project Coordinator for eMpowering Youths Across ASEAN (resigned in August 2020)

Hani Samantha Project Coordinator for eMpowering Youths Across ASEAN (joined in August 2020) and Programme Support Officer (resigned in August 2020)

Ludhini Volva Programme Support Officer (resigned in June 2020)

Jeniar Nelsus Mooy Programme Support Officer (joined in August 2020)

Caleb Benjamin Hukom Programme Support Officer (joined in July 2020)

Communications Unit

Anthoni Octaviano Head of Communications

Ayu Pratiwi Digital Communications Coordinator (joined in March 2020)

Operations Unit

Ninik Rahayu Head of Operations

Mery Shynta Natalia Sinaga Finance and Accounting Officer (joined in June 2020)

Nadira Erawan Human Resource and Alumni Officer (resigned in June 2020)

Dara Anggia Human Resource and Alumni Officer (joined in May 2020)

Ratieh Ayuningtyas Executive Support and Administrative Officer

Ahmad Mubarak General Support Officer

Asep Darmadi Security Guard (resigned in April 2020)

Fransiscus Adi Nugroho Security Guard (resigned in April 2020)

Slamet Achrizin Driver

A.D. Suryanto Driver (resigned in April 2020)

Yandi Kusnandar Officer Helper (resigned in April 2020)



ASEAN Foundation

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