

# ASEAN @ 50 Project: Status and Some Results & Insights

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# Components and Status of ASEAN @ 50 Project

- **Publication:** 5 volumes
  - **Volume 1:** The ASEAN Journey: Reflections of ASEAN Leaders and Officials
    - Eds.: Pitsuwan, Nishimura, Intal, Chongkittavorn, and Maramis
  - **Volume 2:** Voices of ASEAN: What does ASEAN Mean to ASEAN People
    - Eds.: Intal and Ruddy

# Components and Status of ASEAN @ 50 Project (2)

- **Volume 3: ASEAN and Member States: Transformation and Integration**
  - Eds.: Intal and Chen
  
- **Volume 4: Building ASEAN Community: Political-Security and Socio-Cultural Reflections**
  - Eds.: Baviera and Maramis
  
- **Volume 5: The ASEAN Economic Community into 2025 and Beyond**
  - Eds.: Sta. Maria, Urata and Intal

# Components and Status of ASEAN @ 50 Project



- **Publication:**

- **Volume 1: The ASEAN Journey: Reflections of ASEAN Leaders and Officials.** Includes:

- Essays from ASEAN Leaders ; i.e., Pres. Arroyo, PM. Badawi, PM Goh Chok Tong, PM Hun Sen, Pres. Ramos, Pres Thein Sein, PM Sissoulith, PMVejjajiva, Deputy PM Vu Khoan, and Pres. Yudhoyono.
- Special Messages from Sultan Hassanah Bolkiah and Pres. Duterte.
- Essays from Ministers, former ASEAN Secretary Generals, and Senior Officials. Plus one special essay each from Australia, China and Japan. Also background papers from editorial team.

# Components and Status of ASEAN @ 50 Project (3)

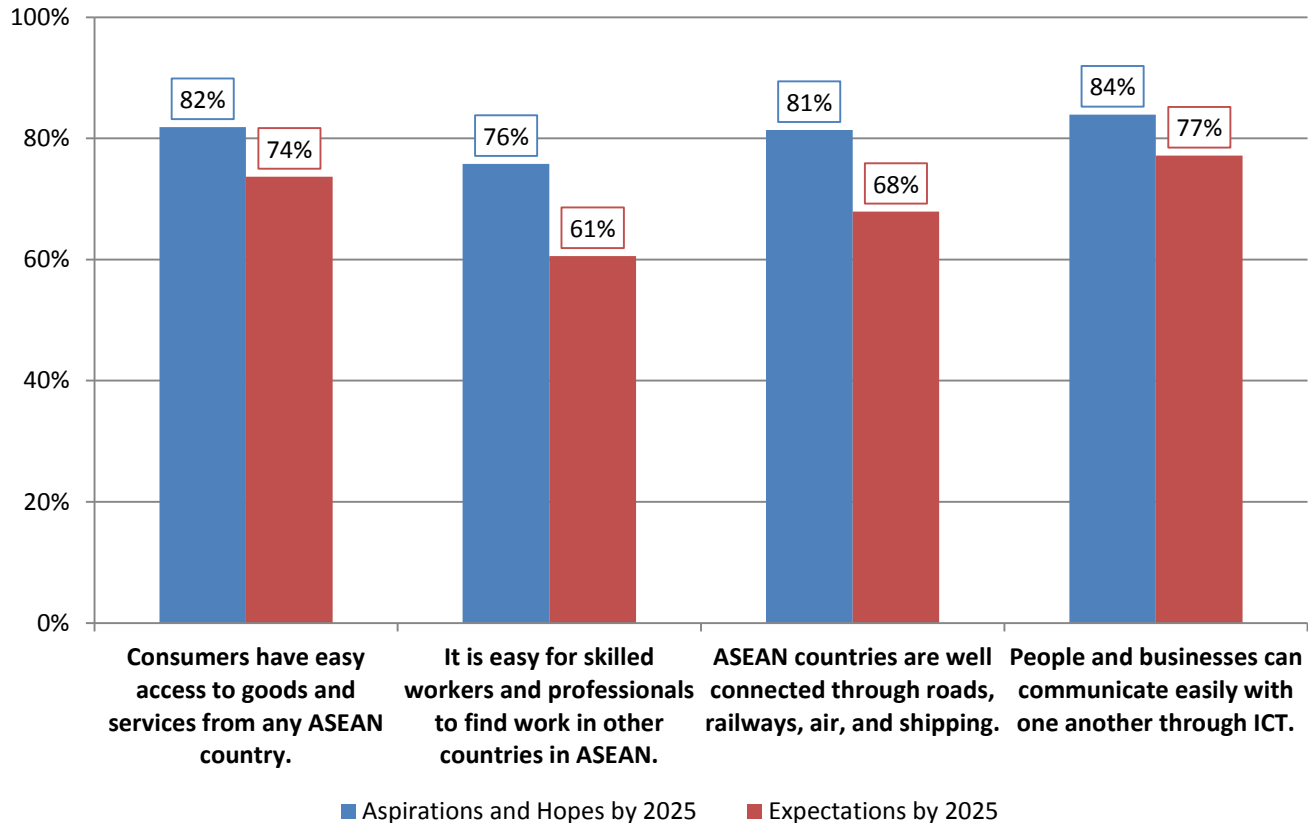
## ➤ Outreach

- Symposium on APSC
  - Iloilo City, 18 June 2017
- Symposium on ASCC
  - Davao City, 24 August 2017
- Symposium on AEC
  - Manila, 21 September 2017
- High Level Forum on ASEAN @ 50**
  - Manila, 19 October 2017
- Briefers; press releases; media outreach

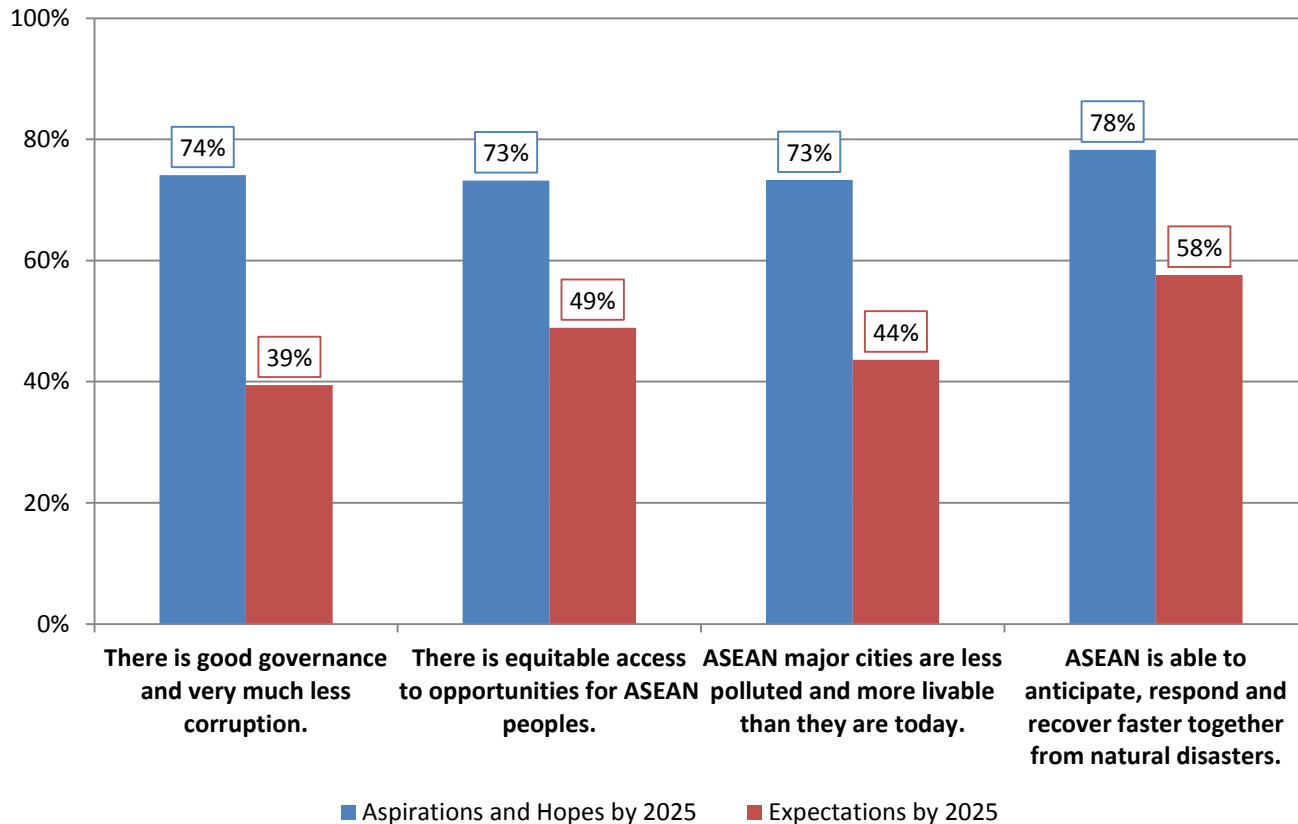
# Findings from the Survey Results

- There is **strong aspiration** for:
  - an integrated and connected ASEAN
  - a resilient, equitable and sustainable ASEAN
  - an ASEAN of good governance
  - an ASEAN with significant global and regional presence and contribution
- **Gap between aspirations and expectations for 2025:**
  - **Narrowest:** Integrated and connected ASEAN
  - **Widest:** ASEAN of good governance
  - **Large:** Equitable and sustainable ASEAN
  - **Considerable:** Resilient ASEAN; ASEAN's global and regional engagement

# Integrated and Connected ASEAN

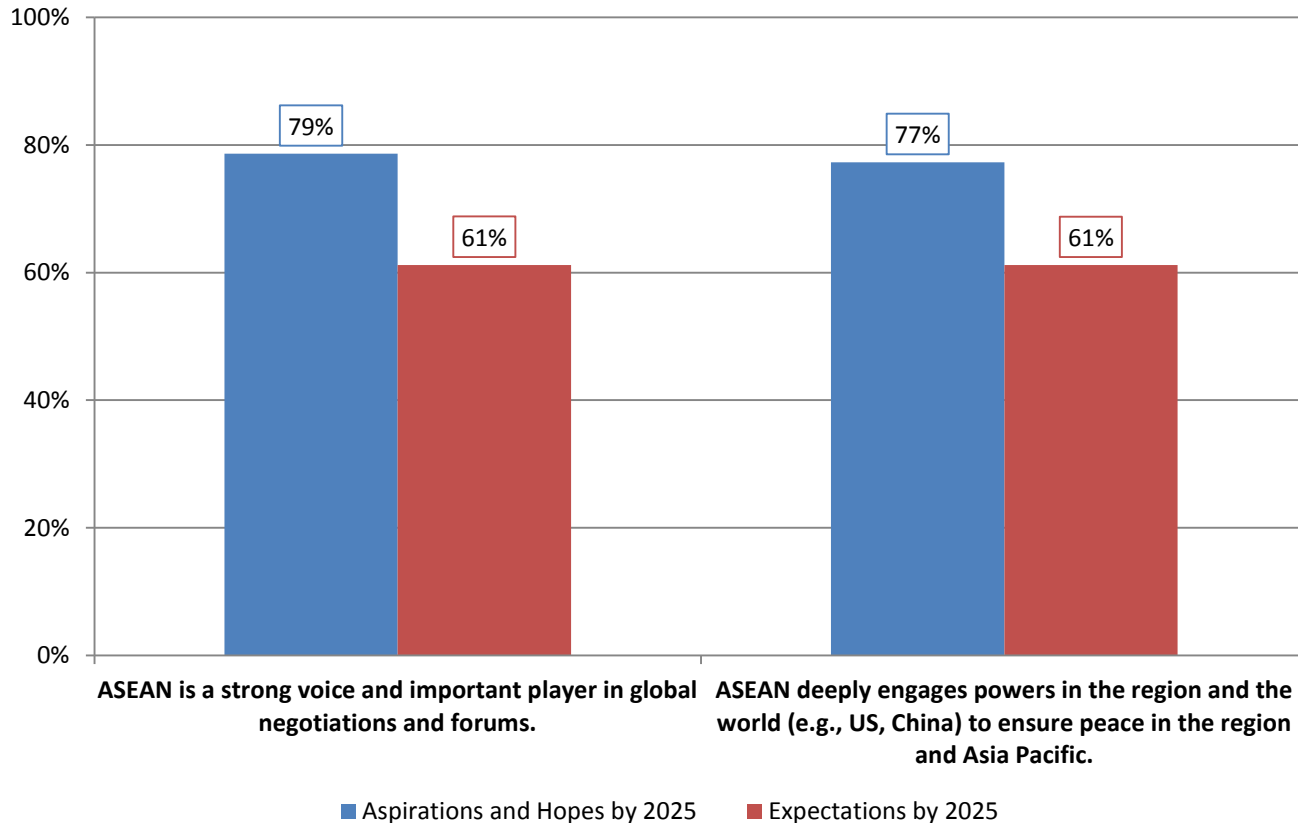


# ASEAN Governance, Resilience, Equity

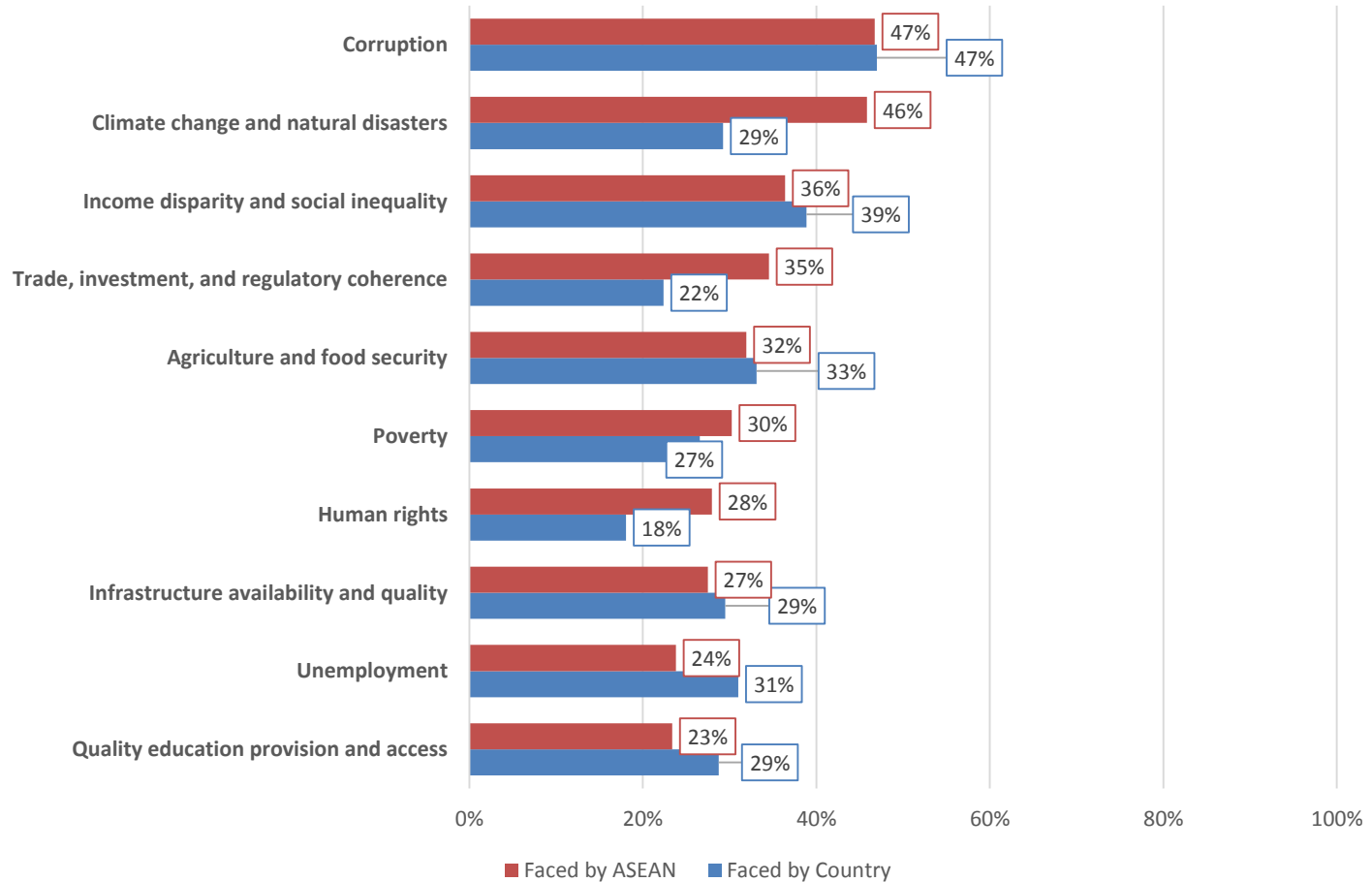




# ASEAN Global and Regional Engagement



# Pressing Problems



# Insights from the Survey Results

- **Significant overlap between pressing regional and national concerns.** Also pressing concerns mirror aspirations-expectations gaps
- **Regionally concerted national actions bring synergy**
  - Synergy among AMSs
  - Synergy among blueprints: AEC + ASCC + MPAC + APSC

# Insights from the Survey Results (2): AEC and ANTI-CORRUPTION

## AEC and Anti-Corruption

- NSW demands streamlined procedures, interagency coordination, transparency, and allows non-contact transactions.
- NTR/ATR: transparency
- GRP approach to addressing NTMs calls for streamlined procedures and private sector involvement.

## GRP/IRC in ASEAN

- Political support through adoption of GRP principles
- Regular review of regulations
- Institutionalize GRP consultations among stakeholders
- IRC in ASEAN can lead to adoption of good practice, strengthened cross-border coordination, AMS' regulatory convergence or concordance

# Framework for inclusiveness and social equity in regional integration

- **Social equity as poverty reduction**
  - High economic growth key poverty reducer
  - Investment as key growth driver
  - Many regional integration initiatives enhance investment attractiveness
  
- **Social equity as reduced inequality**
  
- **Enhancing direct investment and growth drivers as indirect equity enablers**
  
- **Strengthening direct equity drivers and indirect growth enablers**

# AEC 2025: Enhancing Direct Investment and Efficiency Drivers as Indirect Equity Enablers

## ▪ Seamless Trade Facilitation

- NSW/ASW; NTR/ATR; Tariff Finder; Self-Certification
- Most beneficial to SMEs with interactive features and SME support “center”. SMEs are major employment drivers.

## ▪ NTMs and Standards and Conformance

- Transparency
- Setting to international standards; MRAs; technical regulations harmonization
- Accessible laboratories and efficient certification systems beneficial to SMEs

## ▪ Services Liberalization and Cooperation

- Reframing: towards “service exporters are service importers”
- Movement of natural persons
- Skills certification
- Innovative local (ASEAN) SMEs with access to specialist foreign skills can have better chances of competing globally by marrying local strengths and foreign expertise to develop unique service product propositions.

# AEC 2025: Enhancing Direct Investment and Efficiency Drivers as Indirect Equity Enablers

- **Good Regulatory Practice (GRP)**
  - Principles
  - Stakeholder engagement
  - International regulatory cooperation
  - GRP on NTMs call for transparency, streamlined procedures and private sector engagement—all anti-corruption measures
  - Gives voice to SMEs in discussions on regulatory improvement and reducing unnecessary regulatory burden
  - Complex regulations more burdensome to SMEs than LEs
  
- **Connectivity**
  - Physical, institutional, people-to-people
  - Access of peripheries (including rural areas) to growth centers important for inclusive growth

# ASCC 2025: Strengthening Direct Equity Drivers and Indirect Growth Enablers

## ▪ Education

- Education for all
- IFPRI studies show rural education very important in reducing rural poverty
- Raises potentials for technology upgrading

## ▪ Health; Access to safe water and sanitation

- Poor cannot afford not to work due to health reasons. Health emergencies may force poor to sell income earning assets (e.g., buffalo) or to borrow
- Healthy workers raise productivity

## ▪ Access to electricity, irrigation, farm-to-market roads

- IFPRI studies show irrigation, rural roads and electricity as important in reducing rural poverty
- Raise agricultural productivity and non-farm rural industrialization

## ▪ Social Safety Net

- For increased economic resiliency and may enhance inter-sectoral labor mobility



# Integration, Inclusion and Community Building

- **AEC Blueprint 2025 (together with MPAC 2025 and ASCC 2025) potentially helps address many pressing problems & supports aspirations:**
  - Challenge: need for widespread understanding and appreciation that AEC (and MPAC) is far more than economic integration.
  - It is also for good governance and anti-corruption; equitable growth if done in tandem with ASCC and MPAC, etc..
- Economic integration in ASEAN is critical part of, and needs, ASEAN community building.
  - **Successful AEC that delivers benefits to all people needs robust ASCC, MPAC and APSC. Complementation critical.**
- Implementation and coordination! Political Will and People Support!
  - **Communication and engagement critical**

# THANK YOU!

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