

ASEAN Cooperation on Youth

By: Tri Aryadi

**Prepared for APEC Workshop for Strengthening Youth
Work in APEC Region**

Hanoi, 29 July -1 August 2008

Background

Youth → human resource for development
↘
key agents for social changes,
economic development and
technological innovation

Total : 18% of World's Population

1,2 billion between age 15 and 24 years

Globalization: opportunities and challenges

Problem: Youth Unemployment

Youth Employment in Indonesia (1)

Workforce based on age and sex On August 2007

Age	Male	Female	Total
15-24	21.960.724	21.100.666	43.061.390
25-34	18.922.425	20.968.270	39.890.695
35-44	16.504.673	16.424.326	32.928.999
45-54	12.156.240	11.176.987	23.333.227
55+	12.535.329	12.368.683	24.904.012
Total	82.079.391	82.038.932	164.118.323

Youth Employment in Indonesia (2)

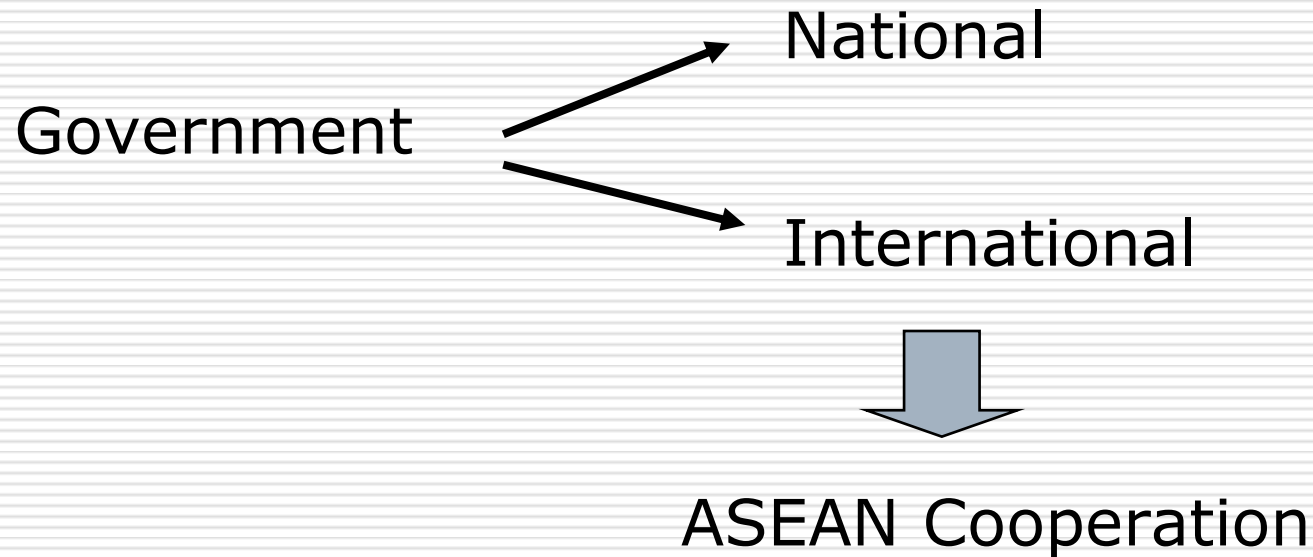
Employment based on age and sex On August 2007

Age	Male	Female	Total
15-24	10.778.311	6.190.490	16.968.801
25-34	16.313.615	9.401.427	25.715.042
35-44	15.174.287	8.888.478	24.062.765
45-54	11.091.447	6.312.981	17.404.428
55+	8.793.622	4.638.483	13.432.105
Total	62.151.282	35.431.859	97.583.141

Youth Employment in Indonesia (3)



Efforts



ASEAN Cooperation on Youth

- 1975 → Youth Conference
↘ The Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation
 - 1983 → Declaration of Principles to Strengthen ASEAN Collaboration on Youth
 - 2000 → Yangon Declaration on Preparing ASEAN Youth for the Challenges of Globalization
 - 2001 → ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth
 - 2003 → Bali Concord II
 - 2004 → Vientiane Action Programme (VAP) 2004-2010
 - 2007 → 12th & 13th ASEAN Summit
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Recent Activities

- ASEAN Youth Investors Expo
 - ASEAN Plus Three Workshop on Youth Entrepreneurship
 - ASEAN- JENESYS Programme
 - ICT Human Resources Development for Youth
 - ASEAN Youth Day Meeting and ASEAN Youth Day Award
 - ASEAN Youth Homepage
 - ASEANpreneurs Youth Leaders Exchange
 - ASEAN Youth Camp
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ASEAN Youth Camp 2008



Indonesia's ASEAN Youth Ambassador project (1)

Annual program, held by the Department of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia

Background: To give opportunity at early stage for Indonesian young people as active participants in society

Purpose: To promote ASEAN cooperation to the young generation in Indonesia and promote Indonesia abroad by electing high-rated university students to be youth ambassadors

Indonesia's ASEAN Youth Ambassador project (2)

First project held in 2007

20 finalists selected from universities in Indonesia

Programs: Quarantine → Grand Final

Quarantine : Finalists equipped with Skills and Knowledge

Grand Final: → Covered by National Television

→ 2 winners selected

→ All finalists have one-year duty

→ national and international duty

Indonesia's ASEAN Youth Ambassador project (3) – Grand Final



Indonesia's ASEAN Youth Ambassador project (3) – Activities

National:

- Interviews with TV stations, radio, newspapers and magazine
- Seminars
- ASEAN Goes to School program

International:

- The Second ASEAN-China Youth Camp and the ASEAN-China Youth Leaders Meeting, held in Beijing and Manzhouli on 15-22 August 2007
 - The Ship for South East Asia Youth Program 2007
 - The International Visitor Leadership Program
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ASEAN GOES TO SCHOOL (1)

Purpose: To promote ASEAN Cooperation to junior high school and high school students

Held in 50 schools and 16 cities since January 2008

Involved Indonesia's ASEAN Youth Ambassadors

ASEAN GOES TO SCHOOL (2)



ASEAN GOES TO SCHOOL (3)



Future Activities

- **Conduct activities such as seminars, workshop, exhibition, festival and exchange program to promote and strengthen networking, friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding amongst APEC young people.**
 - **Provide access to education, training and ICT to enhance competitiveness of youth.**
 - **Setup International languages classes to enhance the APEC youth competitiveness especially the young entrepreneurs.**
 - **Use ICT to enable more effective youth work and networking among youth in the region.**
 - **Seek the feasibility of setting up APEC youth organization that will serve as a channel of communication among young people in APEC region.**
 - **Promote employability of youth by mainstreaming youth into the national development agenda.**
 - **Facilitate access to credit, markets and business development opportunities and modern technologies for APEC young entrepreneurs.**
 - **Conduct skills training for out-of-school youth.**
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THANK YOU

YOUTH ROLES IN THE CHALLENGING WORLD

By: Tri Aryadi

Prepared for APEC Workshop for Strengthening Youth Work in APEC Region

Youth is one of the most valuable assets of a country. The youth are both a major human resource for development and key agents for social changes, economic development and technological innovation. The 1,2 billion people between the ages 15 and 24 years (The United Nation's reference of youth) and constituting 18 per cent of the world's population, seen as a tremendous resource for national development.¹ All youth are competent and talented and they stand at the threshold to be the future leaders at all levels. But sometimes their potentials are not being fully tapped because lack of opportunities given to them in developing their skills, knowledge, capabilities and roles in their own communities.

Globalization brings opportunities and also challenges and the most vulnerable segment in the society in facing its impacts are young people especially in developing countries. For some countries, globalization brings improvement in their welfare but in other countries especially in developing countries, it will effect to the participation of youth in their societies because sometimes they have been left out of the digitalization and modernization process and lack economic power to benefit from the opportunities globalization offers.

Youth unemployment is a problem to many countries because economic growth sometimes is not always accompanied by growth in employment. Many governments in this world are facing the problem of creating employment opportunities for all citizens especially their young generation. It becomes more complicated if young people are lack of sufficient skill and education. The problem has worsened in recent years because of the global recession which has affected developing countries the most seriously. Trade liberalization forces companies to become more flexible and competitive. Many have become increasingly dependent on low-cost, flexible labour, often employed on an irregular basis. Based on World

Youth Employment in Indonesia

What about the employment of young people in Indonesia? Labour force in Indonesia on August 2007 reaches 164,1 millions people which 43,1 millions are between the age of 15 and 24 years old or 26 per cent of total workforce. The figures shows that from 43,1 million young workforce, only 39 per cent or 16, 9 millions are employed.

**Workforce based on age and sex
On August 2007**

Age	Male	Female	Total
15-24	21.960.724	21.100.666	43.061.390
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Source: Indonesia Statistics Agency

¹ See World Youth Report 2007 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.IV.1)

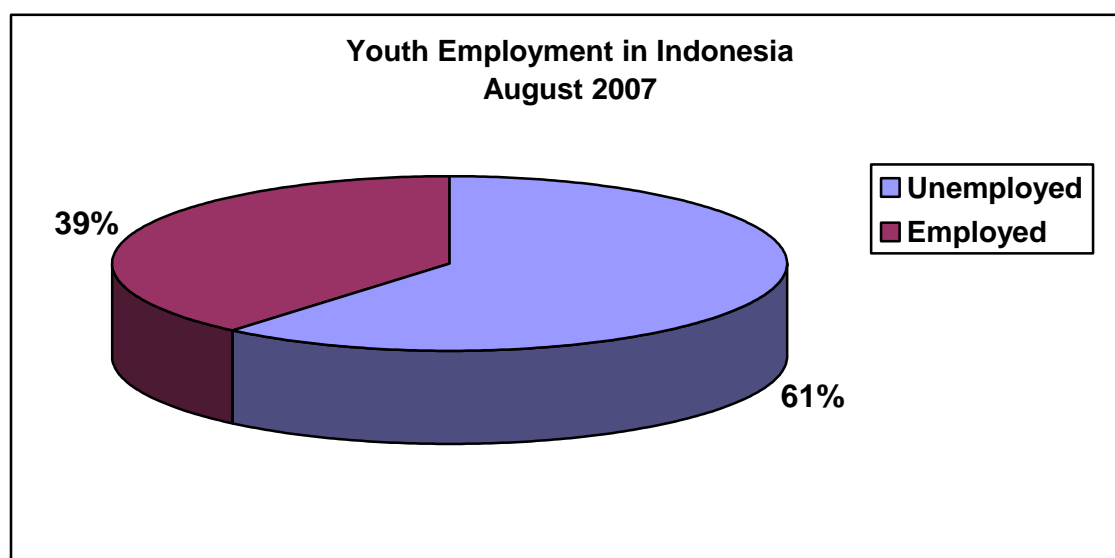
From total number of labour force, 97,6 millions are employed which 16, 9 millions are between the age of 15 and 24 years old or around 17 per cent.

**Employment based on age and sex
On August 2007**

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Source: Indonesia Statistics Agency

The figures shows that from 43,1 million young workforce, only 39 per cent or 16, 9 millions are employed.



Source: Indonesia Statistics Agency

Youth unemployment surely a huge problem that has to be solved in Indonesia and it also happens in many countries especially in developing countries. It is a government's task to support and encourage youth participation to contribute to their surroundings and country. It is clearly stated in the United Nations resolution 50/18 of 14 December 1995, that "every State should provide its young people with opportunities for obtaining education, for acquiring skills and for participating fully in all aspects of society."² To cope with the issue, Indonesia is committed to open the opportunities for youth people to play their roles in the community by designing and implementing policies at national level or by enhancing cooperation in international level. Indonesia always seeks cooperation bilaterally with other countries and plays its roles in regional and international arena such as in ASEAN which comprises the closest neighbor countries of Indonesia.

² See World Youth Report 2007 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.IV.1)

ASEAN Cooperation on Youth

ASEAN cooperation on youth was begun since 1975 when a youth conference was held for the first time. During the conference, The Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation was established. Five years later, an expert group was established named as Expert Group on Youth. In 1983, a Declaration of Principles to Strengthen ASEAN Collaboration on Youth was signed in order to promote and strengthen ASEAN collaboration on youth. In 2001, ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Youth was established to replace the expert group.

ASEAN cooperation was brought to the higher plane when Yangon 2000 Declaration on Preparing ASEAN Youth for the Challenges of Globalization was signed by the ASEAN Ministers responsible for youth matters. In Declaration, ASEAN Ministers committed to prepare and empower the youth of ASEAN to face the challenges of globalization by providing access to education and information and communication technology, opportunities to employment and self-employment and also by forging partnership between ASEAN and other region to promote peace, cooperation, and prosperity in the region and beyond.

Through establishing the ASEAN community pillars based on Bali Concord II, ASEAN member countries committed to pursue the active involvement of the youth in all sectors of society. ASEAN leaders also believed the development and enhancement of human resources is a key strategy for employment generation, alleviating poverty and ensuring economic growth with equity. ASEAN cooperation on youth is conducted more focused under the guidance of Vientiane Action Programme (VAP) 2004-2010. VAP urges the increase of the participation of youth on the productive workforce by conducting skills training for out-of-school youth, using information and communication technology to enable more effective youth work and networking among youth in the region, promoting employability of youth and encouraging youth entrepreneurship.

In the 12th ASEAN Summit in Cebu, Philippines, ASEAN Leaders agreed to promote and to strengthen education in order to prepare youth for regional leadership, and to increase their competitiveness. In the 13th ASEAN Summit, the leaders underscored the importance of promoting greater understanding and friendship among our people through the building of stronger people-to-people linkages, especially the youth. Leaders expressed appreciation for the setting up of the SGD 5 million Singapore-ASEAN Youth Fund. The Singapore-ASEAN Youth Fund was created to promote ASEAN youth interaction and develop ASEAN youths between the age of 15 and 35 through participation in ASEAN youth projects. It also aims to foster ASEAN unity in ASEAN youths and promote greater awareness of ASEAN internationally

Many activities had been carried out to promote cooperation on youth. The recent activities were the follow-ups of the decisions in the Fifth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY) and completed projects under the work programme on preparing ASEAN youth for sustainable employment and other challenges of globalization. The activities were also carried under ASEAN+3 (China, Japan and Korea) cooperation framework. Some of those activities were:

1. ASEAN Youth Investors Expo

ASEAN Youth Investors Expo was held from 30 October to 1 November 2007 in Indonesia with the participants of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippine, Singapore, Thailand, China and Korea. The objective of the exhibition was to gather youths from the ASEAN + 3 countries to share their creation and learn about the masterpieces of others.

2. ASEAN Plus Three Workshop on Youth Entrepreneurship

The workshop was held on 19-20 November 2007 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The workshop recommended the establishment of ASEAN+3 Knowledge Network on Youth Entrepreneurship which was supported by ILO and ASEAN Committee on Youth Entrepreneurship that would coordinate ASEAN+3 activities in the era. The objectives of the Workshop were as follows:

- a. Share information and good practices on how countries undertake and sustain youth enterprise programmes;
- b. Share information and good practices on how countries create awareness and understanding of the challenges of business ownership by youths;
- c. Share good examples of national policies/programmes that facilitate the school-to-work transition of youth;
- d. Strengthen the knowledge network within ASEAN + 3 on youth employment and entrepreneurship; and
- e. Identify ideas to tap on existing mechanisms for regional technical and development collaboration among ASEAN + 3 member countries on youth entrepreneurship.

3. ASEAN- JENESYS Programme

Japan East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths (JENESYS) Programme was created by Japan Government to build solidarity among young people in East Asia by inviting them to visit Japan. The program will be held in five years and will invite 6.000 young people every year. This year, the program has been conducted in May and July 2008.

4. ICT Human Resources Development for Youth

The workshop on ICT Human Resources Development for Youth was convened on 7-9 March 2007 in Yangon, Myanmar.

5. ASEAN Youth Day Meeting and ASEAN Youth Day Award

ASEAN Youth Day Meeting was held on 6-7 February 2008 in Vientiane, Lao PDR and attended by representatives of all ASEAN member countries except Philippines. ASEAN Youth Day Award 2008 was held in conjunction with ASEAN Youth Day Meeting to award accomplished young individuals.

6. ASEAN Youth Homepage

A homepage (www.aseanyouth.org) that contains information to enhance information among young people of ASEAN has been designed by Singapore with more interactive features and user friendly. One of the permanent features is information about the ASEAN Youth Day Award.

7. ASEANpreneurs Youth Leaders Exchange

The program was conducted since 15 May 2008 to 21 May 2008 in Singapore. 27 university delegates from 17 universities in 8 ASEAN countries and 2 observers were signed up for the programme to talk on social entrepreneurship and start-up basics were organized to impart entrepreneurship skills.

All activities conducted by ASEAN member countries are to fulfil the aim in providing opportunities to prepare and empower the region's youth to meet the increasing opportunities and challenges created by the process of globalisation, taking into account their capacities, potentials and vulnerabilities.

Future activities

Young generation is the most vulnerable segment in the society in facing the impacts of globalization. Therefore APEC cooperation on youth should lay its purpose to prepare young generation to face the challenging and competitive future. The future challenges should be addressed by encouraging partnerships and links of solidarity between APEC young people and equipping them with skill and knowledge that can enhance their competitiveness in the globalization era.

In fulfilling those purposes, activities should be well-designed and planned. Existing activities should be maintained and new areas of activities should be explored such as:

1. Conduct activities such as seminars, workshop, exhibition, festival and exchange program to promote and strengthen networking, friendship, cooperation and mutual understanding amongst APEC young people.
2. Provide access to education, training and ICT to enhance competitiveness of youth.
3. Set up International languages classes to enhance the APEC youth competitiveness especially the young entrepreneurs.
4. Use ICT to enable more effective youth work and networking among youth in the region.
5. Seek the feasibility of setting up APEC youth organization that will serve as a channel of communication among young people in APEC region.
6. Promote employability of youth by mainstreaming youth into the national development agenda.
7. Facilitate access to credit, markets and business development opportunities and modern technologies for APEC young entrepreneurs.
8. Conduct skills training for out-of-school youth.