

Regional Agenda

World Economic Forum on ASEAN Regional Agenda

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Youth, Technology and Growth: Securing ASEAN's Demographic and Digital Dividends



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The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) has an extremely young population, with more than half of its 630 million people under the age of 30. This promises a golden moment in the region's economic development journey. The growing working-age population has the potential to boost the region's spending and increase its savings, and hence capacity to invest.

At the same time, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is bringing sweeping change to ASEAN and rewriting traditional development models. ASEAN is the world's fastest-growing internet market, with the region's online population forecast to expand by 124,000 new users every day for the next five years.

However, a bright future is not guaranteed. The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will examine how the region can maximize the payoffs from these two engines of growth and development, while also ensuring that the path ahead is both sustainable and socially inclusive. The meeting will bring together global leaders from business, government, academia and civil society, thought leaders and Young Global Leaders to debate ideas, brainstorm solutions and catalyse action.

A Systems Approach

Many of the challenges facing ASEAN – and the wider world – cannot be addressed by any single government, industry, company or other institution alone. The issues are too complex and rapidly evolving. A broader, interdisciplinary network of expertise and resources must be aligned with shared priorities. In response, the World Economic Forum has developed 14 System Initiatives to provide a platform for deeper multistakeholder cooperation among the most relevant stakeholders.

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will engage leaders and experts on the 10 System Initiatives most relevant to the region:

- Shaping the Future of Consumption
- Shaping the Future of Digital Economy and Society
- Shaping the Future of Economic Growth and Social Inclusion
- Shaping the Future of Education, Gender and Work
- Shaping the Future of Environment and Natural Resource Security
- Shaping the Future of Food Security and Agriculture
- Shaping the Future of Health
- Shaping the Future of Information and Entertainment
- Shaping the Future of International Trade and Investment
- Shaping the Future of Long-Term Investing, Infrastructure and Development
- Shaping the Future of Production

This brochure provides an overview of these initiatives and a sampling of the meeting sessions linked to them. We will also discuss how the meeting will advance the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the industries in focus. We would be pleased to provide further information on this important work, and wish you a productive meeting.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution

No geographic region, business sector or social group will remain untouched by the emerging technologies that are transforming how we as citizens and leaders create, exchange and distribute value in society.

We are already witnessing disruption in almost every industry and country as the increasing convergence and affordability of digital, biological and physical technologies impact how we produce, consume, trade and move. Beyond this, the Fourth Industrial Revolution will challenge how we relate to one another and even what it means to be human.

The impact of this disruption on citizens in ASEAN is not predetermined – it will depend on how governments, businesses and society work together to design and govern new technologies.

Creating an inclusive revolution requires accessible, robust infrastructure across digital and physical networks. New designs for participatory governance and the next generation of smart cities can lead to more trusted, agile systems.

Thoughtfully designed combinations of emerging technologies, such as blockchain, internet of things and artificial intelligence, can offer new value while protecting the rights and security of individuals and groups.

We have an opportunity to direct the transformative impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution towards the delivery of a potent digital dividend. As digital technology takes hold, it should stimulate powerful new industries and development models and fuel rising productivity. Join us at the World Economic Forum on ASEAN to discuss how we can work together to achieve this vision.

Related official sessions*

- AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?
- ASEAN in the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Building Digital Intelligence
- Competitiveness in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Dethroning Cash as King
- Digital Start-Up ASEAN
- Future-Proofing Education for the Skills of Tomorrow
- Promoting Inclusivity
- Rebuilding Trust: Ending Corruption
- Rethinking Regional Trade
- Remaking ASEAN Manufacturing
- Tackling Cyber Crime and Security

Related community sessions*

- Towards a Regional Digital Single Market

** Further information on official sessions can be found on TopLink and the Forum Events smartphone app. Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information about invitation-only community sessions.*

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Shaping the Future of Consumption

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 8, 9, 12, 13 and 17



How can technological disruption drive enhanced models of consumption with sustainable benefits for business and society?

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is transforming entire systems of production, distribution and consumption. Unprecedented levels of technological innovation are giving rise to new models of consumption – products and services – including where and how they are being accessed. This transformation will create significant economic opportunity across developed and emerging economies with the arrival of new business and operating models.

Navigating through the uncharted territories of digital disruption will give rise to key societal challenges that need to be addressed: How will the evolution of retail impact employment? What are the environmental challenges when millions of packages are moving every day to support on-demand desires? What regulation is needed to ensure data security and privacy?

The World Economic Forum's **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Consumption** aims to enable the successful transformation of the industry by addressing the following challenges:

The changing face of the consumer

- How does business address consumer needs/ behaviours in the midst of massive hyperconnectivity, urbanization and the explosion of the middle class?
- What are the implications on consumption patterns when Millennials take over, and, concurrently, a large portion of the population turns 60?

New patterns of consumption

- How can business keep up with consumers' desire for convenience, instant gratification, personalization, experiences over products, access versus ownership and well-being?

Advancement of technology

- How quickly can industry innovate by leveraging unprecedented levels of technological advancement: internet of things, mobility, artificial intelligence, robotics, 3D printing, autonomous vehicles and virtual reality?
- How can data be utilized as an asset without breaching trust?

The ASEAN agenda

The World Economic Forum is engaged in ASEAN through several pathways related to new consumption models. The Forum is:

- Helping business and policy leaders shape new economic and societal value in fast-growth consumer markets in ASEAN to ensure technology-enabled inclusive growth over the next decade.
- Triggering public-private dialogue and collaboration to address systemic barriers that could prevent the acceleration and sustainability of new consumption models. These barriers relate to areas including, but not limited to, infrastructure development, trade and workforce readiness.

In addition, drawing implications from broad consumption-related mega trends and lessons from development in other fast-growth consumer markets will help frame the region in the international context.

Related official sessions*

- [AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?](#)
- [Shaping the Future of Consumption](#)

* Further information on official sessions can be found on [TopLink](#) and the [Forum Events smartphone app](#). Community sessions are invitation only; please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information.

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Shaping the Future of Digital Economy and Society

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 1-13 and 16-17



How can private-public collaboration realize digital technology's potential to benefit humankind?

The exponential growth in digitalization and internet connectivity is the backbone of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. It has the potential to propel societies forward, enable innovative business models and help governments address legitimate policy concerns. Digitalization is transforming business models, the policy landscape and social norms.

The aim of the **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Digital Economy and Society** is to cultivate a shared, trusted digital environment that is a driver of inclusion, economic development and social progress.

The System Initiative aims to create networks that enable and encourage action to promote the long-term health and stability of digitally enabled economies and societies through:

- Understanding the shift through leading-edge intelligence
- Collectively solving new issues via improved governance and policy-making in a digitized society
- Partnering to rapidly scale successes by cultivating an online environment of trust and increasing access and adoption

The ASEAN agenda

The digital economy will be a critical enabler of growth and regional integration and add an estimated \$1 trillion to ASEAN GDP over the next 10 years. To fully capitalize on the potential of connected citizens and enterprise, we must ensure the right policies are in place to foster the cross-border flow of data, goods and services. To advance the digital trade and e-commerce agenda, the World Economic Forum on ASEAN will host discussions on fostering a regional digital single market.

Building on several years of consultation with policy-makers and business leaders, the meeting will leverage the multistakeholder community gathered in Phnom Penh to develop a robust framework for a country and regional-level digital ASEAN strategy that takes full advantage of Fourth Industrial Revolution opportunities.

The meeting will also explore themes including increasing broadband access, creating a digital SME innovation ecosystem, driving the next wave of mobile financial services and protecting against cyber risks and threats.

Related official sessions*

- AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?
- ASEAN in the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Competitiveness in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Countering the Connectivity Conundrum
- Dethroning Cash as King
- Digital Start-Up ASEAN
- Remaking ASEAN Manufacturing
- Tackling Cyber-Crime and Security

Related community sessions*

- Towards a Regional Digital Single Market

* Further information on official sessions can be found on [TopLink](#) and the [Forum Events](#) smartphone app. Community sessions are invitation only; please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information.

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Shaping the Future of Economic Growth and Social Inclusion

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 5, 8-11, 16 and 17



How can the world strengthen growth and equality at the same time?

Rising income inequality is a cause of economic and social ills ranging from low consumption to social and political unrest. Yet, little in the way of concrete policy guidance has emerged to channel economic growth into improved living standards.

Following a slow recovery from one of the worst financial and economic crises in history, business leaders and policy-makers are looking for new approaches and growth models. But what is the most effective way to embrace long-term competitiveness while strengthening the contribution of growth to broad-based progress in living standards?

The **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Economic Growth and Social Inclusion** aims to accelerate public-private collaboration towards more competitive and inclusive economies around the world by:

- Enhancing understanding of competitiveness and inclusive growth, and informing multistakeholder action on these issues
- Facilitating public-private collaboration to improve the competitiveness and inclusive growth performance of particular economies and regions
- Supporting the broad diffusion and adoption of inclusive business strategies in the private sector

The ASEAN agenda

The *Global Competitiveness Report* and the *Inclusive Growth and Development Report* provide a starting point to identify priorities and opportunities for multistakeholder engagement as ASEAN seeks to accelerate growth and reduce inter-region disparities. Forum-led workshops in the region are a platform for country-level discussions leading to inclusive growth and competitiveness agendas.

The Forum also seeks to provide new tools to help ASEAN address issues highlighted in the *Global Competitiveness Report* and *Inclusive Growth and Development Report*. These tools will be based on leading practices identified via a digital platform designed by the Forum in partnership with the International Development Research Centre and the World Bank.

At the same time, the Forum's efforts to understand corporate impact will facilitate engagement with private sector stakeholders eager to contribute to the twin goals of growth and inclusion.

Related official sessions*

- AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?
- ASEAN after 50: What Next?
- ASEAN in the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Competitiveness in the Era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Future-Proofing Education for the Skills of Tomorrow
- The Power of Parity
- Profit with Purpose
- Promoting Inclusivity

Related community sessions*

- Creating the Space for Inclusive Societies
- Inclusive Governance

*Further information on official sessions can be found on *TopLink* and the *Forum Events* smartphone app. Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information about invitation-only community sessions.

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Shaping the Future of Education, Gender and Work

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 5, 8 and 17



How can talent be developed and deployed to enable people to fulfil their full potential and to support more prosperous economies and societies?

Technology and globalization are significantly transforming work. However, education and training systems, having remained mostly static and underinvested in for decades, are largely inadequate for these new labour markets. Additionally, a prevailing gender bias is introducing further inefficiency and inequality.

We must therefore rethink the way talent is developed and deployed. This will require breaking down old silos between education systems and labour markets, more agile approaches to regulation, new forms of public-private collaboration, and new norms and values.

The **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Education, Gender and Work** drives the development of education that matches future needs, promotes a workforce that is better prepared for labour market shifts, identifies job creation opportunities and ensures that gains and opportunities are shared equally, regardless of gender, age or origin. This is achieved by mobilizing leaders from business, government, civil society and others through new insights, common agendas and collaborative action. It aims to:

- Build a leadership ecosystem by bringing together a community of business, policy-makers, civil society and other leaders
- Address the need for better knowledge, forecasts and metrics by disseminating analysis and insights
- Facilitate dialogue by bringing together the most relevant stakeholders, thought leaders and experts to advance the global dialogue and develop common agendas and priorities
- Drive action, especially through collaboration between business, government, civil society and the education and training sector, at the global, industry and regional level

The ASEAN agenda

ASEAN has great human potential but varying success in leveraging its human capital endowment to benefit national economies, business communities and societies.

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will examine the future of jobs in the region, the core skills demanded by shifting labour markets, and how governments and business can work together to prepare education and training systems.

The meeting will also explore the future of gender parity in ASEAN and the potential for collaborative action to progress economic opportunities for women. This is crucial as ASEAN seeks to maintain economic growth by harnessing the Fourth Industrial Revolution and regional talent and potential.

Related official sessions*

- [Future-Proofing Education for the Skills of Tomorrow](#)
- [The Power of Parity](#)

* Further information on official sessions can be found on [TopLink](#) and the [Forum Events](#) smartphone app. Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information about invitation-only community sessions.

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Shaping the Future of Environment and Natural Resource Security

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 2, 6-9, 11-15 and 17



How can the world achieve inclusive economic growth while combating climate change and other natural resource challenges?

The global environment and economic security are indelibly intertwined, with increasing greenhouse gases, environmental degradation and natural-resource depletion putting sustainable growth and existing business models at risk.

The **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Environment and Natural Resource Security** brings together leading experts and practitioners to provide systems leadership, curate platforms for multidimensional cooperation and engage in focused interventions. It aims to:

The System Initiative aims to:

- Improve the effectiveness of the international community's response to environmental challenges
- Support public-private action that accelerates the climate agenda, improves ocean health, realizes deforestation-free supply chains, enables more water-secure economies and helps unlock a trillion-dollar opportunity in the circular economy
- Explore how Fourth Industrial Revolution innovations can be harnessed to address environmental issues, including redefining what effective global environmental governance looks like

Responding to these challenges requires breaking down traditional silos and building new forms of cooperation and innovation across the public and private sectors to quickly effect change at scale. The System Initiative offers a platform to support this action.

The ASEAN agenda

The Sustainable Development Goals agreement in 2015 and the entry into force of the Paris Agreement on climate change in 2016 mean the three years to 2020 are a key period to mobilize towards delivering these ambitious targets, while simultaneously driving rapid inclusive growth in ASEAN.

To support these goals, the System Initiative seeks to incentivize sustainable development investment, harness innovative Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies and accelerate partnerships to drive regional solutions for sustainable land use, ocean health and reducing water insecurity risks. A specific deep dive on ocean sustainability will explore:

- Technology's role in improving ocean governance and curbing illegal fishing
- Mechanisms to address marine and coastal pollution
- New public-private collaboration to improve ocean health and prevent human rights abuses within the fishing industry

Related official sessions*

- [Addressing Regional Water Security](#)

Related community sessions*

- [ASEAN Ocean Health](#)

* Further information on official sessions can be found on [TopLink](#) and the [Forum Events smartphone app](#). Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information about invitation-only community sessions.

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Shaping the Future of Food Security and Agriculture

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 1-8, 10, 12-15, 16 and 17



How can the world feed 9.7 billion people by 2050?

By 2050, a global population of 9.7 billion will demand 70% more food than is consumed today. Feeding this expanded population nutritiously and sustainably will require substantial improvements to the global food system – one that provides livelihoods for farmers as well as nutritious products for consumers.

The **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Food Security and Agriculture** seeks to develop a long-term strategy and ways of working across the public, private and social sectors to achieve a 20% improvement each decade in food security, environmental sustainability and economic opportunity. This will be achieved through a market-based and multistakeholder approach, in line with the New Vision for Agriculture (NVA).

The System Initiative aims to:

- Strengthen global food systems by developing new insights, facilitating collaboration on priority action areas to achieve healthy diets and sustainable landscapes, and mobilizing leadership and expertise at the global level
- Achieve the NVA by strengthening multistakeholder collaboration at the country and regional level, and by mobilizing new investments, partnerships and best practices to achieve concrete results

The ASEAN agenda

Launched in 2015 by the NVA in collaboration with the ASEAN Secretariat, Grow Asia facilitates multistakeholder collaboration to enable sustainable and inclusive agricultural development in the ASEAN member states. Grow Asia seeks to strengthen country partnerships and support the scaling of value chain initiatives. It currently engages over 260 partners in country partnerships in Cambodia, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines and Viet Nam, and reaches over 500,000 smallholder farmers through 38 value chain projects. It aims to reach 10 million smallholder farmers by 2020, helping them improve productivity, profitability and environmental sustainability by 20%.

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will host the Grow Asia Forum 2017 – a full-day, high-level meeting bringing together over 120 senior leaders from government, the global and regional private sector, international civil society and farmers' organizations, and research and academic institutions. The theme of the Grow Asia Forum 2017 is Pathways to Scale, and sessions will discuss how to expand inclusive and sustainable agriculture to more ASEAN smallholders. Participants will review existing models and explore scaling strategies including digital solutions, access to finance and strengthened value chains. Agriculture and food security will also feature in the official programme.

Related official sessions*

- [Future of Food Systems in ASEAN](#)

Related community sessions*

- [2017 Grow Asia Forum](#)

* Further information on official sessions can be found on [TopLink](#) and the [Forum Events](#) smartphone app. Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information about invitation-only community sessions.

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Shaping the Future of Health and Healthcare

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 3 and 17



How can the world deliver healthy lives and healthcare for 9.7 billion people by 2050?

By 2050, the world's population is expected to rise to 9.7 billion, with 2 billion over the age of 60. However, the global health and healthcare system is still ill-equipped to deal with this demographic transformation. To keep populations healthy and to treat patients more effectively, solutions need to come from outside traditional healthcare.

The World Economic Forum's **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Health and Healthcare** provides a unifying framework for health preservation and improved healthcare delivery. The effort brings together stakeholders from the public and private sectors to catalyse opportunities to accelerate these goals. Specifically, the System Initiative aims to:

- Better manage future epidemics
- Promote healthy behaviours
- Improve financial efficiencies and sustainability
- Accelerate access to healthcare in emerging economies

The ASEAN agenda

Infectious disease outbreaks impact the livelihoods of millions of people in ASEAN and cause billions of dollars of damage. Regional capacity, underpinned by international partnership and public-private cooperation, is fundamental to mitigate the negative consequences of outbreaks and strengthen health security regionally and globally. In response, a community session at the World Economic Forum on ASEAN will advance efforts to establish a mechanism for improving the response to pandemics through cross-sectoral public-private cooperation.

A second priority is addressing non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which account for more than 50% of deaths in the region. The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will explore how to increase access to essential medicines and technologies, incentivize prevention and health lifestyles and attract investment to tackle NCDs in the region.

Related official sessions*

- ASEAN's Silent Epidemic: Non-Communicable Diseases

Related community sessions*

- Public-Private Cooperation to Strengthen Pandemic Response

** Further information on official sessions can be found on TopLink and the Forum Events smartphone app. Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information about invitation-only community sessions.*

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Shaping the Future of Information and Entertainment

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 3-4, 8-12 and 17



How can a sustainable flow of information and content inform, entertain and educate while empowering society?

In today's fast-changing and technology-driven landscape, every stakeholder – from artists and rights owners to advertisers and end users – stands to benefit from effective and equitable flows of content.

Organizations also require support to design policies that both stimulate business growth and safeguard citizens. The World Economic Forum's System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Information and Entertainment aims to:

- Enable an economically viable, accountable and transparent flow of content to inform, influence, entertain and/or educate stakeholders while supporting and empowering them
- Foster an innovative information and entertainment ecosystem at the leading edge of technology
- Increase trust and accountability between stakeholders – ultimately improving social cohesion and societal well-being

The ASEAN agenda

The *Shaping the Future Implications of Digital Media for Society* project seeks to improve the digital media literacy of ASEAN citizens, in particular youth. Higher digital intelligence (DQ) is a fundamental enabler of healthy digital citizenship and the #DQEveryChild™ initiative, in association with the World Economic Forum, is active in Singapore and the Republic of Korea, with plans to expand to the Philippines and Malaysia this year, and the potential to reach still further through local public-private partnerships. The pilot #DQEveryChild™ study in Singapore improved DQ scores in 8-12 year-old children by an average of 14% and there are now plans to implement the programme nationwide.

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will address the importance of digital media literacy in reducing online radicalization, hate speech, fake news and other cyber-threats through public dialogue and media activities. The #DQEveryChild™ initiative will feature in the official programme and a DQ Institute representative will be onsite to meet with business and government representatives. The meeting will provide a platform for forming new partnerships to ensure that every country in ASEAN has the opportunity to benefit from this initiative.

Related official sessions*

- [Building Digital Intelligence](#)
- [ASEAN in the Fourth Industrial Revolution](#)

**Further information on official sessions can be found on [TopLink](#) and the [Forum Events](#) smartphone app. Community sessions are invitation only; please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information.*

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Shaping the Future of International Trade and Investment

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 1, 8-10, 12 and 17



How can trade and investment drive growth and development?

International trade and investment are important drivers of economic growth and development, and crucial for the success of individual businesses. However, shifting geopolitics, new business models and changing societal expectations are creating new challenges.

The spread of international production networks, growth in the digital economy and the strengthening role of investment as a determinant of trade are all game-changers for international cooperation. Societal unease with globalization is evident in debates on the power of corporations, employment, labour and environmental standards, and taxation.

Successful change requires an understanding of the new dynamics of commerce, inspiring narratives, operational and strategic integration, the reallocation of resources and results-oriented leadership.

The **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of International Trade and Investment** aims to inform the policy debate on critical issues and drive practical steps to unlock the full potential of trade and investment by:

- Advancing proposals for modernizing the international trade and investment system
- Catalysing trade facilitation reforms
- Establishing norms for investment policy and global value chains
- Securing agreement on digital trade best practices and a pathway to reform

The ASEAN agenda

The World Economic Forum is engaged in several pathways related to trade and investment in ASEAN. The Forum is:

- Supporting Viet Nam via the Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation to improve its border procedure efficiency through a new customs bond system
- Exploring innovative ways to collect data and benchmark ASEAN members' trade facilitation performance
- Scoping options to boost digital trade in the region through policy dialogue and reform

Related official sessions*

- AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?
- Rethinking Regional Trade
- South-East Asia and the Big Picture

Related community sessions*

- Enabling Trade and Investment
- Towards a Regional Digital Single Market

* Further information on official sessions can be found on *TopLink* and the *Forum Events* smartphone app. Please contact your *Primary Engagement Manager* for information about invitation-only community sessions.

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Shaping the Future of Long-Term Investing, Infrastructure and Development

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 6-9, 11, 13 and 17



How can the world sustainably close the \$1 trillion infrastructure investment gap?

Short political cycles, short-term investment horizons and a lack of viable financing structures and risk-assessment frameworks mean that infrastructure and development lacks investment. There is currently a \$1 trillion annual shortfall versus a \$4 trillion demand for infrastructure alone. Closing these gaps is paramount if the world is to stay on a path to inclusive economic growth and recovery.

The **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Long-Term Investing, Infrastructure and Development** seeks to provide a more strategic dialogue that allows policy-makers to express their long-term vision for infrastructure and development, the benefits it would bring to society, and how to share them fairly with investors. Specifically, it aims to:

- Help governments and regions streamline/accelerate infrastructure project pipelines
- Address key gaps that prevent institutional investors from engaging more fully in infrastructure
- Provide a multistakeholder platform for parties involved in infrastructure investment to capture the full transformational potential of megaprojects
- Provide a platform for blended finance practitioners to mobilize \$100 billion of investment by 2021
- Examine how emerging capital markets development can be accelerated and build public-private partnerships on the national level to share best practices and visions for development

The ASEAN agenda

The Sustainable Development Investment Partnership (SDIP) ASEAN Hub is an extension of the global SDIP initiative and designed to address regional financing challenges. It seeks to strengthen project pipelines, mobilize capital for infrastructure projects and contribute to local capacity-building. The hub is newly established and workstreams must still be determined. The hub is currently undertaking commercial classification of publicly prioritized projects to identify which projects are viable for commercial or blended finance and which should remain publicly funded.

Related official sessions*

- Countering the Connectivity Conundrum
- Realizing Smart Infrastructure Investment
- Towards Smart Urbanization

Related community sessions*

- Financing Infrastructure through Blended Finance
- SDIP ASEAN Hub Strategy

* Further information on official sessions can be found on *TopLink* and the *Forum Events* smartphone app. Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for information about invitation-only community sessions.

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Shaping the Future of Production

This System Initiative helps address Sustainable Development Goals 8, 9 and 17



How can the transformation of production systems – from R&D to the consumer – drive innovation, sustainability and employment?

The world is at the threshold of a new industrial revolution characterized by a confluence of emerging technology breakthroughs, from mobile connectivity, artificial intelligence, internet of things, next-generation robotics, 3D printing, wearables and genetic engineering to nanotechnology, advanced materials and biotechnology. These technologies, combined and connected, will transform manufacturing and production systems with unprecedented speed and scope, impacting business models, economic growth, employment and sustainability.

Businesses in the manufacturing and distribution sectors and policy-makers need new approaches and capabilities, and must work together to build truly innovative and sustainable production systems that benefit all people.

The **System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Production** aims to:

- Understand and anticipate, beyond the hype and with input from global experts, how technologies – individually and combined – will transform production and value networks
- Connect the prime actors in the future of production, including established companies and innovators from multiple industries, policy-makers, small and medium-sized enterprises, Technology Pioneers, academia, labour unions and civil society
- Build an inclusive and exciting collective vision for future production that improves the state of the world
- Foster cooperation between key stakeholders by identifying leading company practices and exploring future-oriented policy frameworks and pilots to accelerate innovation and support technology adoption
- Build opportunities for investment and new partnership types in increasingly smart factories and connected production ecosystems
- Build collaborative platforms to launch initiatives that support economic growth, employment and sustainability through production

The ASEAN agenda

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will explore the critical levers necessary to enable ASEAN countries' readiness for the future of production. In particular, the meeting will explore how public-private partnerships can support new models for driving inclusive growth, sustainability and employment through production, and by focusing on areas such as R&D, capacity-building, skills development and technology dissemination across small and medium enterprises. Feedback from insightful discussions with key stakeholders on the Future of Production in ASEAN will be shared and used to define key actions and the way forward for the Future of Production in ASEAN project.

The meeting will consider questions including how public policy should take into account countries' current circumstances and the wider transformation of production systems; and what conditions help businesses harness new production technologies and innovation to fully partake in future production value networks?

Related official sessions

- Remaking ASEAN Manufacturing
- ASEAN in the Fourth Industrial Revolution
- Future Proofing Education for the Skills of Tomorrow

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Industries in Focus

Aviation, Travel and Tourism

With over 104 million international arrivals in 2015 and an average growth of 8%, ASEAN travel and tourism has tremendous potential. The industry plays a key role in supporting two ASEAN priorities – regional integration and inclusive development. Still, hurdles ranging from security to infrastructure and connectivity are hindering the region's travel and tourism development.

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will build on the [Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report](#) to bring together public and private sector leaders to consider how to achieve the region's potential.

Related community sessions

- [Reaping the Benefits from Travel and Tourism*](#)

Consumer

Projected to rank as the world's fourth-largest economy by 2050, ASEAN is a pivotal consumer market of the future. Approximately 67 million ASEAN households have income levels that allow for significant discretionary spending, and this consuming class is expected to reach 125 million households by 2025. Coupled with rapidly increasing mobile and internet penetration, consumption and retail is poised for transformation. As demographics evolve and consumption patterns shift, it is important to ensure the long-term viability of natural resources.

However, with a projected population of 650 million by 2020, the region faces acute challenges in meeting competing social, environmental and economic demands for limited water resources, with water consumption expected to double during the second half of this century. Within the agriculture sector, there are significant opportunities to scale digital solutions, improve access to finance for smallholders and strengthen value chains while preserving the region's ecosystems.

Related official sessions

- [Shaping the Future of Consumption](#)

Related community sessions

- [Grow Asia Forum*](#)

Digital Communications

The Asia Development Bank estimates that emerging economies in East Asia will need to invest almost \$16 trillion to build infrastructure to support everything from transport networks to clean water between now and 2030 to maintain growth, eradicate poverty and offset climate change. To become more climate-resilient, sustainable and competitive, ASEAN cities must invest in smart infrastructure systems – enabled by advanced sensors, machine learning and cryptographic technologies – that can draw real-time insights from sensor networks and enable new economic interactions between people, machines and processes. However, a fragmented or uncertain digital policy environment could deter investment in these infrastructure models.

At the same time, ASEAN governments need greater digital integration and alignment to ensure consistency and coordination on cybersecurity, interoperability and cross-border data flows. An integrated ASEAN digital market would attract greater technology investment, allowing the region to leapfrog traditional development pathways and amplify collective impact in addressing global challenges. The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will consider the latest tools and best practices for fostering the regional digital integration and investment necessary to deliver sustainability, stability and prosperity in the face of transformative change.

Related official sessions

- [AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?](#)
- [Building Digital Intelligence](#)
- [Digital Start-Up ASEAN](#)
- [Tackling Cyber-Crime and Security](#)

Related community sessions

- [Towards a Regional Digital Single Market*](#)

Energy

Energy plays an important role for economic growth in ASEAN countries. Whereas the US and other OECD countries are experiencing a levelling or reduction in forecast energy consumption, ASEAN is considered a key driver of global energy demand next to China and India. This growth in demand brings sustainability and supply challenges, coupled with new technological opportunities. Hence, countries and companies in the region face complex energy policy and investment choices. The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will bring together private and public sector participants to discuss the region's energy integration and energy transition challenges, including how to balance its needs for affordable, secure and sustainable energy.

Related community sessions

- [ASEAN's Energy Transition*](#)

Infrastructure and Urban Development

Public-private cooperation must be a priority in the years ahead if ASEAN is to achieve the infrastructure spending needed to maintain its economic growth trajectory. To close the infrastructure funding gap, public procurement agencies and ministries are becoming increasingly receptive to collaborating with the private sector, particularly through public-private partnerships and project financing. However, engaging private capital in public projects faces challenges including private sector institutions' ability to engage and manage the project and investment lifecycle, and the risk mitigation elements needed to provide acceptable risk-return profiles. Furthermore, to prepare ASEAN for the digital age, cities need better and smarter infrastructure investment to build a stronger digital environment.

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will examine how to:

- Create a stable and attractive investment climate to attract new sources of capital
- Increase city competitiveness through new technologies
- Create an enabling policy environment and incentives for smart infrastructure investment
- Share best practices and success stories for promoting transparency and trust in public-private cooperation to build integrity back into the system

Related official sessions

- [Countering the Connectivity Conundrum](#)
- [Realizing Smart Infrastructure Investment](#)
- [Rebuilding Trust: Ending Corruption](#)
- [Towards Smart Urbanization](#)

Related community sessions

- [Financing Infrastructure through Blended Finance*](#)

Investors

The 50th Anniversary of ASEAN is an opportunity for investors and financial institutions to meet policy-makers and other stakeholders to evaluate the success of the fast-growing ASEAN community and the challenges and opportunities of the future. It is important to consider the community as a whole, and individual member states with unique challenges and opportunities.

The World Economic Forum on ASEAN will consider issues including financing infrastructure, building local capital markets, job creation and employment, financial inclusion, and the future of the ASEAN Economic Community, which is now in its second year.

Related official sessions

- [AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?](#)
- [Dethroning Cash as King](#)
- [Realizing Smart Infrastructure Investment](#)

Related community sessions

- [Enabling Trade and Investment*](#)
- [Financing Infrastructure through Blended Finance*](#)

Supply Chain and Transport

Realizing the ASEAN Economic Community vision of a globally competitive single market and production base with free flow of goods, services, labour, investments and capital requires strong supply chain and transport capabilities. While Singapore and Malaysia have adequate infrastructure and well-developed institutions, countries such as Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia still face significant development needs. These differing priorities slow regional integration.

Cambodia, the World Economic Forum on ASEAN host country, is well-located geographically. However, integration into the region's economy requires upgraded road, rail, air and sea links. Building on vast improvements in recent years, the Cambodian government is preparing a masterplan to respond to the country's future infrastructure needs. Public-private partnerships will be a key component of the strategy.

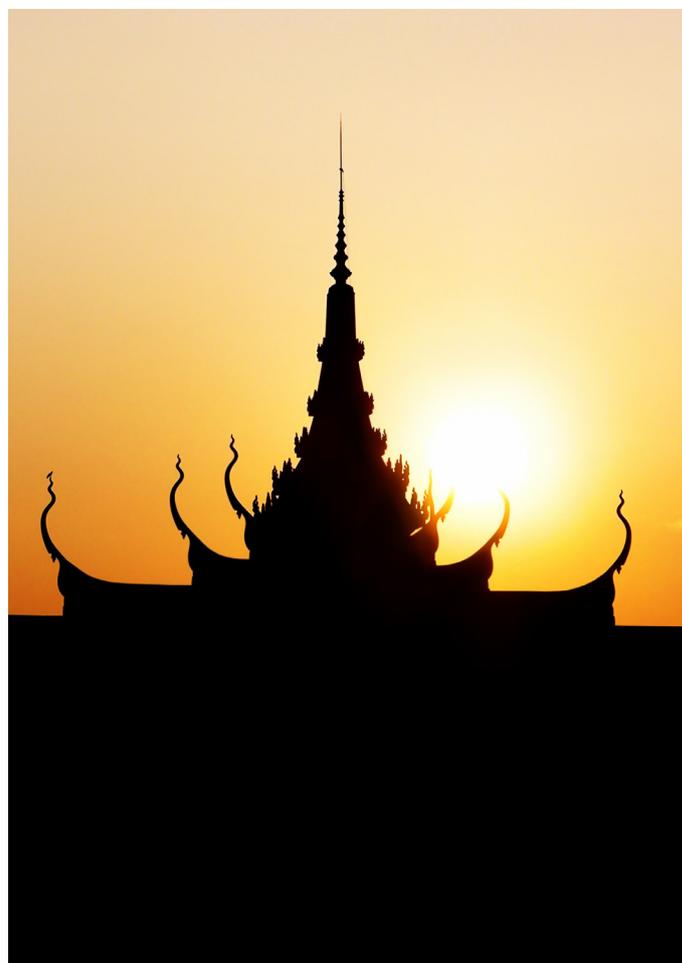
Related official sessions

- [AEC One Year On: Big Bang or Big Disappointment?](#)
- [Remaking ASEAN Manufacturing](#)

Related official sessions

- [Enabling Trade and Investment*](#)
- [Reaping the Benefits from Travel and Tourism*](#)
- [Towards a Regional Digital Single Market*](#)

**Invitation-only community session. Please contact your Primary Engagement Manager for more information.*





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The World Economic Forum, committed to improving the state of the world, is the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation.

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