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# Youth Employment in ASEAN

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**Youth Employment**

**Ho Chi Minh, March 21, 2012**



*Decent Work for All*

**ASIAN DECENT WORK DECADE 2006-2015**

# Presentation Outline:

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- Facts and figures
- Key Challenges
- Key responses
- Regional Initiatives
- National Initiatives



# Youth Employment in Asia Pacific



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## 1/ Facts and Figures



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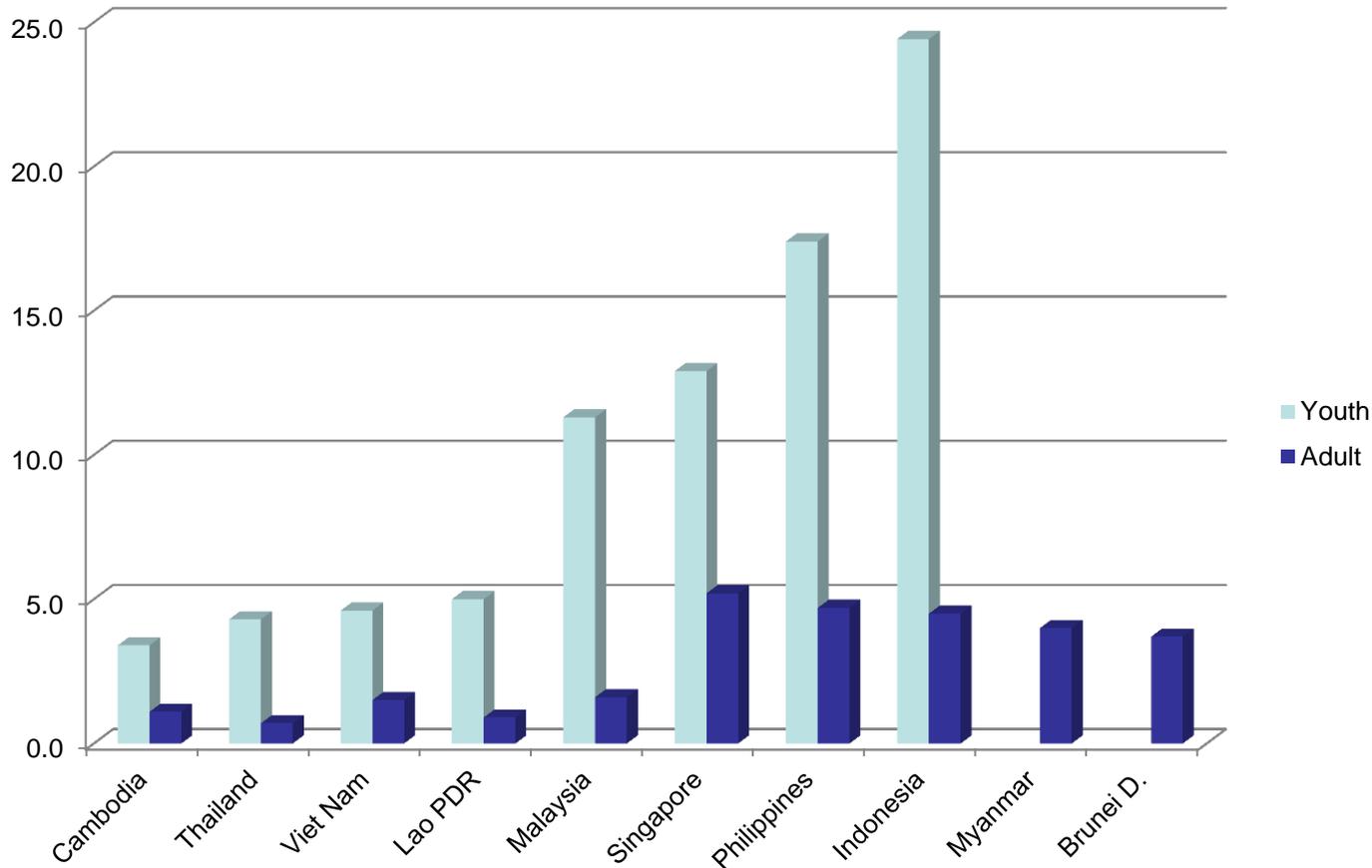
- Almost half of the youth unemployed -45%, or 36.4M- came from Asia and the Pacific, which accounts for two thirds of the global workforce
- Youth unemployment affects:
  - 13.6% in South East Asia and the Pacific
  - 9.9% in South Asia and
  - 8.8% in East Asia.
- Young people are 3 to 5 times more likely to be unemployed than adults



# Youth VS. Adult Unemployment in ASEAN



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## 2/ Key Challenges



# The Informal Sector



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## ➤ The Youth and the Working Poor



# Skills Mismatch



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- Education and Training
- Integrating skills development into broader national development strategies

Matching  
Adapting  
Reaching out  
Anticipating



# Social Inclusiveness



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- **Persistent gender gaps**
- **Young people in rural and isolated areas**
- **Young people with disabilities**
- **Young people with HIV Aids**



# EFFECTS OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT



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## 3/ Key Responses



# Creating Jobs, Enhancing Employability



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- Promoting the link between Income Security and Employability & Increased Capabilities (ref Convention 168)
- Addressing Demand, stimulating economic growth
- Focusing on School to Work transitions
- Enhancing partnerships, developing apprenticeships programs and Improving the investment climate
- Supporting skills and entrepreneurship training and access to finance
- Focusing on Local Development



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## 4/ Regional Initiatives



# ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth



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1. **ASEAN cooperation on youth** is overseen at the Ministerial level by an ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth, which meets once every three years
2. The implementation of the programmes and activities for youth matters is carried out by the ASEAN Senior Officials on Youth, which reports to the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Youth (AMMY)
3. Youth cooperation in ASEAN is directed by the Work Programme on Preparing ASEAN Youth for Sustainable Development, which was considered and adopted during the **AMMY IV in September 2003**



# Regional Cooperation Platform for Vocational Education and Teacher Training in the ASEAN region - RCP



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- Despite high growth rates, mutual recognition of education systems and teaching qualifications are often still in their infancy stage in countries involved in the RCP.
- The RCP is a platform of eight vocational training institutes and ministries of education from five countries – China, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- RCP members receive support in developing and establishing appropriate platforms for mutual exchange as well as working formats, such as working groups, conferences and in-service training courses.



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## 4/ National Initiatives



- Among the first countries to join the **YEN** Lead Country Network
- National Medium-term Development Plan 2010-2014 includes a directive to overcome the youth employment challenge
- The Office for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction has been tasked to develop a Youth Employment Strategy
- At the ILC 100, the President of Indonesia called for a ‘Global Coalition for Youth Employment’



- **Socio Economic Development Plan (SEDP) 2011-2015** has a section on Youth Development Strategies, including human resource development and socio-economic strategies to balance inter-provincial inequalities.
- Vietnam has a Law on Youth and a National Strategy for Youth Development, with special attention given to “young people in rural, disadvantaged, remote and hinterland areas”.
- Measures to help young people access decent employment emphasize vocational training and also include “Young Entrepreneurs Associations and Young Businesses Clubs”.



- The **National Youth Commission** is a government agency that specifically addresses issues surrounding the Filipino youth.
- The Commission released the Philippine Medium-Term Youth Development Plan which serves as a guiding framework for youth development and empowerment.
- The plan is a broad guide for action, and young Filipinos play a very important role in ensuring that the recommended policies, programmes, and courses of actions are carried out.



- **The National Policy on Cambodian Youth Development** marks a commitment by the government to address the challenges of youth. Education and employment feature prominently in the Policy.
- A Cambodian National Council for Youth Development is given the responsibility of coordinating public and private institutions and civil society and the monitoring of the youth action plan
- The **National Employment Agency (NEA)** is a key partner in providing effective and efficient labour market services especially for young people so that they are guided to future jobs foreseen in the National Strategic Development Plan.



- The Tenth **Malaysia Plan 2011-2015** emphasizes that more balance will be sought in developing technical as well as soft skills.
- The National Youth Skills Institute offers courses fully accredited under the Malaysian Skills Certificate.
- Entrepreneurship training and awareness programmes to be expanded through various institutions including the Malaysia Youth Development Academy.
- Leadership skills to be strengthened through internship programmes at government departments, companies and NGOs for up to one year.



# Key elements for Youth Employment Policies

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- Young people need to be at the core of employment policies
- Young people need to be involved in the design of such policies
- Policies should be based on Desirability, Affordability and Feasibility





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# Thank you

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