This project is the second phase of the ILO/Japan Project to Promote and Build Unemployment Insurance and Employment Services in ASEAN.

In October 2013, ASEAN member States adopted a Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection as one of the key priority areas to achieve growth with equity and “people oriented integration” by 2015. At country level, a number of ASEAN governments have already started designing and reforming their social security systems and employment services, including measures to provide protection to those who have lost their jobs. However, coverage provided by social insurance schemes very often remains limited to formal employment; hence innovative measures to tackle the needs of vulnerable workers are still needed.

The project supports the shared need among the ASEAN’s governments and social partners for further exploring, designing and implementing strategies and schemes that will increase access to income security and employment for vulnerable workers and their families.

• Advocate for the establishment of social protection floors (SPF) and more comprehensive social security systems in ASEAN countries, in the framework of its economic integration by 2015.

• Facilitate knowledge sharing, capacity building and South-South cooperation among ASEAN countries as well as other countries in Asia through regional seminars, experts’ missions, and hands-on training activities on social security related issues in particular unemployment protection and old-age pension.

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PROJECT OUTCOMES
• Greater awareness and interest to develop social protection systems and increased understanding of the linkages between social security and employment support policies among ASEAN.
• Framework and recommendations for an effective implementation of the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection.
• Knowledge on possible options to extend old-age pension to all, learning from countries’ experiences.

MAIN ACTIVITIES
• Advocate for the establishment of social protection floors (SPF) and more comprehensive social security systems in ASEAN countries, in the framework of its economic integration by 2015.
• Facilitate knowledge sharing, capacity building and South-South cooperation among ASEAN countries as well as other countries in Asia through regional seminars, experts’ missions, and hands-on training activities on social security related issues in particular unemployment protection and old-age pension.