



Special Edition

**In conjunction with the
ASEAN Summit 2025**





In conjunction with the 46 th ASEAN Summit under the chairmanship of Malaysia held in Kuala Lumpur from May 26 and 27, 2025; **APPGM-SDG secretariate also actively promoted this event by way of hosting a series of meeting and events which saw ASEAN partners** participating especially for Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand along side with Malaysia.

We sought to advance the localising of SDGs together with community mobilisation for economic empowerment. During the gathering we shared our achievements and challenges. In addition, we have documented the best practices at the community level. These illustrate the solidarity among **ASEAN communities and their resilience to improve their wellbeing.**

During these days we sough to prepare an **ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap (2026 to 2030)** as a clear agenda with goals and targets for joint action and cooperation. Over 21 organisations signed an MoU to make a pledge for its realisation over the next five years. The Society for Asian Solidarity Economy and MySDG Academy will play a role in the effective coordination of the Roadmap events.



Our activities began with the voice of youth—strengthening the spirit of ‘SDG for All’ by bringing youth and grassroots narratives to the regional stage.

1 Malaysian-ASEAN Youth SDG Summit 2025



Gathering 300 youth, community leaders, and corporate allies, the Malaysian-ASEAN Youth SDG Summit 2025 marked the official launch of WAY Forward—a youth development initiative powered by Public-Private Partnerships to mobilise youth accelerating SDGs through partnerships for goals (SDG 17).

With support from the UN Country Team, KBS, and over 43 partner organizations, the summit was inaugurated with the presence of YB Saifuddin Abdullah (Deputy Chair of APPGM-SDG); Ts. Dr. Nagulendran Kangayatkarasu (KSU KBS); Mr Robert Gass (UN Resident Coordinator a.i. and Representative, UNICEF Malaysia and Special Representative, Brunei Darussalam); Dr. Francis Ng (Botanical Consultant, 1 Utama); Ms. Pinyada Reiniger (Counsellor of the Royal Thai Embassy) and the organising secretariat of APPGM-SDG.

Covered by Astro Awani and RTM, the summit amplified the importance of Education for Sustainable Development and intergenerational collaboration.





SDG Labs

The four SDG Labs brought together youth in an interactive workshop to ideate, create, and co-develop SDG-based solutions along the themes of discussion on youth contributions to community development, politics, higher education, and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

SDG-Xplorers@ 1 Utama

A fun and dynamic SDG-Xplorers teamed up by corporate partners and youth SDG Agents that took on challenges on sustainable development through a treasure hunt around 1 Utama's sustainability practice centres. The activity showcased the power of partnership with youth in amplifying and accelerating the SDGs.



Utopia Night

Utopia Night was filled with music and networking connecting youth leaders and stakeholders. It featured an informal networking with jazz music and a special intervention from drum circle; fostering collaborations for sustainable impact.



Youth SDG Agent Workshop

This workshop brought together Youth SDG Agents to deepen their understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), youth roles in community mapping, and impactful advocacy.



2 ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025



The ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025 served as a pivotal platform in shaping the future of Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) as a core strategy for sustainable development across the region. Bringing together 110 participants from 7 ASEAN countries and ASEAN + (Japan & China) —including government officials, civil society organisations, academics, and cooperatives—the forum marked the starting point for the development of the ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap (2026–2030).

This roadmap was developed through an inclusive, participatory process that centred grassroots voices from across the region. Delegates collaboratively charted a shared direction for strengthening SDG and SSE in ASEAN's development agenda.

Structured around five key dimensions—People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, and Partnership—the roadmap explores current achievements, challenges, enabling conditions, and transformative strategies to scale the impact of SSE. It also places strong emphasis on policy and legislation, innovative financing, impact measurement and data, capacity building, and institutional governance.

A total of 21 organisations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) pledging to support the roadmap's implementation. MySDG Academy and the Society for Asian Solidarity Economy were appointed as joint coordinators. The Philippines will host the next forum in 2026 during its ASEAN Chairmanship, followed by Indonesia in 2027.



The opening was attended by YB Deputy Minister of Economy, the Advisor of PPMPL, representatives from APPGM, MySDG Academy, ASEC, and other strategic partners.



MySDG Academy and the society of Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC) formally signed an MoU as founding partners to implement the ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap 2026–2030, solidifying their commitment to promote the Social and Solidarity Economy across ASEAN.



21 regional stakeholders collectively signed the MoU with MySDG Academy and ASEC, joining forces to localize the SDGs and co-develop academic, grassroots, and policy-driven initiatives under the roadmap. Deputy Chair of APPGM-SDG, YB Saifuddin, witnessed this.



The ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025 was structured as a multi-layered participatory platform, blending high-level insights, grassroots storytelling, and collaborative policy development.

Day 1 began with three cornerstone sessions led by prominent resource persons. Representatives from UN ESCAP and ILO offered **critical perspectives on linking the SDGs with Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE)**, followed by Dr. Ben (ASEC) and Dr. Richard (UNRC Malaysia), who grounded the discussion in the region's SDG progress and implementation challenges.



Session 2, titled “Taking Stock of ASEAN for SDGs: Challenges and Ways Forward” and moderated by Dr. Victor Karunan, unpacked the policy landscape and systemic barriers across ASEAN nations.



Session 3, moderated by Dato’ Sri Mustapa Mohamed, featured regional SSE leaders sharing how their **initiatives tangibly advanced the SDGs** in their respective countries. Also speaking, Dr. Piti Srisangnam (Executive Director of ASEAN Foundation)



Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria and Dr. Ben presented the **formation of ASEAN SDG-SSE Community roadmap (2026-2030)** in the afternoon session.



As a dynamic extension of the ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025, the roving workshop brings the knowledge and spirit of the social solidarity economy (SSE) directly to communities. Held across multiple key locations, it creates space for local stakeholders to engage with, explore, and apply SDG and SSE principles in their everyday realities.

Designed to be interactive and co-learning in nature, each stop includes presentations, case simulations, and participatory discussions—reinforcing the SDG commitment to “leave no one behind.” A total of 19 case studies from across ASEAN were presented. Participants engaged directly with project managers and explored lived experiences of grassroots innovation.



Day Two of the ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025 served as a pivotal moment in crafting the ASEAN Community SDG-SSE Roadmap 2026–2030.

Working Group Discussion 1 tackled five core SDG dimensions: People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, and Partnership. **Working Group Discussion 2** shifted focus to ecosystem enablers — exploring policy and legal frameworks, financing strategies for SSE, impact data systems, capacity building, and institutional management. The final session, again moderated by Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila, synthesized outcomes from both groups. It marked a crucial step toward building a people-powered, regionally coherent roadmap aligned with SDG values and SSE transformation pathways.



The Drafting Committee

The drafting committee for the **ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap (2026–2030)** includes several distinguished members: from left, Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Head of Secretariat for APPGM-SDG; Dr. Benjamin R. Quinones Jr., Co-Founder of the Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC); Dr. Eri Trinurini Adhi, Chairperson of ASEC; Prof. Dato' Dr. Rashila Ramli, Deputy President of Persatuan Sains Sosial Malaysia; Dr. Victor Karunan, an international consultant for various United Nations agencies; and Shigeru Tanaka, ASEC representative and commentator on the roadmap.

3 “Embark on a Journey of Harmony” Photo Exhibition



Bishop Prof. Dr. Dennis T.W. Ng delivered a speech on the World Harmony Photo Project.



Bishop Prof. Dr. Dennis T.W. Ng, Datuk Dr. Denison, and Puan Rahmah presented awards to one of the participants at the event.



The participants completed a survey on the World Harmony Photo Project, focusing on sustainability awareness through pictures of nature.

Held in conjunction with the ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025, the exclusive dinner was beautifully complemented by a photography exhibition titled “Embark on a Journey of Harmony”

The exhibition featured two distinct competitions:

- 1. World Harmony Photography Awards** – an international platform founded by Bishop Prof. Dr. Dennis Ng (Victory Ministries Foundation Ltd., Hong Kong), under the International Journal of Harmony and Humanity initiative.
- 2. Malaysian Harmony Photography Competition** – a national-level showcase featuring local talents portraying peace and unity within Malaysia's diverse communities and cultural contexts.

Ten outstanding photos were selected from each competition, offering compelling visual interpretations of harmony and human connection



4 ASEAN Peoples @ ASEAN 2025



The slot under ASEAN People Forum organized by MySDG Academy and APPGM-SDG focused on thematic cluster 17: Inclusivity & Sustainability in Economy & Development. The key thematic issues were divided into three main topics: Advancing Social & Solidarity Economy – Strengthening Inclusive & Sustainable Development in ASEAN, Grassroots Solutions in Action – Strengthening Food Security & Community-Based Development in ASEAN, and the theme covering Strengthening Regional Collaboration & Policy Integration during the two-day ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum. These three topics engaged over 80 participants, who collectively shared ideas and experiences to promote inclusive and sustainable development across the ASEAN region.



Five panelists received their certificates after completing Panel Discussion 1 on the topic Advancing Social & Solidarity Economy – Strengthening Inclusive & Sustainable Development in ASEAN.



One of the panel, Poonsap Tulaphan from Thailand shared her insights during Panel Discussion 2 on Grassroots Solutions in Action – Strengthening Food Security & Community-Based Development in ASEAN.



From right, Dr. Victor Karunan – International Consultant for several United Nations agencies, Dr. Rona Chandran – Senior Development Consultant, Dr. Benjamin R. Quinones Jr. – Co-Founder of ASEC, Dr. Eri Trinurini Adhi – Chairperson of ASEC, and Hirzawati Atikah – Programme Director of the ASEAN SDG-SSE Forum 2025 received their certificates of appreciation for the event, followed by Nur Farah Ezzaty – Director of Project Management, Prof. Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria – Head of the APPGM-SDG Secretariat, and Dana Dumpangol – Assistant Director of Project Management

5 ASEAN Leadership and Partnership Forum 2025

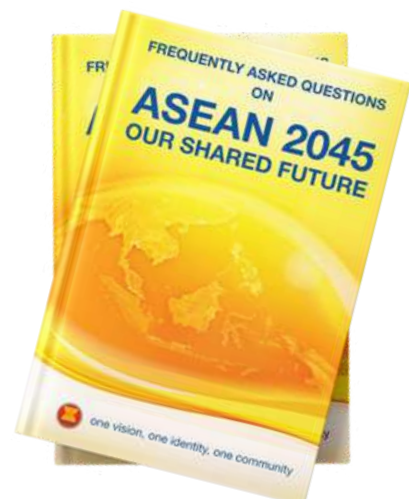


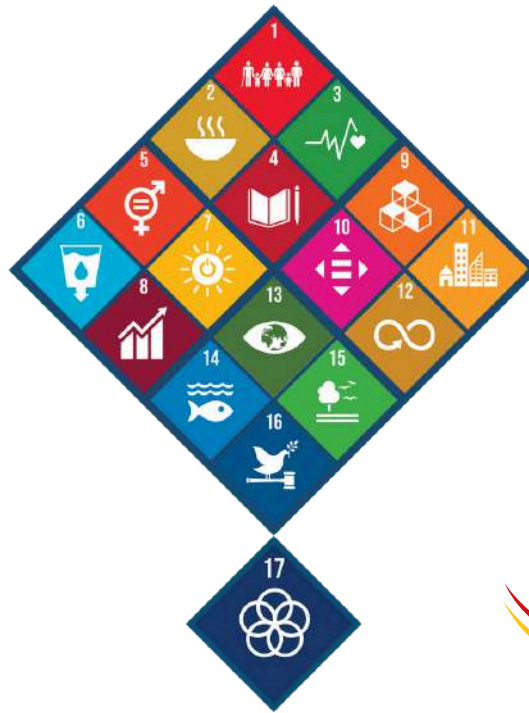
Datuk Dr Denison Jayasooria was invited as a panelist for Session 3: ASEAN Sustainable Development and Green Growth during the ASEAN Leadership and Partnership Forum 2025. The discussion emphasized the importance of regional cooperation in advancing ASEAN's green agenda, focusing on innovation, social inclusion, and community-based solutions for a sustainable future.

6 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Asean 2045: Our Shared Future



Zoel Ng of APPGM-SDG stood proudly among the 12 CSO representatives specially invited by the Prime Minister for the ASEAN 2045: Our Shared Future launch. The document outlines ASEAN's forward-looking vision for prosperity, peace, and resilience. Our presence affirmed the critical role of civil society in shaping ASEAN's future.





**Constituency
Coordination**

**SDGs Micro Project
Management**

**Capacity
Building**

**Parliamentary
Policy Advocacy**

**Policy Solutions
at District Level**

**Youth
Empowerment**


**MySDG
Academy**


**MySDG Centre for
Social Inclusion**


**MySDG Centre For
Environment &
Sustainability**



**MySDG Academy / Society for the Promotion of Sustainable
Development Goals (PPM-023-14-07012020)**

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ENHANCING INCLUSIVITY AND SUSTAINABILITY