



Office of the President of the Philippines
NATIONAL ANTI-POVERTY COMMISSION
2F/3F Philippine Coconut Authority Building, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

**ASEAN Conference on Prosperity through Solidarity:
Accelerating the SSE-SDG**
(Social Solidarity Economy-Social Development Goal)

A Flagship ASEAN 2026 Economic Pillar Event

Theme:

Navigating the Future: The Social and Solidarity Economy as a Driver of ASEAN Prosperity

Quezon City Mice Center | May 20 - 22, 2026

"The world faces a historic opportunity. Not only to end poverty – but also to tackle the challenges to people and planet so that we can end extreme poverty in all its forms irreversibly in the context of sustainable development. The destination is clear: a world in 2030 that is more equal, more prosperous, more peaceful, and more just. A world where development is sustainable. Making this vision a reality must be a universal endeavor."

United Nations' High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons (2015)

"A New Global Partnership: Eradicate Poverty and Transform Economies through Sustainable Development"

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the Philippines assumes the Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2026, the National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) faces a strategic imperative: to transition the narrative of poverty alleviation from "social welfare" to "inclusive economic integration." This Concept Note proposes a high-level, 3-day conference in May 2026 titled *"Prosperity through Solidarity: Accelerating the ASEAN SSE SDG Roadmap"*. This event will serve as the Philippines' official launchpad for the ASEAN Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) SDG Roadmap (2026-2030), in line with UN resolutions (A/RES/77/281 and A/C.2/79/L.22/Rev.1) recognizing the potential of social and solidarity economy (SSE) as a key driver for inclusive and sustainable development, particularly by promoting decent work, reducing inequalities, and fostering social transformation.

Unlike traditional conferences limited to dialogue, this event is designed to launch a functional ecosystem. It will unveil the People's Bayanihan Fund, a pioneering proposal for a "Public - Private - Community" partnership that can provide a working mechanism to enhance microfinance services. This can help operationalize RA 8425 (The Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Act), particularly supporting the NAPC's People's Development Trust Fund (PDTF). A combination of capacity building with private capital from Rural Banks and market guarantees from Local Government Units (LGUs) will present a replicable model for inclusive social and economic growth in the Philippines and across ASEAN.



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NAPC is proposed as the Lead Convenor of this initiative working within the Prosperity Corridors pillar led by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). The Quezon City Local Government Unit, Asian Solidarity Economy Council and Bayan Family of Foundations will serve as co-convenors in bringing together its established networks not just for conference participation but also for resource mobilization purposes.

II. STRATEGIC RATIONALE: PHILIPPINES IN THE ASEAN ECONOMIC PILLAR

The Philippines' ASEAN 2026 hosting is anchored on three pillars: Peace, Prosperity, and People. While NAPC traditionally operates within the "People" pillar, the 2026 agenda demands a "Whole-of-Government" approach to the Prosperity Corridors (Economic Pillar).

The "Prosperity" Gap. The ASEAN Economic Community aims for a resilient, integrated economy. However, Social Enterprises (SEs) and SSE organizations that are seen as too risky for traditional financing institutions remain underserved, thus causing the "Missing Middle" phenomenon. NAPC represents the 14 basic sectors that comprise the backbone of this potential SSE sector.

The Diplomatic Mandate: ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap. In 2025, ASEAN stakeholders drafted the SDG-SSE Roadmap (2026-2030). As Chair, the Philippines is expected to lead Phase 1 of this implementation. NAPC, as the representative to the ASEAN Senior Officials on Rural Development and Poverty Eradication (SOMRDPE), is the rightful custodian of this roadmap.

The Local Blueprint: "Tatak SE". The Philippines is uniquely positioned to lead. We possess a functioning sector-led **Philippine SE Development Roadmap** governed by a multi-stakeholder council (Academe, Corporate, NGO, Cooperatives, MSMEs and People Associations). This conference will showcase the Philippine model ("Tatak SE") as a blueprint for the region.

III. THE CORE INNOVATION: THE PEOPLE'S BAYANIHAN FUND ECOSYSTEM

The centerpiece of the conference will be the launch of the People's Bayanihan Fund, the ecosystem iteration of the Social Enterprise Financing Platform. This is not merely a funding pot, but a systemic solution to the "Missing Middle" financing gap. It utilizes a "Hardware - Software - System" framework to de-risk access to finance for the basic sectors.

A. The Software: Capacity Building via NAPC-PDTF

- **The Constraint:** RA 8425 prohibits the People's Development Trust Fund (PDTF) from direct lending.
- **The Solution:** We utilize PDTF strictly for its legal mandate: capability building.
- **Implementation:** Eligible ecosystem actors will utilize PDTF grants to conduct "Social and Financial Preparation" for SE and SSE organizations. This includes feasibility studies, financial literacy training, and impact measurement.
- **Outcome:** Beneficiaries from the 14 basic sectors are transformed from "beneficiaries" into "bankable borrowers" and financing institutions become more confident to unlock their capital for the benefit of the basic sectors.



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B. The Hardware: Capital Mobilization via Rural Banks and Micro Finance Institutions

- **The Constraint:** Rural Banks and Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) are risk-averse regarding SEs and SSE organizations.
- **The Solution:** The People's Bayanihan Fund acts as a conduit. Rural Banks' and MFIs' existing financing tools are guaranteed by Social Impact Bonds that may be issued through LGUs that would have the impetus for co-developing NAPC's 14 basic sectors.
- **Implementation:** Because the borrowers and financing institutions have been "prepared" (via the Software phase), the credit risk is significantly lowered. The Rural Bankers Association of the Philippines (RBAP) and the Microfinance MBA Association of the Philippines, Inc., with their member organizations, will serve as the primary partners for capital deployment.

C. The System: Market Creation via the Community Wealth Building Model (LGU)

- **The Constraint:** SEs often fail due to lack of market access and a full ecosystem of support.
- **The Solution: Community Wealth Building (CWB)**, inspired by the Preston Model.
- **Implementation:** The **Quezon City Government** (Pilot LGU) acts as the "Anchor Institution" as the mayor has expressed her interest to adopt the model. It implements **Progressive Procurement** not just from the LGU but also in partnership with large institutions in the local economy (e.g. government, universities, large corporations, etc.), directing a percentage of city spending (e.g., catering, uniforms, construction materials, etc.) to local SEs and SSE organizations.
- **Outcome:** This creates a *guaranteed market*, ensuring SEs have the cash flow to repay loans to the Rural Banks and other partner financing institutions.

D. The Multiplier: Grassroots Equity

- **The Innovation:** To ensure shared prosperity, we introduce the Community-based Fund Mobilization and Investment Model.
- **Implementation:** Members of NAPC's basic sector organizations (e.g., Workers in the Informal Sector) can co-invest small amounts (minimum ₱100) into these vetted SEs or even in the Social Impact Bonds that can be issued by the LGUs.
- **Outcome:** The poor become investors, earning dividends from the economic growth of their own community.



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IV. PROGRAM DESIGN: THE 3-DAY CONFERENCE

Venue: Quezon City MICE Center

Date: May 20, 21, and 22, 2026 (*a follow up conference in November will be designed following the approval of this first conference*)

Conference Title: Prosperity through Solidarity: Accelerating the ASEAN SSE SDG Roadmap

Theme: Navigating the Future: The Social and Solidarity Economy as a Driver of ASEAN Prosperity

Strategic Alignment: ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) – Prosperity Corridors Pillar

The full provisional program is attached in this concept note as **Annex A**.

V. GOVERNANCE & IMPLEMENTATION STRUCTURE

To ensure seamless execution, we propose the following **Convenor Group**:

- 1. Lead Convenor: National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTA)**
 - *Roles:* Official host agency; liaison with ASEAN Secretariat; oversight of basic sector participation.
- 2. Co-Convenor: Quezon City Local Government Unit as Host City**
 - *Roles:* Official host local government unit; host venue in the QC MICE Center; pilot city for the People's Bayanihan Fund w/ Tatak SE Kabahagi Ka sa QC as the anchor program.
- 3. Co-Convenor (Technical): Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC)**
 - *Roles:* Regional content management; invitation of ASEAN delegates; alignment with the SDG-SSE Roadmap.
- 4. Co-Convenor (Operational): Bayan Family of Foundations (BFF)**
 - *Roles:* Secretariat and logistics; private sector partner for resource mobilization; management of the People's Bayanihan Fund mechanics; mobilization of the Philippine SE Roadmap Council and their member organizations from Academe, Cooperatives, NGOs, Corporations, and MSMEs and People's Associations

VI. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGY

The event will employ a hybrid funding model to minimize the burden on the NAPC budget (*the projected event budget is attached in this concept note as Annex B*):

- **NAPC and Member Agencies:** Core funding for event management, secretariat operations, and basic sector representative travel (sourced from existing ASEAN hosting budget allocations).
- **QC LGU:** Availability of the QC MICE Center.
- **GSEF & International Partners:** Will pitch a grant proposal to the Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF) to cover airfare and accommodation for key ASEAN speakers and leaders.
- **Private Sector Sponsorship:** Leveraging the Corporate and Cooperative chairs of the SE Roadmap Council (e.g., Ayala Group, BPI, Globe, Coops, etc.) to sponsor specific items.



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kits, and technical requirements; Funds to be co-mobilized by BFF given its PCNC donee institution accreditation status

VII. IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

To secure the Philippines' leadership in this sector, we recommend the following timeline:

1. **Approval of Concept (January):** NAPC to sign off on this document and secure cooperation with partner agencies
2. **DTI/DFA Submission (January):** Formal transmission of the Concept Note to DTI/DFA for inclusion in the official ASEAN Economic Pillar Calendar.
3. **Organization of the Conference TWG (February onwards):** Operationalize the pre-conference committees towards conference delivery.

SEC. LOPE B. SANTOS III

Secretary

National Anti-Poverty Commission

DR. BENJAMIN R. QUIÑONES, JR.

Founder

Asian Solidarity Economy Council

PROF. CARLO S. SAGUN

President and CEO

Bayan Family of Foundations



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ANNEX A: PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

2026 ASEAN SDG-SSE CONFERENCE
 Prosperity Through Solidarity: Accelerating the SDG-SSE Roadmap
 MICE Bldg, Quezon City | May 20-22, 2026 (provisional dates)

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM (ALL PLENARY SESSIONS IN THE MAIN HALL)

DATE/TIME	TOPIC/SPEAKER
Day 1 AM	
08.00-09.00	Registration
	Opening Session
09.00-09.10	Welcome Note
09.10-09.30	Welcome Message: Hon.Ma. Josefina “Joy” Belmonte, Mayor of Quezon City
9:30-9:40	Opening Remarks Poverty Reduction and the SDGs: Hon. Dr. Lope B. Santos III, Secretary & Lead Convenor, National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC)
09.40-9.50	Keynote Message Strengthening Microfinance and Enterprise Development in SDGs: Hon. Maria Cristina Roque, Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry
9:50-10:00	Video Address of the Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr.
10.15-10.30	Break
10.30-10.45	Executive Update: Accelerating Progress Towards the SDGs through the Social & Solidarity Economy: Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Head of Secretariat, All Party Parliamentary Group of Malaysia for the SDGS (APPGM-SDGs)
10.45-12.15	Panel Discussion: “Public, Private, Civil society partnership in building the SSE ecosystem: Cases in ASEAN Countries” Moderator: Dr. Benjamin Quiñones, Jr., Founder of Asian Solidarity Economy Council (ASEC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships in Advancing the SE Roadmap in the Philippines, by Prof. Carlo Sagun, President of Bayan Family of Foundations • Partnerships in Developing the Social Economy Sector in Indonesia, by Dr. Bayu Krisnamurthi, Chairman of Management Board, Bina Swadaya Foundation • Partnerships in Co-Creating the Social Sector in Malaysia, by Dr. Khairil Ahmad, Director of MySDG Centre for Social Inclusion
12.15-13.30	Lunch
Day 1 PM	
13.30-15.00	Panel Discussion: “Public, Private, Civil Society Partnership in Building the SSE Ecosystem: Cases in Non-ASEAN Countries/Other continents (Europe, Latin America, and Africa) Moderator: Ms. Aude Saldana, Secretary General, Global Social and Solidarity Economy Forum (GSEF)
15.00-15.15	Break
15.15-17.00	Panel Discussion: “Achievements/Impact of Poverty Reduction programs in ASEAN Countries: Cases in ASEAN countries” Moderator: Dr. Lope B. Santos III, Secretary & Lead Convenor, NAPC
18.00	Cultural Gala hosted by NAPC



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DATE/TIME	TOPIC/SPEAKER
Day 2 AM	
09.00-09.15	Recap of Day 1 Sessions
09.15-10.30	Panel Discussion: ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap 2026-2030: Its components and results of mobilization of stakeholders. Moderator: Ms. Zoel Ng
10.30-10.45	Break
10.45-12.15	Panel Discussion: The Philippine SE Development Roadmap. Moderator: Prof. Carlo Sagun, President, Bayan Family of Foundations
12.15-13.30	Lunch
Day 2 PM	
13.30-15.00	Panel Discussion: Development of Social Enterprises in South Korea: Progress and Challenges. Moderator: Mr. Young Kim, Executive Director, SSEGOV; Speakers: Mayors of South Korea
15.00-15.15	Break
15.15-17.00	Panel Discussion: Innovations in Financing for SE/SSE Entities – Experiences in ASEAN and other continents: Moderator: Speakers: 2-3 from ASEAN; 2 from GSEF members (Non-ASEAN/Other Continents)

DATE/TIME	TOPIC/SPEAKER
Day 3 AM	
09.00-09.15	Recap of Day 2 Sessions
09.15-10.30	Panel Discussion: People's Bayanihan Fund: Pilot Model in Quezon City as SE Capital of the Philippines Moderator: Prof, Carlo Sagun, BFF President
10.30-10.45	Break
10.45-12.15	Panel Discussion: Innovations on SE/SSE Social Impact Assessment: Moderator: Dr. Benjamin Quinones, Jr., Founder, ASEC Speakers: 2-3 from ASEAN; 2 from GSEF members (Non-ASEAN/Other Continents)
12.15-13.30	Lunch
13.30-15.00	Panel Discussion: Conducive Public Policies for Strengthening SE/SSE Moderator: Dr. Eri Trinurini Adhi, Chairperson of ASEC Speakers: 2-3 from ASEAN; 2 from GSEF members (Non-ASEAN/Other Continents)
15.00-15.15	Break
15.15-17.00	Closing Session Way Forward Signing of MOU on the ASEAN SDG-SSE Roadmap Closing Remarks

PROGRAM FOR SELF-ORGANIZED WORKSHOPS

Self-organized workshops are parallel events intended for discussions on special topic which can be organized by Conference Sponsors and Co-organizers (NAPC, QC local government, Bayan Family of Foundations, GSEF, and ASEC).