

## ASEAN COMMUNITY BEYOND 2015




The Association of South-East Asian Nation (ASEAN) initiates “regional community-building” process by declaring the vision of “ASEAN Community” comprises of the three pillars, namely political and security cooperation, economic cooperation, and socio-cultural cooperation.

In realising the vision, it has become an immediate responsibility of each ASEAN Member State along with concerned ASEAN Sectoral Ministerial Bodies and the Secretary General of ASEAN. Naturally, this also prompts Member States to mobilise adequate, relevant and capable resources in order to fulfill such responsibility.

One such resource is local governments.

## WHY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS?

There are three (3) broad roles of local governments:

-  They provide the voice, leadership and strategic vision for their community.
-  They provide or organise local public services essential for people’s well-being.
-  They act as catalyst and drivers for the local development process.

## ASEAN MAYORS FORUM

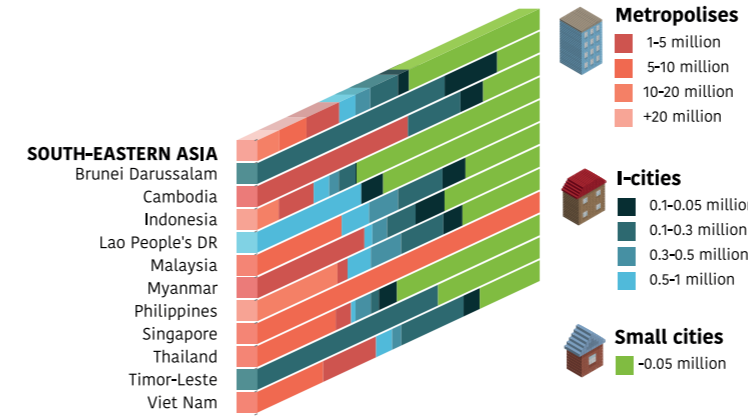
The ASEAN Mayors Forum (AMF) aims to promote cross-border interactions between local governments. This is also in line with the ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Blueprint, that sees partnerships between local governments can improve the quality of life and environmental sustainability. In addition, it can raise political commitment and awareness of local leaders. Although opportunities and challenges for local governments are different from one municipality to the other, sharing knowledge and lessons learned about the diverse contexts will provide local authorities with potential avenues for developing and pursuing solutions for emerging challenges of development in South-East Asia.

ASEAN has given an accreditation to AMF in August 2018. UCLG ASPAC hosts the Secretariat of AMF.

### OBJECTIVES:

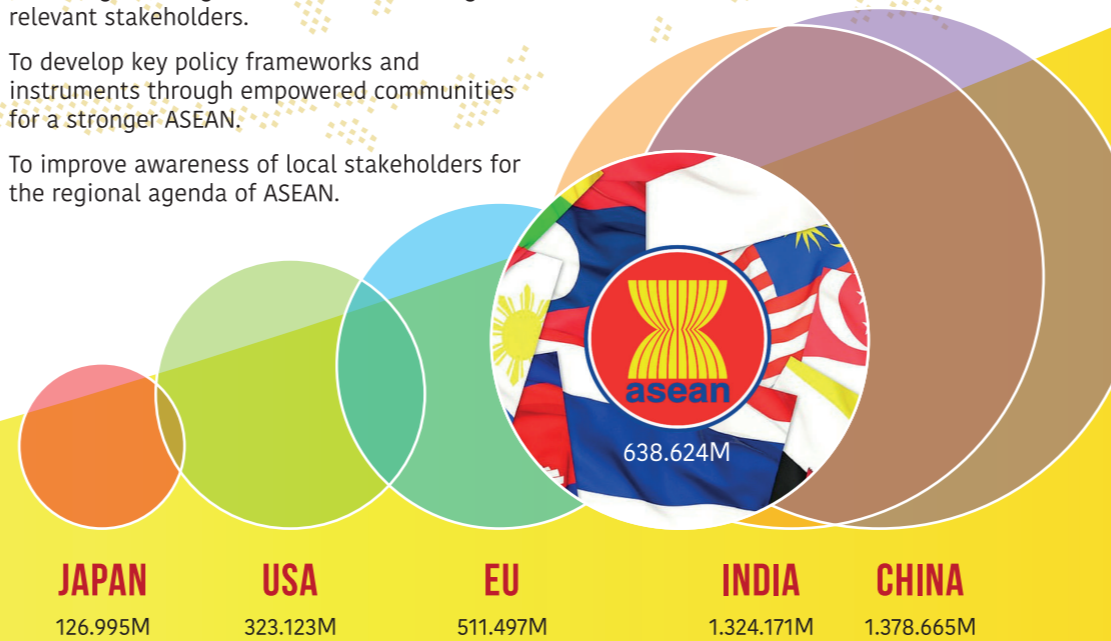
- To foster a regional platform for local governments in ASEAN to strengthen the networking among local governments through knowledge sharing as well mutual learning with relevant stakeholders.
- To develop key policy frameworks and instruments through empowered communities for a stronger ASEAN.
- To improve awareness of local stakeholders for the regional agenda of ASEAN.

## South East Asia’s distribution of population by settlement size (%)



Source: UCLG, Co-creating the Urban Future: The Agenda of Metropolises, Cities and Territories, GOLD IV, 2016

The combined population of ASEAN creates the world’s third largest market with more than 630 millions people



2016 Data  
Source: World Bank Data 2016  
M: Millions People

## Key commitments from local leaders to foster regional collaboration:

- Develop a formalised exchange platform to share experience and best practices.
- Explore financial options, accessible to local governments coming both from the ASEAN and national partners.
- Create ASEAN Mayors Secretariat, spearheaded by UCLG ASPAC and its Secretariat to support its operation.
- The agreement to an annual ASEAN Mayors meeting prior to the ASEAN Summit, to coordinate local and regional efforts.

A knowledge hub of Local Government Associations (LGAs), local authorities, non-government organisations and academic institutions focusing on transnational exchange of sustainable good governance practices in Southeast Asia has been established since 2010. Highlighting good governance, four main thematic areas are prioritised: **people’s participation in planning and decision-making; institutional governance; urban environment; and fiscal management and investment promotion strategies.** Cooperation amongst local governments in ASEAN Member States has initially been enhanced by UCLG ASPAC and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) through DELGOSEA programme funded by EU. It had the following objectives:

- Contribute to the betterment of living conditions of disadvantaged groups in Southeast Asia by helping increase their participation in local planning and decision-making processes.
- Improve knowledge, attitude, and practice of local government associations in facilitating best practices transfer and replication.
- Establish a sustainable network of local authorities, local government associations, non-state actors, and academic institutions to exchange and transfer local governance best practices in the region.

- UCLG ASPAC works to promote cooperation between local governments and their strategic partners through various channels, including workshop, seminar, publication, and others.
- Awareness raising to all local governments in the region has been done in various activities including the ASEAN Mayors Forum to disseminate the vision of ASEAN Community as well as to further promote partnerships.



## FACT SHEET ASEAN COMMUNITY

% of people living on <\$1.25:



From 1 in 2 persons to 1 in 8 persons in the last two decades

Source: ASCC Blueprint 2025

Proportion of seats held by women in parliaments:

12% → 18,5% in 2000 in 2012

Source: ASCC Blueprint 2025

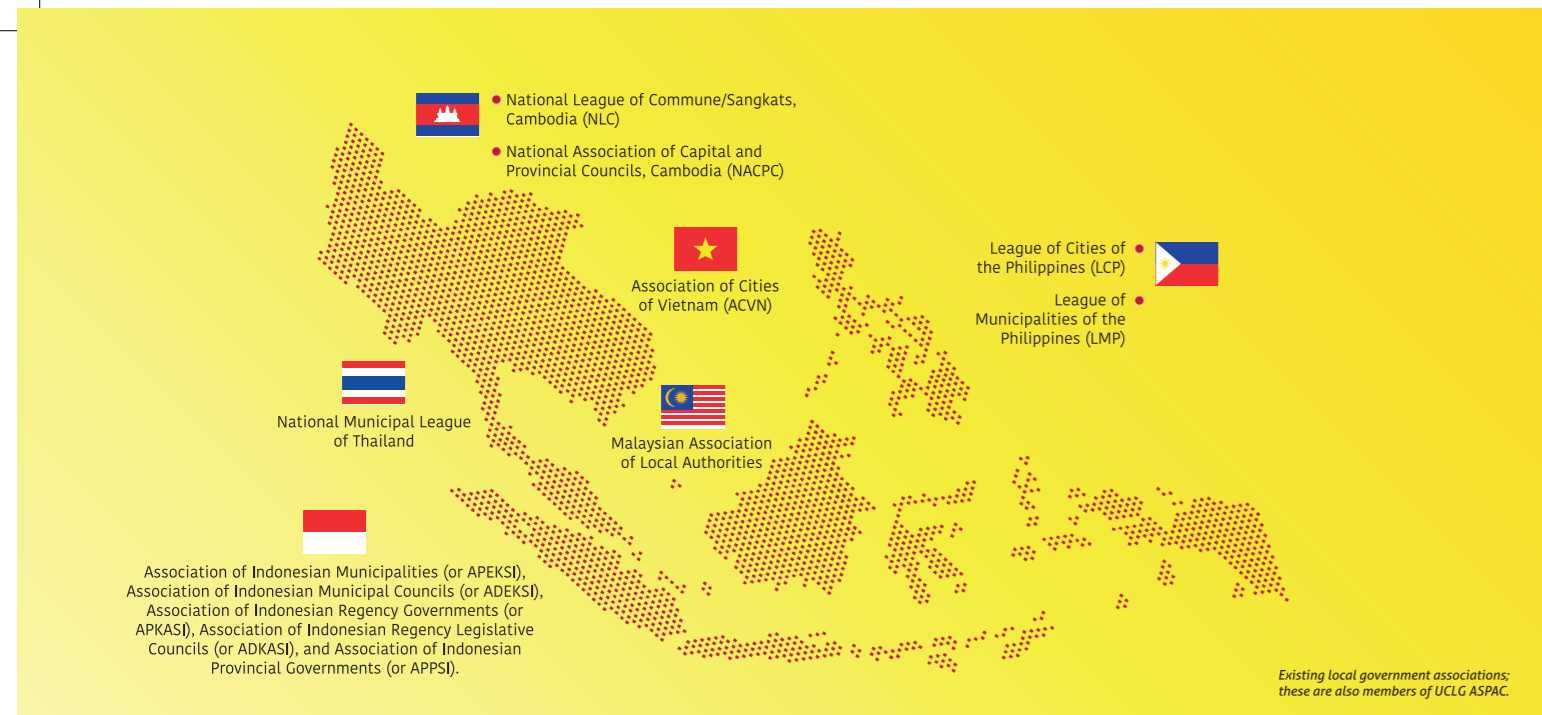
Proportion of urban population living in slums:

40% → 31% in 2000 in 2012

Source: ASCC Blueprint 2025

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Number of UNESCO Cultural World Heritage Sites



## RAPID ASSESSMENT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATIONS (LGAS) AND THEIR PERFORMANCE \*

\* Based on survey in South East Asia region members

- Local Government Associations (LGAs) have **an essential role to strengthen capacity of local governments** and **to represent as well as to bring local governments' voice and interest** to national government.
- Their performance attaches to country political circumstances, governance, management, programme and services delivery, communication and networking, human resources, and also strategy development.
- 43 percent of LGAs has excellent performance for the strategic planning. They have developed **strategic and business plans and have vision for financial sustainability**.
- LGAs delivers broad range of services to their members including capacity building, trainings, workshops, technical assistances and projects. Their quality of services are varied which 43 percent has excellent quality.
- LGAs stand to improve the **image and reputation of local governments** and **serve as a critical source of information** for their members, central government and outside partners.

## UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ASIA PACIFIC (UCLG ASPAC)

- UCLG ASPAC is the biggest region among the 7 UCLG regional sections; it is based in **Jakarta, Indonesia**.
- Its mission is to be the united voice and world advocate of local governments, promoting its values, objectives and interests, through cooperation between local governments, and within the wider international community.
- Represents over 3.76 billion people in Asia Pacific- more than half of the world population.
- Incorporates economically fast developing countries such as China, India, and Indonesia.
- UCLG ASPAC serves as the Secretariat of AMF.

### Mission

"To be the united voice and world advocate of local governments, promoting its values, objectives and interests, through cooperation between local governments, and within the wider international community."

# SUPPORT US MAKE THE CHANGES!



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# WHY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS MATTER TO THE ASEAN COMMUNITY?

