The 2022 ASEAN SDG Snapshot Report
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SNAPSHOT OF THE SDGS IN ASEAN

1. **NO POVERTY**
   - The number of people vulnerable to climate-related disasters has increased.
   - 2,546.8 individuals per 100,000 population in ASEAN either died, were missing, or were directly affected by climate-related disasters in 2020. 27.8% higher than in 2016.

2. **ZERO HUNGER**
   - Child malnutrition has lessened.
   - 25.4% (from 27.0% in 2016) children under 5 in ASEAN were stunted in 2020.
   - 6.9% (from 8.6% in 2016) children under 5 in ASEAN suffered from wasting in 2020.

3. **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
   - Some progress in maternal and child health in ASEAN continued in 2020.
   - 199.8 women per 100,000 live births (from 202.8 in 2016) died from childbirth-related complications.
   - 94.3 in 100 births (from 102.3 in 2016) attended by skilled health personnel.
   - 29.3 children per 1,000 live births (from 30.5 in 2016) died before they could reach the age of 5.

4. **QUALITY EDUCATION**
   - Qualified primary school teachers have increased, pre-primary participation have improved.
   - 45.3% primary schools with access to computers for pedagogical purposes (from 40.3% in 2016).
   - 90.8% primary school teachers with minimum required qualifications (from 86.3% in 2016).
   - Participation in organised pre-primary learning increased to 76.2% in 2020 (from 74.4% in 2016).

5. **AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**
   - The share of renewable energy increased in 5 member states.
   - The share of renewable energy in the total final energy consumption in ASEAN was higher in 2020 at 8.46%.

6. **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**
   - ASEAN faced economic challenges in 2020.
   - -4.3% (from 4.2% in 2016) contraction in GDP per capita.
   - -0.8% (from 3.0% in 2016) contraction in GDP per employed person.
   - 5.4% (from 3.9% in 2016) higher unemployment rate.

7. **INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**
   - ASEAN had recorded fewer air passengers in 2020, a difference of 284.409 million relative to 2016 level. Air freight volume was also lower by 741,000 tonnes.
   - 87.8% (from 84.0% in 2016) of the population in ASEAN were covered by mobile networks in 2020.

8. **PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**
   - 76.8% (from 52.8% in 2016) of individuals in ASEAN were using the internet in 2020.
   - 100% of AMS have fully funded and implemented national statistical plans, and had conducted at least one population and housing census within the period of interest.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Timely achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2030 is currently being threatened by various crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and their observed impacts on the global supply chain. The ASEAN region, home to some of the fastest growing economies in Asia, was not spared from the impacts of these crises. It is therefore important to closely monitor its progress towards meeting the SDGs. This Snapshot Report for the ASEAN region aims to assess ASEAN member states’ status in relation to the achievement of the SDGs at the onset of a global health crisis. Covering 2016 and 2020, it serves as a follow-up to the baseline report earlier conducted which contained data up to 2018, albeit, with limited focus. Specifically, it examines 29 SDG indicators (SDGs) selected on the basis of data availability and consistency with global standards for purposes of developing aggregate estimates for the ASEAN region.

Most of the 29 indicators that were selected pertain to those that may have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and related policies given that the analysis covers 2020. The SDGs of focus are those in health (Goal 3), nutrition (Goal 2), work (Goal 8) and industry (Goal 9), education (Goal 4) and partnerships which include digitalization (Goal 17). There are also some indicators belonging to these goals which are not directly related to the crisis that were included for purposes of drawing more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the situation, in addition to the fact that consistent data for such are available for most AMS. Furthermore, additional goals were also included and these are poverty (Goal 1), focusing on vulnerability, and clean energy (Goal 7) because of its important role in a rapidly developing region.

Based on the analysis of 29 SDGs, the report reveals mixed outcomes. Amidst economic contractions, most social outcomes improved and opportunities have increased particularly in terms of internet access. It is also important to note that with the AMS’ differentiated performances in some SDGs, several findings at the level of the ASEAN region portrays somewhat muted changes over the period of interest.

In 2020, which marked the onset of a global health crisis – the COVID-19 pandemic, the ASEAN region suffered economic downturns with the value of GDP per capita and GDP per employed person contracting. Unemployment rate at 5.4 percent in 2020 was higher compared to that in 2016. Travel restrictions that were implemented as a result of the pandemic led to a significant reduction in air passengers and air freight volume. With regard to child malnutrition – on average, the prevalence rates of stunting and wasting have gone down, though marginally. The varying performances where some AMS have experienced reduction while others suffered higher prevalence rates resulted to a small improvement in these malnutrition indicators at the regional level. Some progress has been made as well in basic health indicators.

The maternal and under-5 mortality rates have gone down in 2020 in most AMS with available data. The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel also improved. This is also the case when it comes to diseases - new HIV cases and incidence rates of tuberculosis and malaria were reduced. With respect to education, school participation in pre-primary level increased though slightly. Again, the marginal change is attributed to variable performances across AMS. In 2020, a greater average proportion of qualified primary school teachers was also recorded in the region. Meanwhile, access to computers by primary schools for pedagogical purposes as well as gender parity index remained the same between 2016 and 2020. An indicator of poverty included in this report is that which indicates vulnerability to climate-related disasters. The regional average increased in 2020 by 554 per 100,000 population indicating a relatively more vulnerable condition.

The area that exhibited significant progress for the periods examined is in the access to and use of the internet. The indicators that exhibited improvements are fixed internet broadband subscriptions, proportion of internet users, and population covered by mobile networks. Nearly 77 out of every 100 population in the region were using the internet in 2020, a leap from only around 52 out of 100 in 2016. The inhabitants with fixed internet broadband subscription nearly doubled within the same period while the proportion of those covered by a mobile network also increased, albeit at a slower pace than the other two indicators mentioned.

Notwithstanding the economic downturns, the region is expected to benefit from the opportunities that may be brought by such significant improvements in internet access. In addition, the improved health and education outcomes are crucial in the region’s long-term economic development. Improved and sustainable access to clean energy is likely to propel such development. Some, albeit slow, progress has been recorded in the share of renewable energy to total energy consumption. Meanwhile, how the AMS will be able to recover from the challenges brought by the pandemic is an important subject for future analysis. Furthermore, the COVID-19 pandemic extending beyond 2020 necessitate a more in-depth analysis as to how the SDGs may have been affected particularly those that have long-term impacts. A better understanding of the regional situation post-pandemic will benefit from more updated information.
INTRODUCTION

ASEAN Member States have committed themselves to take actions for delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. However, timely achievement of this agenda is currently being threatened by various crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and their observed impacts on the global supply chain. It is therefore important to closely monitor its progress towards meeting the SDGs.

This Snapshot Report for the ASEAN region aims to assess ASEAN member states’ status in relation to the achievement of the SDGs at the onset of a global health crisis in 2020. It serves as a follow-up to the baseline report earlier conducted, albeit, with limited focus. Specifically, it examines several SDG indicators selected through a data quality assessment for purposes of developing aggregate estimates for the ASEAN region. To obtain the specific SDG indicators for inclusion, the data assessment was first carried out for all data submissions based on availability for the periods of interest- 2016 and 2020, and consistency in definition with the global standard. An additional criterion implemented was that the majority (at least 6 out of 10) of the ASEAN member states (AMS) must be represented in each chosen SDG.

Out of the 111 main indicators along with sub-indicators, forming a total set of 276 SDGs, that were assessed, 56 SDGs passed the criteria. To further reduce the number of indicators to be included in a brief Snapshot report, several SDGs were prioritized. A discussion led by the ASEAN Working Group on SDG Indicators (AGSDG) resulted in the selection of 29 final indicators. Most indicators that were selected pertain to those that may have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and related policies given that the analysis covers 2020.

Apart from the pandemic’s effects on health, millions of workers have been adversely affected by closures of economies. With reduced ability to earn a living, millions of people were less able to meet basic food needs. In response, many governments had to dispense resources and implement amelioration programs so that their population could cope with the crisis. Furthermore, because of the widespread lockdowns implemented by governments as a response to arrest the spread of the coronavirus, access to health and educational services have also been impacted. The SDGs of focus, therefore, are those in health (Goal 3), nutrition (Goal 2), work (Goal 8) and industry (Goal 9), education (Goal 4) and partnerships which include digitalization (Goal 17). There are also some indicators belonging to these goals which are not directly related to the crisis that were included for purposes of drawing more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the situation, in addition to the fact that consistent data for such are available for most AMS.

Additional goals were also included and these are poverty (Goal 1), focusing on vulnerability given its availability for most AMS, and clean energy (Goal 7) because of its important role in a rapidly developing region. In fact, a 2016 report noted that the ASEAN faces a 50% rise in demand for energy within the decade. The availability of information on this aspect in most ASEAN member states provides an opportunity for its assessment in this report.

As an approach, this report discusses the key observations and patterns exhibited by the AMS and the region as a whole. It highlights key developments as well as aspects that require greater attention.


[Image: The 2022 ASEAN SDG Snapshot Report]
**KEY FINDINGS**

**Goal 1. END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE**

The ASEAN region has become more vulnerable to climate-related disasters in 2020 relative to 2016 as shown by the increasing average level of population affected by such disasters. Vulnerability is an important dimension of poverty especially in areas that frequently experience these disasters as many people including the non-poor can easily fall into poverty. In 2020, an average of 2,546.8 individuals per 100,000 population either died, got missing, or were directly affected by climate-related disasters. This marked an increment of 554 per 100,000 population in comparison to 2016. Such an increase emanated from the experience of five AMS which reported increased proportions of population adversely affected by climate-related disasters. These were Lao PDR, Indonesia, Myanmar, Malaysia, and Viet Nam, with Lao PDR and Thailand suffering the largest increases. Cambodia, Philippines and Thailand reported a reduced level between 2016 and 2020. That for Philippines, however, is not comparable with those of the rest of the AMS because its data include human-induced disasters. Brunei Darussalam and Singapore both reported zero numbers because they rarely experience such disasters. The ASEAN aggregate data exclude those of the Philippines and Viet Nam due to inconsistent definition.

**Figure 1. SDG 1.5.1: Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to climate-related disasters in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**

(Number per 100,000 population)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on population; excludes Viet Nam (its data refer to the number of deaths, missing and injured persons only) and Philippines since its data include human-induced disasters.
- 2020 data: Cambodia’s and Lao PDR’s data refer to 2019 figures.
- Indonesia’s data refer to the sum of number of deaths and missing (excluding COVID-19-related), injured, and suffered and displaced.
- Malaysia’s data refer to the sum of number of deaths, missing persons, and affected persons per 100,000 population.
- Data from the Philippines includes number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons by human-induced disaster.
- Brunei Darussalam and Singapore are not prone to natural or climate-related disasters.
- Thailand data refer to the sum of number of deaths and affected persons per 100,000 population (population derived from Registration) Thailand data cover these types of disasters - flood, windstorm, fire, drought, and cold
On the average, a quarter (25.4%) of children under 5 years of age are stunted in 2020. This is slightly lower when compared to 2016’s 27.0 percent. Individual ASEAN member states’ recent performances on stunting show a mixed result. Among the member states with available information for the periods of interest, nearly half of them experienced a worsening malnutrition problem (i.e. Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia), while the rest (Cambodia, Philippines, Viet Nam, Myanmar) showed some improvements in 2020 compared to 2016. Because of this, the regional average did not change much. Greater effort is therefore needed to significantly improve the nutritional status of children in the region.

**Figure 2. SDG 2.2.1 - Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**
(height-for-age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) (%)

The region experienced a reduction in the percentage of wasted under-5 children from 8.6 to 6.9 percent. Four AMS (i.e. Indonesia, Myanmar, Philippines and Viet Nam) have recorded a reduction in the prevalence of wasting among children under 5 years of age between 2016 and 2020. The changes ranged from -0.3 to -3.7 percentage points of their prevalence rates in 2016. Malaysia and Thailand, in contrast, experienced the opposite trend with their prevalence of wasting increasing by 1.7 and 2.3 percentage points, respectively, within the same period.

**Figure 3. SDG 2.2.2 - Prevalence of malnutrition – wasting among children under 5 years of age in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**
(weight-for-height < -2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) (%)
Goal 3. **ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES**

On average, the maternal mortality ratio in the region went down only slightly from 202.8 per 100,000 live births in 2016 to 199.8 in 2020. There remain wide gaps among member states in achieving maternal health. The maternal mortality ratios range from 0 to as high as 206 per 100,000 live births in 2020. Improvement in maternal health was observed in half of all AMS namely Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand. In contrast, Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar both saw their maternal mortality rates increase in 2020 relative to 2016. The change in the condition of maternal health in Indonesia, Philippines, and Viet Nam, however, could not be ascertained due to data constraints.

**Figure 4. SDG 3.1.1 - Maternal mortality ratio in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**
(Number per 100,000 live births)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
- ASEAN estimate based on imputed data; weighted average based on live births; and excludes Philippines as its data for both 2016 and 2020 are not available.
- On 2016 data: Indonesia data refers to 2015
- On 2020 data: Cambodia data refers to 2021 estimate; Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam (2019)

In terms of births attended by skilled health personnel, the ASEAN region’s performance has marginally improved from 92.3 percent of all live births in 2016 to 94.3 percent in 2020. Majority of all AMS were performing well with proportions of at least 95 percent of all live births. Among those with proportions below 90 percent, Myanmar and Lao PDR have shown substantial improvement between 2016 and 2020, while Cambodia maintained its proportion at around 89 percent in 2020. The situation in the Philippines is yet to be known because of unavailability of recent data, though its proportion in 2016 was 84 percent.
In 2020, under-5 mortality in the region is at 29.3 per 1,000 live births, slightly lower than 30.5 in 2016. Progress in reducing under-five mortality was observed in seven out of ten AMS - namely Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand. That in Viet Nam was unchanged at around 22 per 1,000 live births. Indonesia and Philippines do not have estimates for this indicator for 2020 but their 2016 figures were 32 and 27 per 1,000 live births, respectively. Notwithstanding the progress in the majority of AMS, there remain large disparities across AMS with under-5 mortality rates ranging from as low as 2.1 to as high as 59.7 per 1,000 live births in 2020.
In terms of new HIV infections, the average figure for the ASEAN went down from 0.48 to 0.31 per 1,000 uninfected population. Majority of AMS with available data have either maintained or exhibited reduction in this indicator in 2020 when compared to 2016. These are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, and Viet Nam. Malaysia saw a slightly higher level of new HIV infections in 2020. Data for Indonesia were unavailable.

**Figure 7. SDG 3.3.1** - Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population in ASEAN, both sexes, all ages, 2016 and 2020

(Number per 1,000 uninfected population)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is simple average, based on imputation, and excludes in the computation: i) Indonesia because its data for both 2016 and 2020 are not available; and ii) Philippines as its data refer to the number of newly diagnosed persons with HIV infection per 1,000 population.
- On 2020 data: Cambodia and Viet Nam used 2018 data.

The TB incidence rate for the ASEAN region was at 278.9 per 100,000 population, a level that is lower than 2016’s 282.6 per 100,000 population. This reduction in the regional average is attributed to the reduced rates in seven of nine AMS – namely Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore and Thailand. On the other hand, the incidence rates in Brunei Darussalam and Viet Nam were higher in 2020 relative to 2016. Data for the Philippines was not available for 2020 but its 2016 figure was 434 per 100,000. In 2020, there were wide disparities across member states where TB rates ranged from as low as 39.1 to as high as 312 per 100,000 population.

**Figure 8. SDG 3.3.2** - Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020

(Number per 100,000 population)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
- *ASEAN estimate based on imputed data. ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on population.
- On 2020 data: Cambodia, Indonesia and Lao PDR used 2019 figure
- Singapore data is among Singapore residents and long staying foreigners
The average malaria incidence in the ASEAN was 0.57 per 1,000 population, lower than 2016’s 0.71 per 1,000 population. Significant reductions were observed for Thailand, Myanmar, Viet Nam and Lao PDR. The Philippines also experienced a slight improvement. In contrast, small increases in incidence rates were seen in Cambodia and Indonesia. Those for Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam remained at 0.1 and 0.02 per 1,000 population, respectively. Singapore’s rate remained at 0 between 2016 and 2020.

**Figure 9. SDG 3.3.3 - Malaria incidence per 1,000 population in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**  
(Number per 1,000 population)

The average density of medical doctors in the ASEAN region in 2020 was 6.26 per 10,000 population. This is only marginally higher than 5.42 per 10,000 population in 2016. This regional weighted average is based on the information from seven AMS that have available and consistent data. That for the Philippines which pertains only to medical doctors in government facilities is nearly unchanged from 0.31 to 0.30 per 10,000 population. It is noteworthy that there are wide disparities across AMS in terms of this indicator which ranged from 0.30 to 26 per 10,000 population. The situations in Cambodia and Lao PDR are not known due to data unavailability.

**Figure 10. SDG 3.c.1 - Density of medical doctors in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**  
(Number per 10,000 population)
Goal 4. Quality Education

The average participation rate in pre-primary organised learning was 76.2 percent in 2020, slightly higher than 2016’s 74.4 percent. The AMS that have experienced improvement from 2016 to 2020 are Thailand, Lao PDR, and Cambodia. Singapore maintained its high participation rate of around 96 percent. Those that have registered lower rates in 2020 relative to 2016 are Brunei Darussalam, Myanmar, and Indonesia.

Figure 11. SDG 4.2.2 - Participation rate in organised learning (one year before the official primary entry age) in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020, both sexes (%)

![Figure 11. SDG 4.2.2](image)

Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is simple average; excludes Viet Nam as its data is not available.
- On 2016 data: Myanmar used 2017 figure.
- On 2020 data: Brunei Darussalam and Thailand used 2019 figures.

The ASEAN gender parity index for primary education level slightly went down to 0.98 from 0.99 in 2016. The gender parity indices were either maintained or improved for majority of the AMS. Only Myanmar and Philippines saw, albeit slight, downward movement during the period of study. Thailand’s index for 2020 is at 1.01. Malaysia did not have data for this indicator.

Figure 12. SDG 4.5.1 - Gender Parity Index (GPI) on gross enrolment ratio, primary education, in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020

![Figure 12. SDG 4.5.1](image)

Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is simple average; based on imputation; and excludes Malaysia as its data are not available.
- On 2020 data: Brunei Darussalam used 2018 data; Cambodia, Thailand and Myanmar used 2019 data.
On average, 45.3 percent of primary schools in the ASEAN region have access to computer for pedagogical purposes. This estimate was slightly lower than 2016’s 45.9 percent. In 2020, Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, and Singapore maintained their high proportions at 97, 100, and 100 percent, respectively (see Figure 13). Viet Nam managed to improve its rate by 5.5 percentage points between 2016 and 2020 while the Philippines experienced a non-negligible decline of 8 percentage points. Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand did not have data for this indicator.

In 2020, a greater proportion of primary school teachers in the region held the minimum required qualifications. On the average, 90.8 percent of all such teachers have had the basic qualifications, nearly 5 percentage points higher compared to that in 2016. Substantial improvement was observed for Myanmar having achieved nearly 17 percentage points. Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam also registered, albeit slight, improvements. Those for Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia and Singapore were sustained within the same period. This was also the case for Viet Nam, though its data were not accounted for in the ASEAN aggregate due to inconsistent definition. Data for Thailand and Philippines were not available.

Figure 13. SDG 4.a.1 - Proportion of primary schools with access to computers for pedagogical purposes in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based number of primary schools; excludes Cambodia, Lao PDR and Thailand as their data are not available
- On 2016 data: Malaysia and Myanmar used 2017 data; Viet Nam, 2018
- On 2020 data: Indonesia used 2018 figure; Viet Nam used 2019
- Teaching system for primary school in Myanmar is done face to face and does not access the computer at primary school

Figure 14. SDG 4.c.1 - Proportion of teachers in primary school with the minimum required qualifications in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based number of primary school teachers; excludes the Philippines and Thailand as their data for both 2016 and 2020 are not available, and Viet Nam as its data refer to the proportion of teachers who meet the teaching standards by level of education.
- On 2016 data: Myanmar uses 2017 figure
- On 2020 data: Myanmar uses 2018 figure; Viet Nam and Cambodia, 2019
Goal 7. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Efforts for developing renewable energy sources need intensification as the region sees minimal improvement in this aspect. The share of renewable energy in the total final energy consumption in the region was nearly unchanged from 7.47 to 8.46 percent (based on simple average) between 2016 and 2020. The Philippines and Viet Nam, which had the highest shares in renewable energy sources, experienced decreased shares in 2020. Meanwhile, improvements in the share of renewable energy were recorded for Indonesia and Thailand. Data for Myanmar and Philippines were not included in the ASEAN aggregate data because of inconsistent definition. Data for Cambodia and Lao PDR were not available.

Figure 15. SDG 7.2.1 - Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
• ASEAN aggregate is simple average, excludes Cambodia and Lao PDR as their data are not available, and Myanmar and Philippines because both their denominators pertain to Total Primary Energy Supply (TPES).
• On 2016 data Malaysia’s and Myanmar’s data refer to 2017 figures.
• On 2020 data, data for Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam refer to 2019 figures.

Share of renewable energy in the total final energy consumption in ASEAN was 8.46% in 2020
Goal 8. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

In 2020, the real GDP per capita of ASEAN member states contracted by 4.3 percent, on average. All ASEAN economies except Brunei Darussalam recorded either a contraction or slower growth in their real GDP per capita. The level of contraction ranged from -3 to -10.8 percent. Lao PDR and Viet Nam experienced slower growth rates in 2020 when compared to this report’s base year of 2016.

Figure 16. SDG 8.1.1 - Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)

The GDP per employed person in the region contracted by 0.8 percent in 2020. Contraction was observed in Thailand, Malaysia, Philippines, Cambodia, Singapore, and Indonesia. GDP per employed person in Viet Nam did not contract but slowed down. The observed slower growth in Lao PDR and Myanmar reflected pre-2020 estimates. Viet Nam and Brunei Darussalam have experienced growth in their GDP per employed person in 2020.

Figure 17. SDG 8.2.1 - Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission
Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on total population.
- On 2016 data: Brunei Darussalam’s and Myanmar’s data are 2018 figures
- On 2020 data: Lao PDR used 2018 figure; Myanmar, 2019
In 2020, the ASEAN region experienced an unemployment rate at of 5.4 percent, higher by 1.5 percentage points from 2016’s 3.9 percent. Among the AMS with available data for 2020, the Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, and Indonesia saw the highest unemployment rates of 10.3, 7.5, and 7.1 percent, respectively. Relative to 2016, unemployment rates of Thailand and the Philippines nearly doubled while that in Cambodia increased 12 times. Indonesia’s rate also increased by 1.5 percentage points while those in Malaysia and Singapore both increased by 1.1 percentage points.

**Figure 18. SDG 8.5.2 - Unemployment rate, both sexes, aged 15 years old and over, in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>9.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>10.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN aggregate</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>7.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

**Notes:**
- ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on total labour force.
- On 2016 data: Data of Brunei Darussalam, Lao PDR and Myanmar refer to 2017 figures.

With respect to achieving financial inclusion, the ratio of automated teller machines (ATMs) to the adult population in the ASEAN was 48.2 per 100,000 adult population in 2020, a minimal improvement from 47.4 in 2016. The small difference, however, masks some important movements in the data. Malaysia, Myanmar, and Cambodia exhibited progress in this indicator with increases of 7.5, 3.6 and 4.4 ATMs per 100,000 adult population, respectively, between 2016 and 2020. Philippines and Lao PDR also experienced some improvements. In contrast, Indonesia and Singapore saw some small reductions. The data also show wide disparities across member states where the number of ATMs per 100,000 adult population ranged from a low 10.9 to a high 115.1. In spite of this, member states with low rates have shown some recent progress.

**Figure 19. SDG 8.10.1 - Number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (Number per 100,000 adults)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>75.9</td>
<td>113.1</td>
</tr>
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<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>80.4</td>
<td>115.1</td>
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<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>54.8</td>
<td>55.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>53.0</td>
<td>48.1</td>
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<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>30.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>30.0</td>
</tr>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>55.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>26.6</td>
<td>24.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>26.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN aggregate</td>
<td>47.4</td>
<td>48.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

**Note:**
- ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on total population.
- On 2020 data: Cambodia’s data refers to 2018 figure; Lao PDR and Thailand, 2019
There was a significant reduction in the total number of air passengers in the region in 2020. The total number of air passengers recorded in all ASEAN member states in 2016 was 617.275 million. In 2020, this was down to only 332.866 million, fewer by 221.284.409 million air passengers. The decrease was attributed to the reduction of air passengers in Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Singapore. In fact, all countries except Thailand recorded fewer air passengers in 2020 compared to 2016.

**Figure 20. SDG 9.1.2 - Number of passengers, by air, in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**

(Thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>1,727</td>
<td>423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>6,625</td>
<td>2,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>199,822</td>
<td>75,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lao PDR</td>
<td>1,450</td>
<td>1,140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>91,457</td>
<td>26,786</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>9,267</td>
<td>6,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>71,719</td>
<td>21,827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>58,698</td>
<td>11,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>153,666</td>
<td>137,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viet Nam</td>
<td>38,600</td>
<td>32,337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASEAN aggregate</td>
<td>617,275</td>
<td>332,866</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In terms of trade, a total of 6,348 thousand tonnes of air freight were recorded for the ASEAN region in 2020. This is lower by 741 thousand tonnes compared to 2016's 7090 thousand tonnes. Reductions in freight volume delivered through air transport were observed in Singapore, Philippines, and Malaysia. In contrast, we have seen some growth in this indicator for Cambodia and Indonesia. Lao PDR did not have data on this indicator; hence, was not included in the ASEAN aggregate figure.

The total number of air passengers recorded in ASEAN in 2020 was down to only 332.87 million.
In contrary to the situation of air freight, there was a higher volume of sea freight registered in 2020 (3,189.913 million tonnes) compared to 2016 (3,054.624 million tonnes). The computed difference for the whole region was 135.288 million tonnes. Such an increase came from increments in the volume of sea freight in Thailand, Philippines, Viet Nam, Myanmar, Cambodia and Indonesia. The AMS that experienced reduction in sea freight volume in 2020 were Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam. Data for Lao PDR were not available.

**Figure 22. SDG 9.1.2 - Freight volumes, by sea, in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020**

(Thousand tonnes)

**Source:** ASEAN Member States Submission

**Notes:**
- ASEAN aggregate is sum of all AMS reported data; data are not available for Lao PDR; ASEAN totals may not add up due to rounding.
- On 2020 data: Cambodia used 2018 figure, Thailand used 2019 figure.
In terms of employment in the manufacturing sector, an average of 14.5 percent of employed persons in the region are in this sector, higher by 1 percentage point relative to 2016. This increment is translated to over 4.5 million individuals. Much of this increase came from Viet Nam and Cambodia which saw their manufacturing employment expand by 5.4 and 5.0 percentage points, respectively. Meanwhile, there have been downward, albeit marginal, movements in this indicator for Thailand, Philippines, Myanmar, Malaysia, and Singapore.

On average, 87.8 percent of the population in the region was covered by mobile networks in 2020, an improvement from 2016's 84 percent. This was based on the information provided by nine of the ten member-states (data for the Philippines were not available). Eight in nine member-states had a coverage rate of at least 93 percent. Notable progress was observed in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Viet Nam. Those in the rest of the AMS have been maintained at high rates.
Some of the effects of the economic challenges in 2020 manifested in government revenues. The revenue to GDP ratio at the regional level was recorded at 15.6 percent in 2020, lower when compared to 2016’s 16.4 percent. Six in nine AMS have registered a lower government revenue in 2020 compared to 2016. These are Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Some improvements were registered by Cambodia, Philippines, and Myanmar, though Cambodia’s figure pertains to 2018 reported data. No data were available for Brunei Darussalam in both years.

Consistent with the data on mobile network coverage, the fixed Internet broadband subscription rate of the ASEAN region almost doubled to 12.0 per 100 inhabitants in 2020, from only 7.3 in 2016. In fact, all the AMS with available data exhibited progress at varying degrees. Nonetheless, there are wide disparities across member states with the coverage rate ranging from as low as 1.5 to as high as 26.7 per 100 inhabitants in 2020. The regional estimates exclude Indonesia and Myanmar due to data unavailability.

**Figure 25. SDG 17.1.1 - Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)**

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
- ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on nominal GDP in US$, used imputed data, and excludes Brunei Darussalam as its data are not available.
- 2020 data: Cambodia used 2018 data; Lao PDR, 2019
- Singapore’s data for 2020 is preliminary.

The fixed internet broadband subscription rate of ASEAN region was 12.0 per 100 inhabitants in 2020
Three out of four individuals (76.8 percent) in the ASEAN region were reported to be using the Internet in 2020. This shows a remarkable improvement from only 52.8 percent in 2016. The COVID-19 pandemic, which has plagued economies worldwide, might have served as a nudge for both consumers and businesses to go digital in many countries. In Myanmar, Brunei Darussalam, Singapore and Cambodia, almost all of their residents were already using the Internet. Although the proportions of internet users in the other AMS were lower than 90 percent, significant progress have been observed.

Figure 26. SDG 17.6.1 - Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020
(Number per 100 inhabitants)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
• ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on total population; excludes Indonesia, and Myanmar as their data are not available.
• The 2020 data: Lao PDR, Malaysia and Thailand used their reported 2019 data.

Figure 27. SDG 17.8.1 - Proportion of individuals using the Internet in ASEAN, 2016 and 2020 (%)

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission

Notes:
• ASEAN aggregate is weighted average based on total population; excludes Cambodia as its data refer to persons who are using mobile phones with access to the Internet.
• On 2016 data: Philippines used 2013 figure, Malaysia, 2017
• On 2020 data: Philippines and Lao PDR used 2019 figures
• Data for Brunei Darussalam and Myanmar were capped at 100%.
• Thailand’s data are based on the population 6 years and above who are using the Internet.
• Singapore’s data for 2016 are based on residents of all age groups while data for 2020 are based on those aged 16-74 years.
In terms of ensuring availability of reliable data for SDG monitoring, all member states had fully funded and implemented a national statistical plan within the covered period. Likewise, all AMS had conducted at least one population and housing census within the covered periods 2006–2016 and 2010–2020. Many of these population and housing censuses (specifically those of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Singapore) had been conducted in 2010 and 2020, with some adjustments on the schedule due to COVID-19 pandemic. The other AMS that completed two censuses within the covered periods were Cambodia, in 2008 and 2019, and Viet Nam, in 2009 and 2019. The rest of the AMS had conducted only one population and housing census within the period 2006-2020—Brunei Darussalam in 2011, Lao PDR in 2015, Thailand in 2010, and Myanmar in 2014.

**Figure 28. SDG 17.19.2 - ASEAN Member States’ population and housing census(es) conducted within the periods 2006–2016 and 2010–2020 For SDG 17.19.2.a - ASEAN countries that have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years**

Source: ASEAN Member States Submission
METHODOLOGY

In the development of this Snapshot Report, quality assessment of data was carried out to obtain a set of SDG indicators that can yield regional estimates which are representative of a greater number of AMS, if not all AMS. In total, 111 main indicators along with sub-indicators, forming a total set of 276 SDG indicators (SDGIs) have been submitted by ASEAN member states (AMS). Since all data for the SDGIs were submitted by the AMS national statistical offices, they were all deemed credible and accurate. The assessment, therefore, was reduced to two dimensions – availability and consistency. For availability, data must be available for the two chosen data points – 2016 and 2020. In cases where information was not available, we allowed those for years nearest these datapoints to serve as proxy data. For example, if an AMS have data for 2015 and 2019 only, the 2015 estimate was used for the 2016 datapoint while the 2019 value was used for the 2020 datapoint. Users must therefore be cautioned of such limitation for data comparison and aggregation. The presence of two datapoints of analysis was necessary for obtaining insights on movement of the SDGIs during this period which is the main subject of the Snapshot Report. Apart from availability, consistency in definition and population coverage with that of the global standard was also required. A slight deviation from the global standard was also allowed with corresponding documentation reflected in the footnotes and metadata for reference.

Further to the abovementioned criteria, the dimension of representativeness was important in determining the SDGIs that were eventually included in the report. For each SDGI to be included, at least 6 AMS must satisfy the criteria of availability and consistency. In other words, majority of the AMS are represented. Out of the 276 SDGIs that were assessed, 56 passed all the criteria that were set. These indicators were then presented to the ASEAN Working Group on SDG Indicators (WGSDGI) for decision on the final list of indicators. Since the Snapshot Report was intended to be a short document that can provide an overview of the developments with respect to the Global Goals’ achievement, it was decided that the 56 indicators be cut down to a smaller number.

During the WGSDGI discussion, a proposal on the theme of the report was made – that is "COVID-19 and the SDGs" and it centres upon how the pandemic might have changed the roadmap for achieving the SDGs. Based on this theme and on the principle of representation of majority of AMS in the report, 29 SDGIs have been selected with more SDGIs on the goals that might have been directly affected by the pandemic – Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 and 17. Other goals like 9 and 7 were also included due to the issue of digital divide that got more attention in this pandemic era and the importance of renewable energy for achieving sustainable development.

The analytical approach of the Snapshot Report is descriptive, taking note of key trends and patterns exhibited by the AMS and the region as a whole. Unlike in full reports, it does not discuss issues and opportunities in greater details, but rather, highlights key developments and aspects that require greater attention. In terms of format, the objective is to create a report illustrative of the trends and patterns in the SDGIs through charts and infographics, a common practice in the creation of snapshot reports such as the UNECE's Snapshot Report 2019 and UN Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals – The Gender Snapshot Report 2019.