



# **Seventh Six-Monthly Progress Report**

## **ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the European Union - (ARISE) Plus**

**8 November 2020 – 7 May 2021**

**Programme No. ACA/2016/389774**

**Service Contract No.  
EUROPEAID/138416/DH/SER/MULTI**



## Table of Contents

<b>ARISE PLUS FACT SHEET</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>SECTION 1 PROGRESS ON PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>COMPONENT 0: MANAGEMENT AND OUTREACH</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>Sub Component 0.1 Programme Management and Coordination</i>	12
<i>Sub Component 0.2 Demand Driven Contingency</i>	17
<i>Sub Component 0.3 Visibility Communications and Outreach (VCO)</i>	17
<b>COMPONENT 1.0: TRADE FACILITATION AND TRANSPARENCY</b>	<b>19</b>
<i>Sub-Component 1.1 ATIGA Implementation with Focus on Transparency and NTMs</i>	20
Activity 1.1.1 Supporting the Effective Implementation of the ATIGA (ATR and NTRs), including Identifying, Classifying and Notifying NTMs	20
Activity 1.1.2 Supporting the Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of the ATIGA	23
<i>Sub-Component 1.2 Trade Facilitation and Private Sector Engagement</i>	23
Activity 1.2.1 Full Operationalisation and Management of ASSIST, Including in the Services and Investment Sectors	23
Activity 1.2.2 Supporting the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee	25
Activity 1.2.3 Strengthening Public-Private Cooperation	26
Activity 1.3.1 General Review of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA)	27
Activity 1.3.2 Supporting the Implementation of the NTMs Guidelines	28
<b>COMPONENT 2.0: STANDARDS AND CONFORMITY ASSESSMENT IN PARTICULAR HEALTHCARE AND AGRO-BASED PRODUCT</b>	<b>30</b>
<i>Sub-Component 2.1 Supporting the Development of Quality Infrastructure and Related Policies in ASEAN</i>	30
Activity 2.1.1 Supporting ACCSQ to Implement the ACCSQ Strategic Plan for Standards and Conformance	30
Activity 2.1.4 Transposing National Commitments into National legislation	31
<i>Sub-Component 2.2 Supporting the Harmonisation of Standards and Compliance to International Standards</i>	31
Activity 2.2.1 Supporting Harmonisation of Standards	31
<i>Sub-Component 2.3 Supporting the Market Integration and Enhancing Food Safety in Agro-based Sector</i>	32
Activity 2.3.1 Developing and Implementing a Regulatory Framework for Food Safety	32
Activity 2.3.2 Implementing the MRA on Inspection and Certification Systems of Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuffs	33
Activity 2.3.3 Supporting the ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety	34
Activity 2.3.5 Establishing Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (RASFF) in Member States and integrating them in the ASEAN Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (ARASFF)	34
Activity 2.3.6 Strengthening ASEAN Cooperation on Organic Agriculture	35
Activity 2.3.7 Training in Food Safety	36
Activity 2.3.8 Harmonised Nutritional Labelling Requirements	37
<i>Sub-Component 2.4 Support to the Pharmaceutical Sector</i>	38
Activity 2.4.1 Strengthening the Pharmaceuticals Regulatory Framework	38
Activity 2.4.2 ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for Bioequivalence (BE) Study Reports of Generic Medicinal Products	39
Activity 2.4.3 ASEAN Pharmaceuticals Testing Laboratories Committee (APTLC)	40
Activity 2.4.4 Combatting Falsified Medicines in ASEAN	41
Activity 2.4.5 On Demand support for updating and existing harmonised technical requirements for pharmaceuticals	41
<b>COMPONENT 3.0: CUSTOMS, TRANSPORT AND ACTS</b>	<b>42</b>
<i>Sub-component 3.1 Customs Measures</i>	42
Activity 3.1.1 Supporting Enhancement of Customs Clearance Procedures (SPCD 04)	42
Activity 3.1.2 Supporting Customs Partnership with Business and the Trading Community (SPCD 06)	43
Activity 3.1.4 Supporting Customs Enforcement and Mutual Assistance Processes (SPCD09)	44
Activity 3.1.5 Assistance to Narrowing the Development Gap in Customs (SPCD 13)	45
<i>Sub-component 3.2 Transport Measures</i>	46
Activity 3.2.1 Operationalising the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) and the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Inter-State Transport (AFAFIST)	46



Activity 3.2.2 Supporting implementation of the Action Plan for the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multi Modal Transport (AFAMT)	47
Activity 3.2.3 Supporting the Implementation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of the Cross-Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicles (ASEAN-CBTP)	48
<i>Sub-component 3.3 ACTS Implementation</i>	49
Activity 3.3.3 Rolling Out of ACTS	49
Activity 3.3.4 Developing the Capacity of the ACTS Central Management Team (CMT)	51
Activity 3.3.5 Carrying Out a Functional Upgrade of the ACTS	52
<b>COMPONENT 4.0: ASEAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION MONITORING AND STATISTICS</b>	<b>55</b>
<i>Sub-component 4.1 ASEAN Economic Integration Monitoring</i>	55
Activity 4.1.1 Developing an Internal ARISE Plus Monitoring System and an Integrated Monitoring Framework for ARISE Plus Regional and National Projects	55
Activity 4.1.2 Supporting Implementation of AEC 2025 M&E Framework	56
Activity 4.1.3 Demand-driven Support for Research, Capacity Building and Outreach Activities to Assist the Implementation of the AEC Blueprint 2025	58
<i>Sub-Component 4.2 ASEAN Statistics Capacity Building</i>	59
Activity 4.2.1 Enhancing AEC Monitoring Databases	60
Activity 4.2.2 Supporting the ACSS in Improving Collection and Dissemination of Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)	61
Activity 4.2.3 Supporting Gap Analysis and implementation of the Operational Guidelines for the ACSS Roadmap on SNA 2008	63
Activity 4.2.4 Supporting the Implementation of the Balance of Payments (BOP) related statistics, particularly SITS and FDIS	65
Activity 4.2.5 Support for strengthened IMTS data processing and quality, in particular in CLM, and for compliance to IMTS standard including conceptual compliance and implementation of seasonal adjustment	66
Activity 4.2.6 Supporting ACSS in Strengthening ACSS' Statistical Communication and Visibility	69
<b>SECTION 2 INTERNAL MONITORING ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>SECTION 3 OVERVIEW OF USE OF RESOURCES</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>SECTION 4 LIST OF OFFICIAL MEETINGS PARTICIPATED IN BY ARISE PLUS</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>SECTION 5 EVENTS ORGANISED BY ARISE PLUS</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>SECTION 6 ANNEXES</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>SECTION 7 LIST OF ASEAN SECTORAL BODIES, WORKING GROUPS AND ENTITIES WITH WHICH ARISE PLUS WORKS</b>	<b>86</b>



## ARISE PLUS FACT SHEET

Programme Title	ASEAN Regional Integration Support by EU (ARISE Plus)
Programme Number	ACA/2016/389774
Service Contract	EUROPEAID/138416/DH/SER/MULTI
Service Contractor	AETS, in consortium with FratiniVergano, DT Global (formerly AECOM) and ARTEMIS
Programme Location	ASEAN Secretariat Jakarta (with activities in ASEAN and EU)
Contracting Authority	EU Delegation to Indonesia & Brunei Darussalam
EUD Task Manager	Viola Calabrese ( <a href="mailto:Viola.CALABRESE@eeas.europa.eu">Viola.CALABRESE@eeas.europa.eu</a> )
Contact in ASEC	Joel Atienza ( <a href="mailto:joel.atienza@asean.org">joel.atienza@asean.org</a> )
Key Experts 1-4	<b>KE1 Team Leader: Mr. Paul Mandl</b> ( <a href="mailto:paul.mandl@asean.org">paul.mandl@asean.org</a> ) <b>KE2 Trade Facilitation: Mr. Paolo Vergano</b> ( <a href="mailto:paolo.vergano@asean.org">paolo.vergano@asean.org</a> ) <b>KE3 Standards and Conformance: Mr. Rajinder Raj Sud</b> ( <a href="mailto:rajinder.raj@asean.org">rajinder.raj@asean.org</a> ) <b>KE4 Customs and Transport: Mr. Glyn Evans</b> ( <a href="mailto:glyn.evans@asean.org">glyn.evans@asean.org</a> )
Programme Office	<b>Ms. Novia Firda Rozak</b> Project Officer ( <a href="mailto:novia.firda@asean.org">novia.firda@asean.org</a> )  <b>Ms. Lestari Oktaviani</b> Project Officer ( <a href="mailto:lestari.oktaviani@asean.org">lestari.oktaviani@asean.org</a> )  <b>ASEAN Regional Integration Supported by EU (ARISE) Plus</b> ASEAN Secretariat 70 A Jl. Sisingamangaraja Jakarta 12110, Indonesia
Telephone	+62 21 724 3372, 726 2991, ext. 2110
Fax	+62 21 739 8234, 724 3504



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABAC	ASEAN Business Advisory Council
ACCSQ	ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality
ACCC	ASEAN Connectivity Coordinating Committee
ACCP	ASEAN Committee on Consumer Protection
ACD	ASEAN Cosmetic Directive
AC-SPS	ASEAN Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
ACSS	ASEAN Community Statistical System
ACTD	ASEAN Common Technical Dossier
ACTR	ASEAN Common Technical Requirements
ACTS	ASEAN Customs Transit System
ACTS-IP	ACTS Information Portal management
AEC	ASEAN Economic Community
AECB	ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint
AEGFS	ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety
AEO	Authorised Economic Operators
AFAFGIT	ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit
AFAFIST	ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Inter-State Transport
AFAMT	ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multimodal Transport
AFFA	ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations
AFTA	ASEAN Free Trade Area
AHEEERR	ASEAN Harmonised Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulatory Regime
AGVCBP	ASEAN Goods Vehicle Cross Border Permit
AMS	ASEAN Member State
API	Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient(s)
APLAC	Asia Pacific Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation
APSC	ASEAN Political-Security Community
ARAC	ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety
ARASFF	ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed
ARISE	ASEAN Regional Integration Support by the EU
ASCC	ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community
ASEAN	Association of South East Asian Nations
ASEAN-CBTP	ASEAN agreement on the Facilitation of the Cross-Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicle
ASEC	ASEAN Secretariat
ASI-CT	ASEAN Statistical Indicators-Consolidated Template
ASOA	ASEAN Standard for Organic Agriculture
ASPSC	ACCSQ's 2016-2025 Strategic Plan for Standards and Conformance
ASSIST	ASEAN Solutions for Services, Investment and Trade
ATFJCC	ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee
ATFW	ASEAN Trade Facilitation Work Plans
ATT	Authorised Transit Trader
ASW-SC	ASEAN Single Window Steering Committee
ATIGA	ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement



ATR	ASEAN Trade Repository
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BE	Bio-equivalence
BFSDAS	Broad Framework for the Sustainable Development of ASEAN Statistics
CCAD	Community and Corporate Affairs Directorate
CCA	ASEAN Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of ATIGA
CCI	ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment
CCBWG	Customs Capacity Building Working Group
CCC	ASEAN Customs Coordinating Committee
CCS	ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services
CECWG	Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group
CEN-CENELEC	European Committee on Standardization – European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation
CIFOCoss	Chronic Individual Food Consumption Database – summary statistics
CLMV	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam
COB	Council of ASEAN Insurance Bureaux
COST	Committee on Science and Technology
CPTFWG	Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group
CRD	Community Relations Division
DSG	Deputy Secretary General
DG-DEVCO	Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development
EC	European Commission
EDSM	Enhanced Dispute Settlement Mechanism
EEE	Electrical and Electronic Equipment
EU	European Union
EUABC	EU-ASEAN Business Council
FA	Financing Agreement
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GIFT	Global Individual Food Consumption Data Tool
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
ICH	International Council for Harmonization
IGDRP	International Generic Drug Regulators Program
KE	Key Expert(s)
KLTSP	Kuala Lumpur Transport Strategic Plan
JNKE	Junior Non-Key Expert
LSAD	Legal Services and Agreements Directorate
MIS	Management Information System
MPAC	Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity
MRA	Mutual Recognition Arrangement
MSME	Micro-, Small-, and Medium-Sized Enterprises
MST	Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand
NKE	Non-Key Expert
NAB	National Accreditation Body
NFAB	National Focal Points for Accreditation
NTM	Non-Tariff Measure(s)
NTR	National Trade Repository



NTTCC	National Transit Transport Coordinating Committees
PCPMD	Programme Coordination and Project Management Division
OWP	Overall Work Plan
PFPWG	Prepared Foodstuffs Product Working Group
PIC/S	Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme
PPWG	ACCSQ Pharmaceutical Product Working Group
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PWG	Product Working Group(s)
SC-AROO	Sub Committee on ATIGA Rules of Origin
SNKE	Senior Non-Key Expert
SPCD	Strategic Plans for Customs Development
S&T	Science and Technology Division
STOM	ASEAN Senior Transport Officials
SOM AMAF	Senior Officials Meeting ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry
TA	Technical Assistance
TAT	Technical Assistance Team
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TFD	Trade Facilitation Division
TFWG	ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group
TRIM	Trade-related Investment Measure
TTCB	Transit Transport Coordinating Board
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
VCO	Visibility, Communication and Outreach
WGDSA	Working Group on Data Sharing, Analysis, Dissemination and Communication
WHO	World Health Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Overview

The ARISE Plus seventh six monthly progress report covers the period 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020 to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021. The activities carried out support the ASEAN economic integration effort and are guided by the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025. ARISE Plus supports 12 Elements and 14 Strategic Measures of the ASEAN Economic Blueprint (AECB) ARISE PLUS also supports 7 priority areas of the ASEAN-EU Plan of Action.

Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, 41 major activities were implemented together with 11 regional workshops. Building on the experience from the previous six months with adapting to COVID-19, ARISE Plus has sustained regular and rich consultations with the ASEAN Secretariat, relevant sectoral working groups, committees and the EUD Jakarta. These have served to enrich EU-ASEAN collaboration in supporting AEC integration efforts and have led to deeper and more strategic cooperation efforts as manifested through several major results delivered by ASEAN and ARISE Plus.

Several tangible and significant results have been delivered by ARISE Plus to-date and a summary of the major results is provided below.

### Major results during the reporting period

The major results during the reporting period are summarised below. For additional details please refer to Section 1 of the report under the respective activities.

#### ***Supporting ASEAN to review progress from 2016 to 2020 and to enhance strategic decision making for the AEC Blueprint 2025, from 2021 to 2025***

Through the support provided for the mid-term review of the AEC Blueprint 2025, ARISE Plus has improved the ability of ASEAN to monitor AEC progress through high quality data collection, analysis and triangulation. Through this evidence-based exercise the strategic direction of ASEAN economic integration and broader Community-building efforts for the second phase of the AEC Blueprint from 2021 to 2025 has been enhanced. ARISE Plus supported this through major contributions to the AEC Blueprint 2025 mid-term Review (MTR) including private sector engagement, focus group discussions with business councils, review of external studies, support for compliance monitoring, review of sectoral progress, detailed analysis, synthesis and write-up.

The MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025 was virtually launched on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021 under the patronage of the ASEAN Secretary -General, EU Ambassador, Deputy Secretary-General, members of the High-Level Task Force on Economic Integration (HLTF-EI), ASEAN-Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) Chair and over 350 other participants. These senior officials emphasised the importance of five key messages resulting from the MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025 to adapt, improve and intensify efforts towards the AEC integration process. These include the importance of results-based management such as results-oriented planning, monitoring, reporting and implementation, focussing on quality and impact instead of quantity and outputs, keeping up with mega trends such as digitalisation, and improved communication and coordination to enable better cross-sectoral efforts and integration.



The MTR also contributed 12 tangible recommendations to enhance AEC integration efforts from 2021 to 2025.

### ***Making seamless movement of goods in ASEAN a reality through the operationalisation the ASEAN Customs Transit system (ACTS)***

ASEAN achieved a major breakthrough in the “free movement of goods”, with the technical assistance and facilitation of ARISE Plus. Following three phases of piloting, the first two live runs of the movement of goods under the ACTS were successfully completed and now is being implemented on a live operational basis. Several ACTS training sessions for the public and private sector stakeholders have been carried out. These sessions are on-going and available on demand basis. In November 2020 the VIP launch of the ACTS took place involving senior officials from DG DEVCO, DG TAXUD, the Ambassador of the EU to ASEAN, Secretary General of the ASEAN Secretariat, senior officials from the AMS and senior executives from the Freight Forwarders Association including DHL. Live operations involving Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, along the north-south and east-west transit transport corridors have commenced with the support of ARISE Plus. An ACTS Central Management Team (CMT) has been capacitated to operate the ACTS. Additional ACTS upgrades have been made. ARISE Plus continues to provide further support through bi-lateral mechanisms to resolve queries related to ACTS Customs guarantees with strong buy-in of the participating ASEAN Member States. An example of this was the signing of an MoU between the Lao Customs Department and Lao Development Bank to provide guarantees for private sector taking part in ACTS. To encourage buy in and to create further awareness ARISE Plus has produced publicity material in the form of promotional leaflets, banners and videos and these materials are available on the ACTS Information Portal. ARISE Plus also supported publicity campaigns through national and regional media channels to create awareness amongst potential ACTS traders including importers, exporters, transporters, freight forwarders and customs agents.

### ***Expanding seamless movement of goods through improved multimodal transport***

ARISE Plus has been supporting the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Multimodal Transport (AFAMT). The first multi-modal transaction from Thailand to Vietnam was successfully carried out between 30<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 through a combination of road and sea. Based on analysis of the pilot execution a report on the current status has been produced.

To further develop multimodal transport operations and to connect the dots to advance implementation, ARISE Plus has prepared a strategy proposing how transit in general and ACTS in particular can be enhanced to handle multimodal transport operations. A draft initial survey on the expansion of ACTS to handle multimodal transport among Multimodal Transport Operators (MTOs) has been prepared. This data will further facilitate ongoing efforts to operationalisation of AFAMT in ASEAN.

### ***Enhancing ASEAN regulatory environment for trade in goods through legal review of ATIGA***

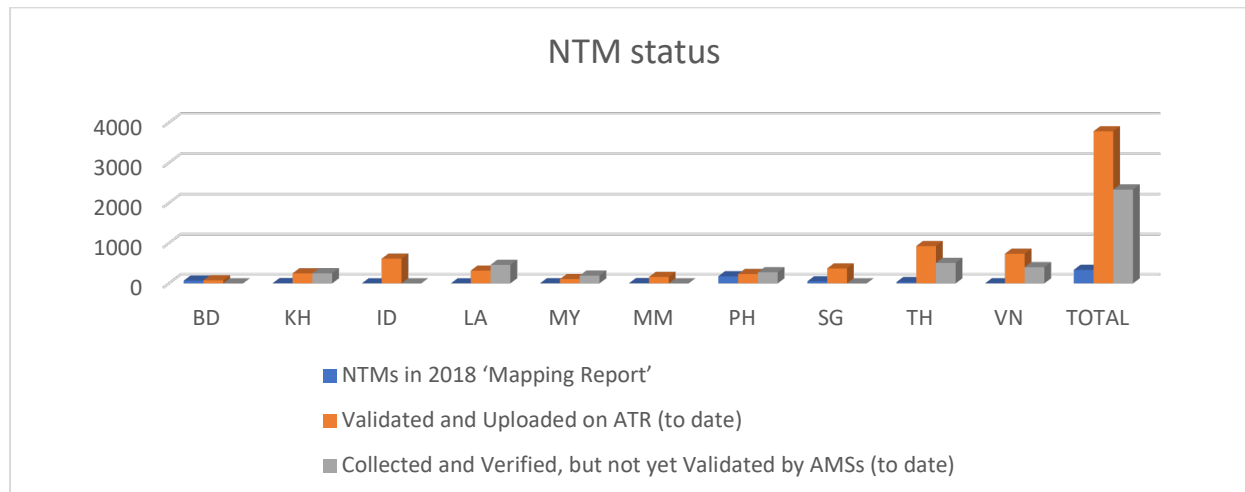
Based on a demand driven request, ARISE Plus undertook a legal review of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA) which included a legal analysis and comparative benchmarking and produced a 424-page draft Final Report. The report took into account the existing ASEAN obligations and also the commitments under the most recent RCEP Agreement. In addition ARISE Plus also prepared two summarised and reader friendly matrixes on the full report and the ATIGA-RCEP Comparative Analysis. Additional support was provided through bilateral discussions and consultations with seven ASEAN Member States, namely Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Philippines and

Singapore. Regional level and national level engagements demonstrate strong buy in and commitment from the various stakeholders and enhance the quality of support provided by ARISE Plus.

### ***Improving regulatory transparency for business through identification of NTMs and update of the ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR)***

The work to increase ASEAN trade-related regulatory transparency is making good progress through the ASEAN Trade Repository (ATR). The ATR provides the private sector with the latest NTM information which in turn supports decision making to facilitate trade within the ASEAN Region. The work on identifying NTMs involve several important stages such as identification, classification, verification within ARISE Plus and validation by AMS authorities before being uploaded to the ATR. To enable this detailed process, ARISE Plus has deployed experts to engage with authorities in charge of the respective NTRs and web-linkages to the ATR. Efforts to gather and classify the relevant NTMs in sub categories before being uploaded into the ATR are ongoing. The Identified and classified NTMs will then be verified within the ARISE Plus team before being submitted for validation by respective AMS authorities. Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam have actively participated in the ongoing efforts showing significant progress and heightened ownership.

Continuous support to relevant ATR/NTR Focal Points and competent authorities at AMS have been provided by ARISE Plus through webinars. The overall number of validated NTMs uploaded to the ATR by AMSs has significantly increased from 1936 in May 2020 to 3782 validated NTMs uploaded by April 2021.



### ***Strengthening food safety and quality through harmonised regulatory regime and traceability systems***

ARISE Plus has supported the strengthening of harmonised regulatory regime for food safety and quality in ASEAN, through the development of the ASEAN Food Safety Regulatory Framework Agreement (AFSRFA). The work has involved facilitation of cross-sectoral integration efforts involving the Prepared Food Product Working Group (PFPWG), Health Cluster 4 and the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on crops, fisheries and livestock ensuring the principle that food safety has to be assured across the entire food chain which led to the final draft of the AFSRFA. This is currently awaiting signing by the member states.

ARISE Plus has contributed to additional supporting instruments such as the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) of Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuffs. It is currently supporting the Joint Sector Committee to implement the MRA through a training course of several modules that will increase capacity in implementing the operating procedures. We have continued to support the full operationalisation of the ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre (ARAC) for Food Safety through capacity building in risk assessments. ARISE Plus has supported the development of the ASEAN Guidelines on Traceability for Food and Feed and facilitated several consultations to resolve differences of opinion and establish an ASEAN consensus on the key principles and elements for traceability and a endorsed version of the guidelines. We have also supported the delivery of training on Rapid Response in Food Safety Issues and Crisis phase II and on food borne disease outbreaks.

In organic agriculture, ARISE Plus has supported the development of an advanced draft version of the Organic Agriculture MRA, the ASEAN Organic Agriculture Certification Scheme and a proposed ASEAN Organic Mark with high level of consensus amongst member states.

### ***Strengthening transparency, quality and safety in pharmaceuticals in ASEAN through a harmonised regulatory regime***

ARISE Plus has supported efforts of ASEAN to strengthen transparency, quality and safety in pharmaceuticals. During the reporting period a roadmap for the development of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework Agreement was developed and adopted by the member states. ARISE Plus supported the development of first Drafts of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Policy (APRP) and the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework (APRF) with deliberations facilitated through video conferencing. Capacity building has been provided to ASEAN officials through training in the first of 3 modules of the programme of training of evaluators for the Bio-equivalence MRA.

### ***Monitoring ASEAN progress in the SDG 2030 agenda through statistical support***

ARISE Plus has continued to support the ASEAN Statistical Community in the monitoring of SDG progress. This includes strengthening of ASEANStats capacity in conducting a review and preliminary data analysis of the SDG indicators. ARISE Plus has provided a number of capacity building programmes to the ASEAN Statistical Community. This included regional training on seasonal adjustments, statistics in international trade in services (SITS), foreign direct investment statistics (FDIS) and international merchandise trade statistics (IMTS). These have improved the capacity of ASEAN staff to undertake more accurate analysis and development high quality statistical reports. ARISE Plus has also supported the Member States and ASEANStats in raising the visibility of statistics, high -quality video-graphics, and the availability of clear guidance and strategies for improved communication in statistics.

## **Next Reporting Period**

Please refer to the Executive Summary of the Annual Work Programme 4, for a substantive update on the strategy, main focus by component and delivery approach for the next 12 months.

## SECTION 1 PROGRESS ON PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES



### Component 0: Management and Outreach

#### Sub Component 0.1 Programme Management and Coordination

Following a successful Mid-Term review of the programme in January 2020 an extension was signed in August 2020 extending the programme until November 7<sup>th</sup> 2022, with an additional €7.4 million of funding taking the project to 5 years and €22.5 million. The focus of the activities during the extension period will be on ensuring key outputs delivered to-date contribute to major results, and on ensuring sustainability of the results. The resources made available during the extension will provide support to ASEAN Economic integration efforts during a critical period that includes ASEAN's recovery from the impact of COVID-19.

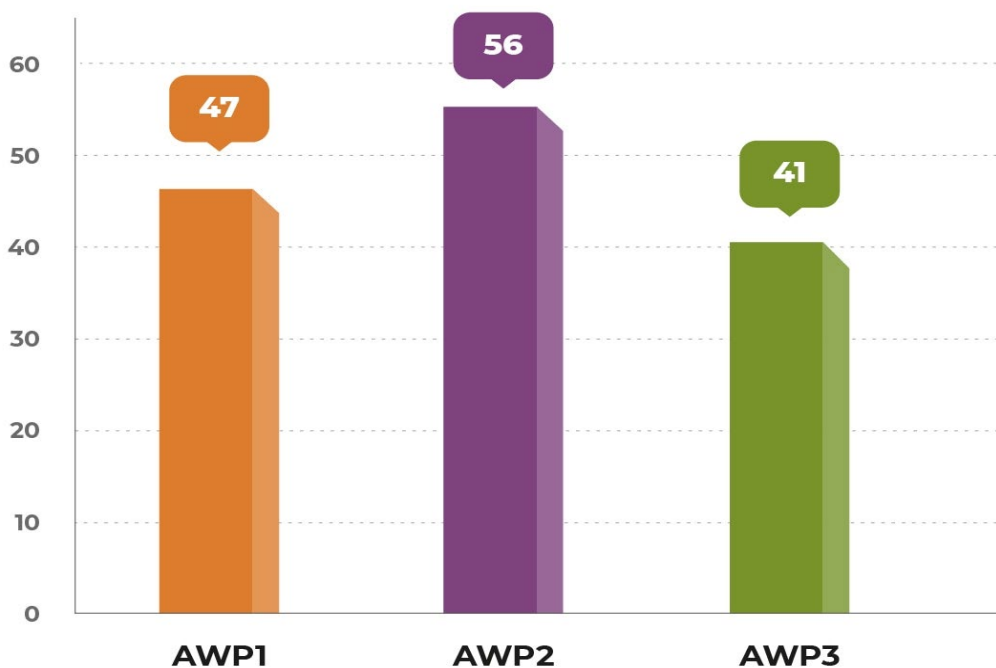
The project has refined its remote management working practices with weekly project meetings involving all key experts and long-term non-key experts, with additional meetings amongst groups of experts working on specific activities. The project has continued strong engagement with the relevant counter parts in the ASEC and Sectoral Bodies using teleconferencing tools such as Skype, Zoom and Blue Jeans to ensure continuation of activities.

Despite the substantial impact of COVID-19 on travel and physical meetings, a total of 41 major activities were implemented during AWP3. To gain a visual picture, the key project management indicators are shown below.

The number of activities supported by the project was reduced during AWP3 due to a combination of a reduction in demand from beneficiaries and a shift to remote based support in many cases. Which took some adjustment.



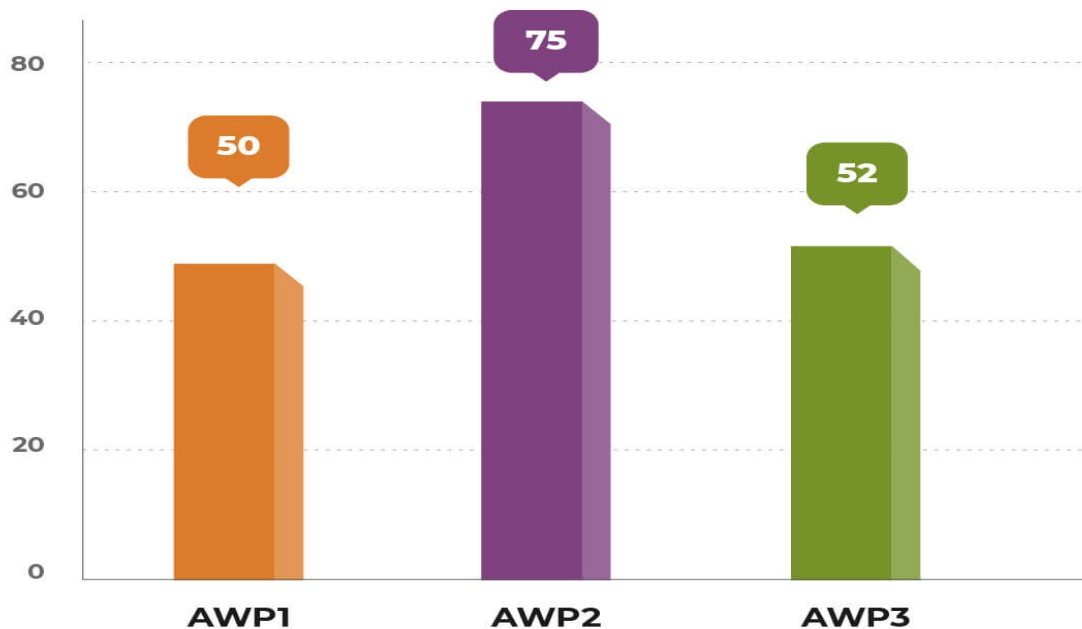
## Number of Activities



While 52 NKE experts were contracted for TA during the period, the travel constraints spread out the inputs that were able to be provided as ASEAN and the EU adjusted to the new working practices.



## Number of Experts

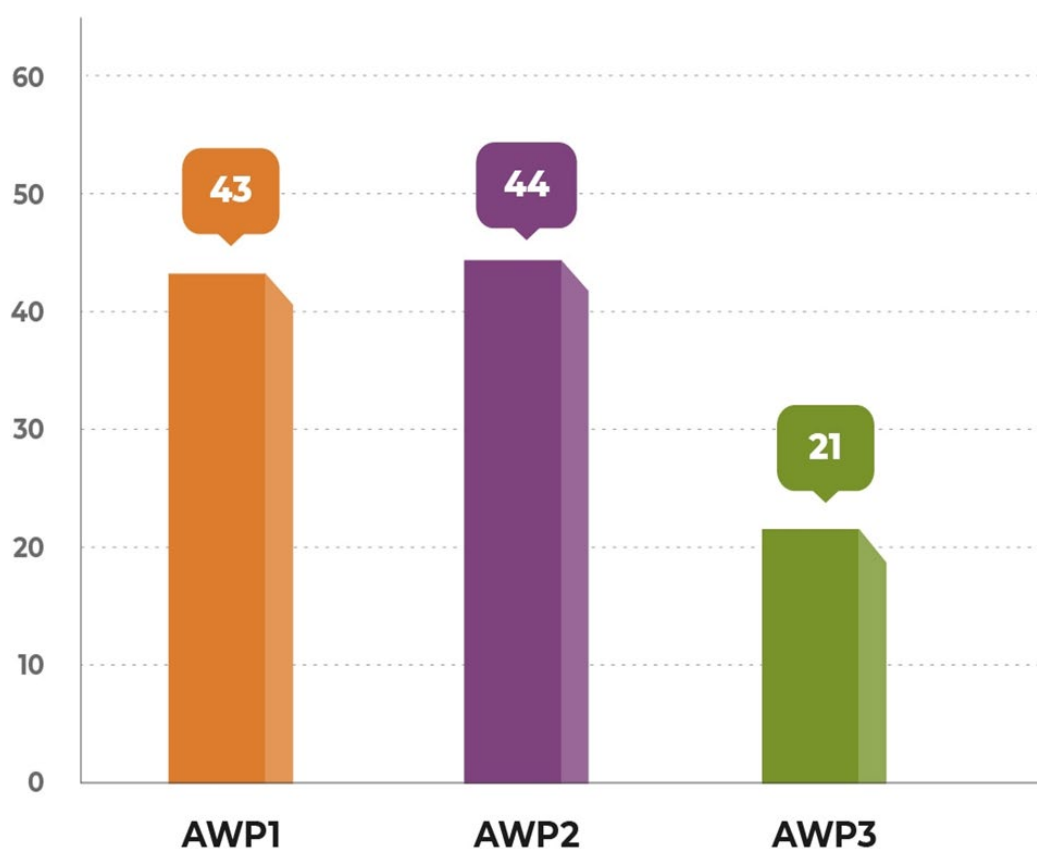


Despite the challenges faced the long-term experts, supported by short term experts and the ACTS software team were able to deliver a total of 3598 expert days of TA support to the ASEAN Integration process, including 1835 expert days during the reporting period.

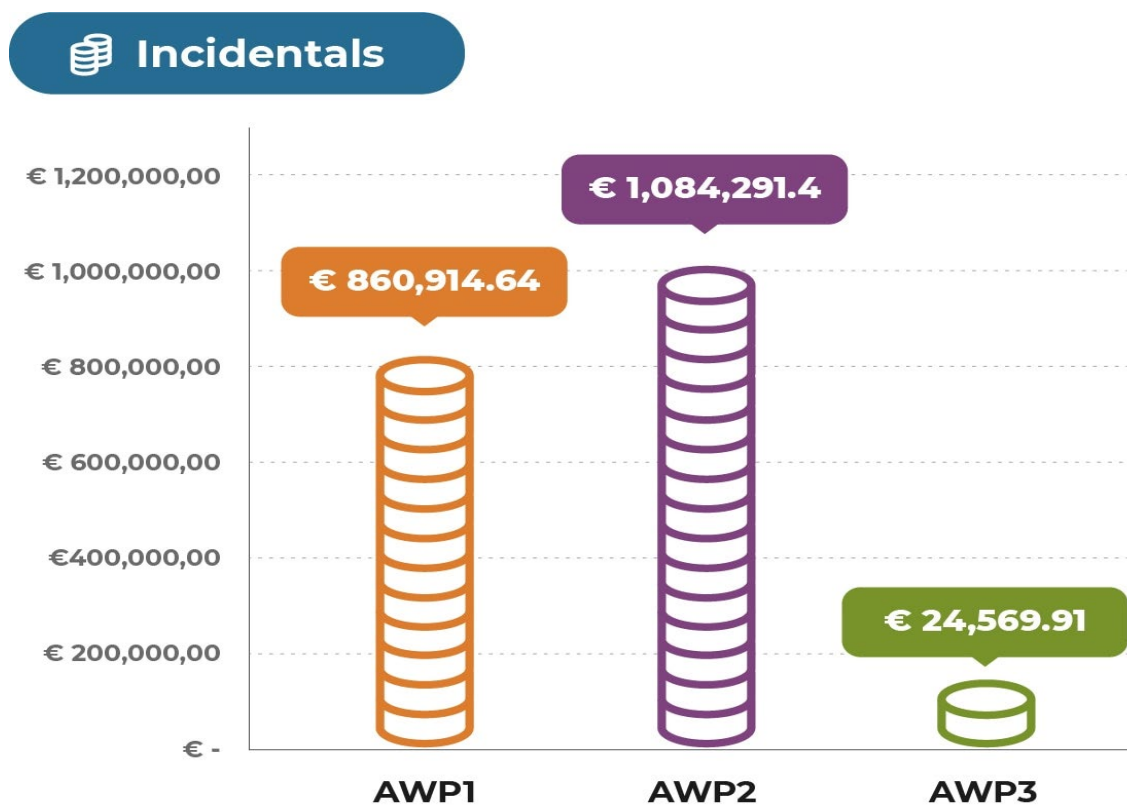


The negative impact of the pandemic was most acutely realized in the reduction of events organised and hosted by the project. This certainly impacted the delivery of training while outreach events and webinars were less effected. Out of the 21 workshops and events implemented during AWP3, 11 were implemented during the reporting period.

### Number of Workshops



The budget planned for travel to meetings trainings and workshops. Was vastly underused as can be seen below but was great for the project's Carbon footprint though. 21,695 Euro of incidentals were used during the reporting period.



## RESOURCES

Therefore in summary the resources mobilised in the table below with the break down shown at the component level in section 3.

	Budget WP3	SMR6	SMR7	Balance
KE Days	836	386.5	400.5	49
SNKE Days	2,867	1287.5	1404.5	175
JNKE days	205	101	30	74
Incidentals	€ 1,356,530	€ 9,928.69	€ 21,695.21	€ 1,324,906.1





A more detailed breakdown is provided in Section 3, where the resources used are reported at component level, aggregated to the programme level.

A key objective of this reporting period was the coordination between the ARISE+ regional and national projects. Project teams from 2 ARISE Plus regional projects and 8 ARISE Plus national projects (Cambodia, Indonesia Lao PDR, Malaysia Myanmar, Philippines Thailand and Vietnam) have coordinated/shared project objectives expected results and activities. In addition, regular meetings have been held with ITC who are running 5 out of the ARISE+ 8 projects.

In addition the Team leader has engaged in:

- Regular consultation all relevant stakeholders, including high level officials in ASEAN and EU Delegations;
- Provided strategic inputs to the AEC pillar of the ASEAN Secretariat;
- Managed the team of Key and non-Key Experts, including the reviewing of ToRs for NKE's,
- Monitoring of performance and outputs using internal monitoring tools;
- Reported regularly to the EU Delegation on progress achieved in implementing the programme;
- Participated actively in M&E activities, including corrective action and integration of best practices learnt from the previous 3 years;
- Ensured coordination across all ARISE Plus components, including those to be implemented at the national level in the future.

### **Sub Component 0.2 Demand Driven Contingency**

No additional or new requests for support were put forward during the reporting period, which is most likely to be reflection of the impact of COVID-19.

### **Sub Component 0.3 Visibility Communications and Outreach (VCO)**

The Team Leader in conjunction with the Key Experts and the backstopping team maintained the visibility of project during this period. This was primarily done via the project website <http://ariseplus.asean.org>, EU-ASEAN newsletter, EU-ASEAN Bluebook and articles in other portals. The ARISE Plus Team is working closely with the contractor, charged with providing the EU Delegation visibility, in the development of the ACTS launch video and associated promotional brochures and banners.

ARISE Plus Website Articles:

1. Progress of ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) Live Run  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/acts-liverun/>)



2. ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) Live Operations  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/acts-live-operation/>)
3. Successful Start to AFAMT Pilot Execution (<https://ariseplus.asean.org/afamt-pilot/>)
4. Joint Press Release: ASEAN and EUs New Online Customs Transit System Set to Boost Trade in the ASEAN Region (<https://ariseplus.asean.org/acts-joint-press-release/>)
5. ASEAN Custom Transit System (ACTS) Launch Event  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/acts-launch-event/>)
6. Workshop on ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework – Principles and Outline  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/pharmaceutical-framework/>)
7. ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Organic Agricultural Products  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/mra-workshop-event/>)
8. Regional Online Training on Seasonal Adjustment  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/event-sna/>)
9. Training for Experts (Module 1): Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Inspection and Certification Systems on Food Hygiene for Prepared Food Stuff (MRA on PF)  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/mra-on-pf/>)
10. Workshop on the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Policy and the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework (APRP and APRF)  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/aprp-aprf/>)
11. Training on Food Borne Diseases Outbreaks  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/training-fbd/>)
12. ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025 Mid Term Review  
(<https://ariseplus.asean.org/event/mtr/>)

#### ARISE Plus Flash Reports:

1. Major Success for ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS)
2. ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) Live Operations
3. Successful Start to AFAMT Pilot
4. ASEAN Customs Transit System (ACTS) Outreach and Training Workshop in Vietnam
5. ASEAN Guidelines on Traceability for Food and Feed
6. ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Organic Agricultural Products
7. Preparations for the implementation of the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Inspection and Certification Systems (Food Hygiene MRA) on Food Hygiene for Prepared Food Stuff
8. ASEAN Member States Seek to Establish a Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework
9. Trainings on Food Safety: Food Borne Disease Outbreaks



## Component 1.0: Trade Facilitation and Transparency

Component 1 on Trade Facilitation and Transparency is organized on the basis of three Sub-Components of activities in order to: 1) logically reflect the areas of ARISE Plus intervention mandated under the ToRs; 2) better organize the provision of support in light of the results to be achieved and the needs expressed by ASEAN during the coordination meetings and consultations held within the relevant ASEAN Sectoral Bodies in AWP1 and AWP2 (i.e., SEOM, ATF-JCC, CCA, CCS, CCI, the respective AMSS' ASEAN Chairs, ASEC, ABAC, etc.); and 3) leverage on the combined resources of each cluster of activities for purposes of achieving the overall trade facilitation results mandated under ARISE Plus.

Despite the impact of the *Covid-19* pandemic, all activities are largely on course vis-à-vis the Work-Plan objectives and/or the 'on-demand' nature of the support to be provided. Particularly noteworthy is the further progress that has been achieved, during the last 6 months of project implementation, both in quantitative and qualitative terms, with respect to the progressive operationalization of the *ASEAN Trade Repository* under Sub-component 1.1. In fact, the number of validated non-tariff measures (NTMs) uploaded on the ATR has grown from 3,244 to 3,782, equivalent to a 17% increase. During this semester, two new cases were filed under the system of *ASEAN Solutions for Investment, Services and Trade* (ASSIST), one lodged by a business council and the other filed for the first time ever by an ASEAN law firm on behalf of a client, and the legal assessment and comparative benchmarking for the *General Review of the ATIGA* has been finalized and submitted to the *Coordinating Committee for the Implementation of the ATIGA* (CCA), together with a dedicated comparison between the ATIGA and the recently-concluded RCEP Agreement.

Going forward, Component 1 shall continue to follow the planned support and focus will be placed on the progressive implementation of the ATR (completion foreseen for end of 2021, as per the AMSS' determinations within CCA and SEOM), continuing support of private sector engagement (outreach and awareness creation on ASSIST, as well as re-launch of Roundtable Discussions on Trade Facilitation through dedicated webinars), and high-level legal support to AMSS and the ASEAN Secretariat vis-à-vis the crucial process of General Review of the ATIGA. On demand activities shall remain available to ASEAN with respect to ASSIST (primarily outreach activities and IT and operational support of the ASEAN Secretariat), strengthening the NTM notifications to comply with Article 11 of the ATIGA, and the appropriate tools to address outstanding NTMs cases under the Matrix of Actual Cases (MAC), as well as for purposes of streamlining NTMs in light of the post-*Covid19* Recovery Framework.

It does not appear that *the Covid-19* pandemic will significantly slow down or prevent the implementation of any activity under Component 1 and the expectation is that considerable progress can be achieved during the next six months, especially vis-à-vis the progressive operationalization of the ATR, given the good degree of ownership currently displayed by most AMSS (to be recalled that BD and SG are no longer supported by ARISE Plus).

**Expected outcome: Enhancing trade-related regulatory transparency in ASEAN**

**Sub-Component 1.1 ATIGA Implementation with Focus on Transparency and NTMs**

**Activity 1.1.1 Supporting the Effective Implementation of the ATIGA (ATR and NTRs), including Identifying, Classifying and Notifying NTMs**

Activity 1.1.1 Supporting the Effective Implementation of the ATIGA (ATR and NTRs), including Identifying, Classifying and Notifying NTMs	
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	ASEC's TFD, SEOM, ATFJCC, CCA, ATR/NTR Focal Points in AMSs and Private Sector in ASEAN.
Tasks Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Deployed</b> four SNKEs to engage with the AMSs' authorities in charge of the respective NTRs and of web-linkages to the ATR. The objective remained the gathering of all relevant NTMs in the ATR sub-categories of SPS and TBT, as well as, for the CLMV and Indonesia, the other non-SPS and non-TBT NTM sub-categories, in order to properly classify them, '<i>package</i>' them for upload onto the ATR, verify them within ARISE Plus, submit them to the respective AMSs' authorities for validation, and upload them onto the ATR by web-linking them to the NTR and/or to the available national online databases. Work was conducted in Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam, with increasing ownership by AMSs and significant progress during the six-month period.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs Delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Interim</i> Reports and/or Final Reports (depending on the individual SNKE's ToRs), containing the detailed account of all work being so far done by the SNKEs in relation to the SPS, TBT and non-SPS/non-TBT NTM sub-categories that were identified, collected, classified and '<i>packaged</i>' in the respective AMSs, for verification by ARISE Plus, validation by AMSs and subsequent upload by AMSs on the ATR under the sub-categories on SPS (4.1), TBT (4.2) and non-SPS/TBT NTM (4.3 to 4.15), have been produced in either Word files or Excel spreadsheets. The documents produced by the respective SNKEs are filed as <b>ANNEXES 1 - 4</b>.</li> <li>In order to further mitigate the impact of the <i>Covid-19</i> pandemic, the SNKEs continued to hold webinars with the relevant AMSs' ATR/NTR Focal Points and competent authorities. Good progress has been achieved during the last 6 months of project implementation, both in quantitative and qualitative terms, with respect to the progressive operationalization of the ATR. In particular, Thailand completed its work in relation to the sub-category of SPS NTMs and the overall</li> </ul>

Activity 1.1.1	Supporting the Effective Implementation of the ATIGA (ATR and NTRs), including Identifying, Classifying and Notifying NTMs
	<p>number of validated non-tariff measures (NTMs) uploaded on the ATR by AMSs has grown from 1,936 in May 2020 to 3,244 in November 2020 to 3,782 in April 2021, with an additional 2,331 NTMs verified by ARISE Plus and ready for validation by 8 AMS.</p>
Problems Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good ownership has been displayed by all AMSs during the semester, at different speeds and degrees of engagement, and to a lesser degree with the Philippines and Malaysia due to the severity of the respective lockdowns and changes in Government. Significant progress was made in Thailand. In general, at the national level and in most AMSs, the ATR/NTR-related work keeps suffering from a lack of inter-ministerial coordination and delays for the unavailability of line agencies to meet and timely advance the identification and classification work. This is an area where the ability of ARISE Plus Regional to build institutional capacity is limited, but greater synergies with the ARISE Plus National Programmes are being considered and achieved (<i>e.g.</i>, the cooperation between ARISE Plus Regional and ARISE Plus Cambodia).</li> <li>• So far, the impact of the <i>Covid-19</i> pandemic has not resulted in any significant implementation problems, with all SNKEs still engaging either directly or electronically with their counterparts in the respective AMSs' Governments and with <i>Zoom/Teams/Webex/BlueJeans</i> video calls and virtual coordination meetings being regularly organized.</li> </ul>
Lessons Learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It appears that, with more AMSs having made progress and a critical mass of NTMs having been validated and uploaded onto the ATR, the other trailing AMSs have progressively displayed more ownership and engaged more effectively. A sense of '<i>competition</i>' has emerged and resulted in further progress, also as a consequence of the continuous capacity building that the ARISE Plus SNKEs have delivered to the AMSs' ATR/NTR Focal Points.</li> </ul>
Overall Result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant increase in the degree of ASEAN trade-related legislative and regulatory transparency, in line with Article 13 of the ATIGA. The process of identification, classification and '<i>packaging</i>' of the respective AMSs' SPS and TBT NTMs for upload on the ATR is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Completed</b> in Brunei (SPS), Cambodia (SPS and TBT), Indonesia (SPS and TBT, as well as non-SPS/non-TBT), Lao PDR (SPS and TBT), Malaysia (SPS), Myanmar (SPS and TBT), the Philippines (SPS), Singapore (SPS and TBT), Thailand (SPS), and Viet Nam (SPS and TBT); and</li> <li><b>Ongoing</b> (as assisted by ARISE Plus) in Cambodia (non-SPS/non-TBT NTM sub-categories), Indonesia (other non-NTMs sub-categories), Lao PDR (non-SPS/non-TBT NTM sub-categories), Malaysia (TBT), Myanmar (non-</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

SPS/non-TBT NTM sub-categories); the Philippines (TBT and non-SPS/non-TBT NTM sub-categories); and Thailand (TBT), and Viet Nam (non-SPS/TBT NTM sub-categories).

- With respect to the ATR sub-category 4 on NTMs, to date the following quantitative results have been achieved (vis-à-vis the baselines provided in the May 2018 'Mapping Reports'. It should also be recalled that all NTMs on the ATR in 2018 were not in line with the ATR methodology and the vast majority of the information was also inaccurate, incorrect or outdated). Please note that the numbers in **green** are final (i.e., validated and uploaded on the ATR):

AMS	NTMs in 2018 'Mapping Report'	Validated and Uploaded on ATR (to date)	Collected and Verifies, but not yet Validated by AMSs (to date)	Expected by 31 December 2021
BD	67	76	n.a.	> 200
KH	5	248	250	> 600
ID	0	613	0	> 800
LA	0	315	460	> 500
MY	1	105	192	> 300
MM	5	160	0	> 200
PH	176	232	275	> 600
SG	50	370	n.a.	> 500
TH	31	927	508	> 1,300
VN	1	736	401	> 1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>3,782</b>	<b>2,331</b>	<b>&gt; 6,000</b>

- Major improvements were also achieved in terms of the quality and uniformity of the information uploaded on the ATR (accessible at <https://atr.asean.org/index.php/links/search/>) and in terms of the AMSs' ATR/NTR Focal Points' understanding of the methodology, approach and requirements to progressively operationalize and maintain the ATR.

## Activity 1.1.2 Supporting the Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of the ATIGA

Activity 1.1.2 Supporting the Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of the ATIGA	
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	CCA and ASEC's TFD
Tasks Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Assisted</b>, on CCA's request, to conduct the legal assessment on the General Review of the ATIGA and to provide relevant recommendations, taking into account the on-going integration processes in ASEAN, including the newly-signed RCEP Agreement and relevant Preferential Trade Agreements (notably new generation FTAs), as well as international best practices. ARISE Plus was tasked by CCA to conduct the legal analysis and comparative benchmarking for the General Review of the ATIGA and provide progress updates and live feedback, at the CCA meetings held virtually via <i>BlueJeans</i> on 15 December 2020 and 24 March 2021, respectively.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs Delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft <i>Final Report</i> on the General Review of the ATIGA was presented to the 35<sup>th</sup> CCA meeting on 5 March 2021 and is currently undergoing the finalisation process. <u>The draft <i>Final Report</i> and related documents may not be shared to any third parties or publicized for reasons of confidentiality, as requested by CCA.</u></li> </ul>
Problems Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
Lessons Learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
Overall Result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dedicated '<i>on demand</i>' assistance was provided to the CCA in order to conduct the legal analysis and comparative benchmarking of the General Review of the ATIGA, as mandated by the AFTA Council, with the 424 pages <i>Final Report</i> submitted to CCA on 5 March 2021 and two summarized and reader-friendlier '<i>Matrixes</i>' on the full report and on the ATIGA-RCEP Comparative Analysis also submitted to CCA on 5 March 2021.</li> </ul>

## Sub-Component 1.2 Trade Facilitation and Private Sector Engagement

### Activity 1.2.1 Full Operationalisation and Management of ASSIST, Including in the Services and Investment Sectors



Activity 1.2.1 Full Operationalisation and Management of ASSIST, Including in the Services and Investment Sectors	
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	SEOM, ATF-JCC, CCA, CCA, CCI, SID, AMSs' ASSIST Focal Points, ASEC's TFD and Private Sector
Tasks Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Held</b> 1 dedicated training event ('<i>on demand</i>' by the ASEC's Services and Investment Division) on ASSIST for Trade in Goods and Trade in Services to the new ASEAN officers, as well as on the new features of ASSIST Website (<i>i.e.</i>, anonymity features, tutorials, enhanced processes, etc.). <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li><b>Provided</b> regular ('<i>on demand</i>') support to the ASEAN Secretariat (<i>i.e.</i>, ASSIST's Central Administrator) to manage the ongoing ASSIST cases (2 new cases filed between Q4 of 2020 and Q1 of 2021) and to address a multitude of technical issues (<i>i.e.</i>, procedural matters, IT glitches, dashboard management, support to AMSs, etc.). <b>Status:</b> Ongoing</li> </ul>
Outputs Delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report of Senior Expert for the Full Operationalisation and Management of ASSIST (<b>ANNEX 5</b>).</li> </ul>
Problems Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In light of the scarce utilisation of ASSIST for Trade in Goods and Trade in Services, the focus of the technical assistance by ARISE Plus shall remain on building greater awareness on ASSIST among ASEAN's private sector, particularly now that hybrid events may increasingly be held in AMSs (<i>i.e.</i>, ARISE Plus trainers joining virtually from a distance with AMSs' ASSIST Focal Points and private stakeholders physically present in conference facilities) so as to promote greater utilization of the existing systems and trade facilitation. ARISE Plus' intervention remains demand-driven and caters to AMSs' needs and initiatives.</li> <li>While the impact of the <i>Covid-19</i> pandemic has not resulted in any significant implementation problems, little demand was manifested. Support to the ASEC is still regularly being provided electronically via e-mails, <i>WhatsApp</i> and with a number of <i>Zoom</i> Video Calls and with virtual/hybrid coordination meetings being organized.</li> </ul>
Lessons Learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater awareness and continuing outreach initiatives are necessary in order for ASEAN's business sector to increase its utilization of ASSIST. The new anonymity features continued to play a positive role in increasing the rate of ASSIST utilization and should continue to be further socialized among ASEAN's private sector, representative organizations and lawyer/law firms. The Toolkits that were developed and translated into all ASEAN languages other than English, should now allow for greater reach by AMSs' Governments within their respective</li> </ul>



<b>Activity 1.2.1</b>	<b>Full Operationalisation and Management of ASSIST, Including in the Services and Investment Sectors</b>
	domestic business constituencies. ARISE Plus remains committed to support ASEAN vis-à-vis ASSIST, ‘on demand’.
<b>Overall Result to-date</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 new cases were filed during the period and were timely and properly dealt with by the ASEC and the responding AMSs.</li> </ul>

#### Activity 1.2.2 Supporting the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee

<b>Activity 1.2.2</b>	<b>Supporting the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries Engaged</b>	ATF-JCC; ASEC’s DSG for AEC; ASEC’s TFD; SEOM; CCA; CCC; TWFG; ASW-SC; ACCSQ; AMSs and Private Sector
<b>Tasks Status</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Prepared</b>, submitted and discussed with the ATF-JCC a progress report by means of a PowerPoint Presentation on all the trade facilitation support provided by ARISE Plus in 2020 and the way forward in 2021 at the ATF-JCC meeting held virtually on Webex on 21 January 2021.</li> <li><b>Further supported</b> the Pilot Phase of the operationalization of the “ePlatform for Consultations with the Private Sector”, which is available at <a href="https://e-platform.asean.org/login">https://e-platform.asean.org/login</a> (available only to the Actors endorsed by the ATF-JCC and invited by the ASEC). IT support was also provided by ARISE Plus in order to address several glitches and access problems.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
<b>Outputs Delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
<b>Problems Encountered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In light of the <i>Covid-19</i> pandemic, the ATF-JCC meeting took again place virtually and further delays affected the 5<sup>th</sup> Roundtable Discussion on Trade Facilitation (RDOnTF), which was planned back-to-back with the ATF-JCC’s meetings. The ceremony to formally launch the “ePlatform for Consultations with the Private Sector” shall hopefully take place in 2021 in Viet Nam, while a number of other RDOnTFs shall take place in 2021 on issues ranging from the Legal Review of the ATIGA, to NTMs Streamlining, to addressing NTBs and supporting the private sector, as per the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Work-Plan of ARISE Plus.</li> </ul>
<b>Lessons Learnt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
<b>Overall Result to-date</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The various ASEAN trade facilitation initiatives being supported by ARISE Plus (i.e., “ATR/NTRs progressive operationalization”, the holding</li> </ul>

of “Roundtable Discussions on Trade Facilitation” particularly on the implementation of the “NTMs Guidelines”, the socialization of “ASSIST”, and the roll-out of the “e-Platform for Consultations with the Private Sector”) are progressing smoothly and the results achieved through the assistance provided by ARISE Plus have been endorsed and referenced by ASEAN at ATF-JCC and SEOM level.

### Activity 1.2.3 Strengthening Public-Private Cooperation

Activity 1.2.3 Strengthening Public-Private Cooperation	
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	ABAC, EABC, ATF-JCC, ASEC
Tasks Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Coordinated</b> with ASEAN’s private sector, particularly within the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC), the EU-ASEAN Business Advisory Council (EABC), and the ASEC’s Trade Facilitation Division in order to advance the private sector engagement with ASEAN institutions, notably with respect to the implementation of the <i>NTMs Guidelines</i>, the use of <i>ASSIST</i>, the creation of awareness on the <i>ATR</i>, and the launch of the “e-Platform for Consultations with the Private Sector”.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs Delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
Problems Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The impact of the <i>Covid-19</i> pandemic has reduced the opportunities for ARISE Plus to access high-level events organized by ABAC (<i>i.e.</i>, ABIS or other regular ABAC meetings), as well as EUABC events and selected AMSS’ business organizations’ gatherings, such as VCCI in Viet Nam, Kadin in Indonesia, FTI in Thailand, and EuroCham events in AMSS. As a consequence, fewer outreach events were held and ARISE Plus slowed down in its drive to create awareness on its flagship tools catering to the private sector.</li> </ul>
Lessons Learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greater use of social media, in cooperation with the ASEAN Secretariat and with selected partner organizations within ASEAN’s private sector (<i>e.g.</i>, ABAC and EUABC, as well as AMSS’ business associations and EuroCham chapters) and increased recourse to hybrid events in AMSS now that the <i>Covid-19</i> pandemic appears to show signs of improvement with the vaccine roll-out, are being piloted in order to compensate the fewer outreach opportunities.</li> </ul>
Overall Result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASEAN’s private sector has been systematically engaged for purposes of creating greater awareness on and utilization of <i>ASSIST</i>, for purposes of increasing its consultations with the relevant ASEAN sectoral bodies,</li> </ul>

	<p>primarily within the ATF-JCC and through the informal Roundtable Discussions on Trade Facilitation (see Activity 1.2.2).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <i>ePlatform for Consultations with Private Sector</i> was fully operationalized and has seen very promising utilization by ABAC and the Joint Business Councils, with several consultations started and properly engaged by ASEAN Institutions.</li> </ul>
--	--

### Activity 1.3.1 General Review of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA)

Activity 1.3.1	General Review of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA)
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	CCA, AMSs, ASEC
Tasks Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Conceptualized</b>, researched, drafted and submitted to the CCA on 5 March 2021 the draft <i>Final Report</i> for the legal analysis and comparative benchmarking of the ATIGA for purposes of the General Review of the ATIGA, in line with the ToRs given by the AFTA Council, the CCA and the ASEC, as well as the comments made by AMSs and ASEC in bilateral discussions and during previous CCA meetings. The 424-page draft <i>Final Report</i>, was presented to the CCA on 24 March 2021 and is currently undergoing the finalisation process. The focus of the draft <i>Final Report</i> was placed, as requested by ASEAN, on the legal review and comparative benchmarking of the ATIGA in light of all relevant ASEAN developments, the applicable WTO/WCO obligations, the relevant Preferential Trade Agreements (particularly the ‘<i>new generation</i>’ FTAs), and the specific obligations/commitments under the recently-concluded RCEP Agreement. <u>The draft <i>Final Report</i> may not be circulated for reasons of confidentiality, as mandated by AMSs within the CCA.</u></li> <li><b>Prepared</b>, ‘<i>on demand</i>’ by the CCA, two summarized and reader-friendly ‘<i>Matrixes</i>’ on the full report and on the ATIGA-RCEP Comparative Analysis, which were also submitted to CCA on 5 March 2021. <u>The ‘<i>Matrixes</i>’ of the draft <i>Final Report</i> on the General Review of the ATIGA and on the ATIGA-RCEP Comparative Analysis may not be circulated for reasons of confidentiality, as mandated by AMSs within the CCA.</u></li> <li><b>Participated</b>, ‘<i>on demand</i>’ by the Governments of Brunei Darussalam (one event), Cambodia (one event), Indonesia (three events), Lao PDR (one event), Malaysia (one event), the Philippines (one event) and Singapore (one event), to the dedicated bilateral discussions and consultations on various iterations of the <i>Interim Report</i> and of the draft <i>Final Report</i> on the General Review of the ATIGA. Written comments were also provided by Cambodia and Thailand for discussions at CCA. <u>The SNKE Reports on the meetings held with AMSs</u></li> </ul>

Activity 1.3.1 General Review of the ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (ATIGA)	
	<p><u>with respect the General Review of the ATIGA may not be circulated for reasons of confidentiality, as mandated by AMSs within the CCA.</u></p> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs Delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The draft <i>Final Report</i> on the General Review of the ATIGA was submitted and presented to the CCA on 5 March 2021, respectively. It received the praise of several AMSs and the Chair of the CCA, as well as of the ASEC for its scope, comprehensiveness and depth of analysis. In order to assist AMSs to analyse it and factor it into their discussions and deliberation on the General Review of the ATIGA, given the massive size of the draft <i>Final Report</i> (i.e., 424 pages), a ‘<i>Matrix</i>’ was prepared to summarize the key analytical sections, conclusions and recommendations, as well as a dedicated one just on the ATIGA-RCEP comparative analysis.</li> </ul>
Problems Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <i>Covid-19</i> pandemic prevented the physical convening of two regional workshops that would have allowed the socialization and discussion of the <i>Interim and Final Reports</i> among all AMSs and the ASEC. As a consequence, the planned ‘<i>high-level peer review</i>’ has also been scrapped. In order to mitigate the impact of <i>Covid-19</i>, ARISE Plus has offered AMSs to hold ‘<i>on demand</i>’ bilateral webinars where AMSs could discuss the <i>Interim and Final Reports</i> at individual AMS level with ARISE Plus and ASEC. These formats proved very useful and effective.</li> </ul>
Lessons Learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
Overall Result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>

### Activity 1.3.2 Supporting the Implementation of the NTMs Guidelines

Activity 1.3.2 Supporting the Implementation of the NTMs Guidelines	
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	ACCC, SEOM, ACCSQ, AMSs’ Regulators
Tasks Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
Outputs Delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>
Problems Encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N.A.</li> </ul>



Activity 1.3.2 Supporting the Implementation of the NTMs Guidelines	
Lessons Learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N.A.</li></ul>
Overall Result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• N.A.</li></ul>



## Component 2.0: Standards and Conformity Assessment in Particular Healthcare and Agro-based Product

***Expected outcome: Harmonisation of regulatory regimes in food safety and pharmaceuticals in ASEAN***

### Sub-Component 2.1 Supporting the Development of Quality Infrastructure and Related Policies in ASEAN

#### Activity 2.1.1 Supporting ACCSQ to Implement the ACCSQ Strategic Plan for Standards and Conformance

Activity 2.1.1	Supporting ACCSQ to Implement the ACCSQ Strategic Plan for Standards and Conformance
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ACCSQ, Product Working Groups under ACCSQ and Regulatory Agencies in ASEAN.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	Develop proposals for ASEC on cooperation arrangements including meetings between ACCSQ representatives and CEN-CENELEC Management Centre officials and study visits. <b>Status:</b> Ongoing
Outputs delivered	N.A.
Problems encountered	The on-going travel restrictions due to COVID -19 has delayed the activity with CEN-CENELEC, discussions are ongoing to develop virtual participation in events and discussions between ACCSQ and CEN/CENELEC.
Lessons learnt	N.A.
Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communications between CEN-CENELEC Management Centre (CCMC) and ACCSQ facilitated by ARISE Plus are on-going.</li> </ul>

**Activity 2.1.4 Transposing National Commitments into National legislation**

Activity 2.1.4 Transposing National Commitments into National legislation	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	Myanmar Electrical and Electronic Equipment Safety Authorities and Joint Sectoral Committee Electrical and Electronic Equipment MRA.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support to Myanmar in the development of its Electrical and Electronic Safety Regulations to support participation in the ASEAN Harmonised Electrical and Electronic Equipment Regulatory Regime (AHEEERR), and Myanmar's implementation of the EEE MRA.</li><li><b>Status:</b> On Hold</li></ul>
Outputs delivered	<b>ANNEX 6</b>
Problems encountered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As per 6<sup>th</sup> six-monthly report.</li></ul>
Lessons learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As per 6<sup>th</sup> six-monthly report.</li></ul>
Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As per 6<sup>th</sup> six-monthly report.</li></ul>

**Sub-Component 2.2 Supporting the Harmonisation of Standards and Compliance to International Standards****Activity 2.2.1 Supporting Harmonisation of Standards**

Activity 2.2.1 Supporting Harmonisation of Standards	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ACCSQ Working Group 1 on Standards, Product working groups, National Standards Bodies in Member States, and regulatory agencies in Member States.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Following consultations with Working Group 1 a detailed proposal to update the ASEAN Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Standards has been developed. This has been accepted and WG 1 and ACCSQ and further discussions to finalise are proposed.</li></ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>

Activity 2.2.1 Supporting Harmonisation of Standards	
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans and programme for a workshop on updating the ASEAN Guidelines for the Harmonisation of Standards to be conducted in Q2 2021. <b>(ANNEX 7)</b></li> </ul>
Problems encountered	N.A.
Lessons learnt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that ACCSQ has a keen interest in the work and future discussions/workshops to include ACCSQ representatives.</li> </ul>
Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposal to update the ASEAN Guidelines for the Harmonization of Standards has been accepted by WG 1 and ACCSQ.</li> </ul>

### Sub-Component 2.3 Supporting the Market Integration and Enhancing Food Safety in Agro-based Sector

#### Activity 2.3.1 Developing and Implementing a Regulatory Framework for Food Safety

Activity 2.3.1 Developing and Implementing a Regulatory Framework for Food Safety	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	PFPWG, Health Cluster 4, ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on crops, fisheries and livestock.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<p>The work on the drafting of the ASEAN Food Safety Regulatory Framework Agreement (AFSRF Agreement) has been completed.</p> <p>The ASEAN Secretariat is awaiting formal acceptance of the final version of the AFSRF Agreement for the signing to proceed.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs delivered	N.A.
Problems encountered	N.A.
Lessons learnt	N.A.
Overall result to-date	The final draft of the ASEAN Food Safety Regulatory Framework Agreement (AFSRF Agreement) is now awaiting national domestic clearance for the signing to take place.



**Activity 2.3.2 Implementing the MRA on Inspection and Certification Systems of Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuffs**

<b>Activity 2.3.2 Implementing the MRA on Inspection and Certification Systems of Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuffs</b>	
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	Prepared Foodstuffs Product Working Group (PFPWG), the Joint Sector Committee for the MRA on Food Hygiene and Member States' food safety regulators.
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<p>The first module for training to prepare approved experts who will conduct evaluations of ASEAN Member State food safety Systems A Programme was delivered on April 7 to 9 2021. The second and final module has been planned for September 2021.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <p>Gap Analysis for food safety systems conducted in requesting Member States (Philippines, Cambodia) has been initiated and is ongoing. Due to travel restrictions, this will be done remotely.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First Training module for training 39 Food Safety Officials from Member States.</li></ul>
<b>Problems encountered</b>	Following discussions on the programme for the training and reviewing the background of the potential trainees, it was decided that the training should include basic information on the MRA and its Annexes more extensively. Thus, it was decided that the training be in 2 modules. The training programme & arrangements were additionally adjusted in order that the training could be delivered through a video-conference facility. <b>(ANNEX 8)</b>
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	It was noted that ASEAN Officials participating in the training would benefit from additional training on management systems auditing and it is recommended that they attend such training in preparation for undertaking the evaluation work as required under the MRA.
<b>Overall result to-date</b>	Training 39 Food Safety Officials from Member States on inspection and certification systems of food hygiene for prepared food products has been delivered to familiarise the experts with the details of the MRA and on the plans for implementation.

**Activity 2.3.3 Supporting the ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety**

Activity 2.3.3 Supporting the ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre (ARAC) for Food Safety	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ARAC, ASEAN Health Cluster 4 (Ensuring Food Safety), ASEAN Food Safety Regulators.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Following discussions, concept notes proposing 3 activities for the ARAC and ASEAN Health Cluster 4 (AHC4) and have been developed and are in process of endorsement by AHC 4 for implementation:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Capacity Building in the development of Risk Profiles with the concurrent Development of a Risk Profile of Leafy Vegetables</li><li>Arrangement for sharing of information on risk assessment in ASEAN</li><li>Preliminary Work - Review of ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety (ARAC) for enhancing governance.</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing <b>(ANNEX 9)</b></p>
Outputs delivered	N.A.
Problems encountered	N.A.
Lessons learnt	N.A.

Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Proposals for commencement of work developing risk profile for leafy vegetables, enhancing exchange of information on risk assessment and the enhancement of governance of ARAC.</li></ul>
------------------------	--

**Activity 2.3.5 Establishing Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (RASFF) in Member States and integrating them in the ASEAN Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (ARASFF)**

Activity 2.3.5 Establishing Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (RASFF) in Member States and integrating them in the ASEAN Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (ARASFF)	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ARASFF Steering Committee, PFPWG, ASEAN Health Cluster 4 and the authorities responsible for food safety and agriculture in Member States.
Tasks status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Support for identified AMS in developing a national RASFF has been implemented through remotely through on line discussion, review of</li></ul>

Activity 2.3.5 Establishing Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (RASFF) in Member States and integrating them in the ASEAN Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (ARASFF)	
(ongoing, completed)	<p>documents and development of recommendations. Plans to initiate or support to Vietnam.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Status:</b> Ongoing</li> <li>• Following the workshop held on November 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, the ASEAN Guidelines for Traceability for Food and Feed have been completed and endorsed by ARASFF National Contact Points.</li> <li>• Presentations on the ASEAN Guidelines for Traceability for Food and Feed and its application were made at the <i>Capacity Building on Rapid Response in Food Safety Issues and Crisis phase II</i> organised for ASEAN Member States On 16 October 2020.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Completed <b>(ANNEX 10)</b></p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsed version of the <i>ASEAN Guideline on the Traceability System for Food and Feed</i>.</li> <li>• Training Delivered at the <i>Capacity Building on Rapid Response in Food Safety Issues and Crisis phase II</i> event for ASEAN Officials.</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	N.A.
Lessons learnt	N.A.
Overall result to-date	<p>The ASEAN Guidelines for Traceability for Food and Feed have been approved by SOM-AMAF on 26 February 2021 through ad-referendum and are awaiting formal endorsement by ASEAN Agriculture Ministers in October 2021. This will support the implementation of national and regional food and feed alert systems to facilitate recalls when there are food safety concerns. The ASEAN Guideline is included as one of activity under the Implementation Plan of ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>

### Activity 2.3.6 Strengthening ASEAN Cooperation on Organic Agriculture

Activity 2.3.6 Strengthening ASEAN Cooperation on Organic Agriculture	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	<p>The Experts Working Group on Organic Agriculture (EWG-OA), the ASEAN Sectoral Working Groups on Crops, and Working Group 2 of the ACCSQ.</p>

Activity 2.3.6 Strengthening ASEAN Cooperation on Organic Agriculture	
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The development of the Organic Agriculture MRA, the associated ASEAN Organic Agriculture Certification Scheme and ASEAN Organic Mark has progressed significantly. Currently the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft of the MRA and the associated documents are under review by Member States authorities. These drafts were developed following a <u>workshop held on Jan26-27, 2021</u> and reflect the significant consensus that has been achieved.</li> <li><b>Status</b> Ongoing</li> </ul>
Outputs delivered	Third draft versions of Organic Agriculture MRA, and the ASEAN Organic Agriculture Certification Scheme and the proposed ASEAN Organic Mark reflecting a high level of consensus have been developed. <b>(ANNEXES 11 – 13)</b>
Problems encountered	The intended finalisation of the MRA could not be achieved as there were substantial new issues raised by a Member State requiring changes to the text and consideration by other Member States developed.
Lessons learnt	N.A.

Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Third Draft versions of Organic Agriculture MRA, and the ASEAN Organic Agriculture Certification Scheme and a proposal for the ASEAN Organic Mark developed and for review by Member States' authorities.</li> </ul>
------------------------	---

#### Activity 2.3.7 Training in Food Safety

Activity 2.3.7 Training in Food Safety	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ASEAN Health Cluster 4, Food Safety Regulatory Agencies in ASEAN Member States ASEAN Consumers and Universities.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of a training course on <u>Food Borne Disease Outbreaks</u> and pilot delivery of the training course for ASEAN Member State's authorities responsible for food Safety and Health on 22-29 April 2021).</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of training modules and delivery on a pilot basis for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk-Based Food Inspection Approach and Certification at the Regional Level</li> <li>Capacity Building on Food Hygiene for the officials of food authorities.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Activity 2.3.7 Training in Food Safety	
	<p>The training material for the 2 courses is substantially developed and planning for delivery in Q2 of 2021 is ongoing.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with ASEAN to deliberate on the establishment of an education and training platform on food safety.</li> </ul> <p>Status: A draft proposal has been developed for ASEAN Health Cluster 4.</p> <p><b>(ANNEXES 14 – 16)</b></p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and delivery of a training course on <u>Food Borne Disease Outbreaks</u> and pilot or ASEAN Member State's authorities responsible for food Safety and Health on 22-29 April 2021.</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	<p>The work on the development of the training modules has been delayed as the selected experts are based in Europe and could not travel to the region.</p>
Lessons learnt	<p>N.A.</p>
Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Training on Food Borne Disease Outbreaks</u> for ASEAN Member State's authorities responsible for food Safety and Health on 22-29 April 2021</li> <li>• Concept note for coordinated training network on food safety has been presented to ASEAN Health Cluster 4 for its consideration.</li> </ul>

### Activity 2.3.8 Harmonised Nutritional Labelling Requirements

Activity 2.3.8 Harmonised Nutritional Labelling Requirements	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	<p>Prepared Foodstuffs Working Group (PPWG), ASEAN Committee on Harmonisation of Prepared Foodstuffs Standards (ACHPFS).</p>
Task status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Organise and conduct</b> a workshop Nutritional Reference Values (NRVs) for ACHPFS with an objective of exchanging information on current practices issues and exploring methods for harmonising NRVs in the context of developing harmonised nutritional labelling for ASEAN.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions were held with ASEAN Secretariat and the lead Member States (Malaysia) representatives to design and develop a two day workshop for Food Regulators and Nutrition Experts from Member States.</li> <li>• The plan and programme for the workshop was developed and it was decided that the workshop be held on May 31 to June 01, 2021.</li> </ul>

Activity 2.3.8 Harmonised Nutritional Labelling Requirements	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ANNEX 17</b></li> </ul>
Problems encountered	N.A.
Lessons learnt	The workshop was organised upon a special request from ACHPFS. The previous interventions were aimed harmonise nutritional labelling and it was recognised that there were fundamental differences in Member States in methods for the determination of nutritional reference values and their application in labelling. There was a need to establish a common understanding on NRVs, before progress could be made in harmonisation of nutritional labelling.
Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The workshop was designed and planned as per requirements of ACHPFS.</li> </ul>

## Sub-Component 2.4 Support to the Pharmaceutical Sector

### Activity 2.4.1 Strengthening the Pharmaceuticals Regulatory Framework

Activity 2.4.1 Strengthening the Pharmaceuticals Regulatory Framework	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	Pharmaceutical Product Working Group (PPWG), ASEAN Health Cluster 3 (AHC 3) under the ASEAN Health Ministers, Health Division and the Standards and Conformance Division of the ASEAN Secretariat.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Policy (APRP) and the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework continued with two workshops held, development of the first drafts of the APRF.</li> <li>Following discussions with ASEAN Secretariat and decision by PPWG, AHC 3 formally agreed to collaborate in the development of the APRF.</li> <li>The first drafts of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Policy (APRP) and the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework (APRF) were circulated to Member States representatives to the PPWG and AHC 3, following the roadmap leading the conclusion of the APRF Agreement.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A workshop for PPWG Members on the proposed ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework was held on December 08, 2020 (Video Conference facility)</li> </ul>

Activity 2.4.1 Strengthening the Pharmaceuticals Regulatory Framework	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Drafts of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Policy (APRP) and the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework (APRF)</li> <li>A Workshop held for PPWG and AHC 3 on the APRP and the APRF on April 22-23, 2021 (Video Conference facility)</li> <li>A Roadmap for the development of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework Agreement developed and adopted.</li> </ul> <p><b>(ANNEX 18)</b></p>
Problems encountered	N.A.
Lessons learnt	Effective deliberation through video conference facilities has proven to be a viable means for developing the policy and framework documents.

Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first drafts of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Policy and Framework have been developed and deliberated by PPWG and AHC 3 Members.</li> <li>Effective collaboration of the Economic and Health sectors in ASEAN has been achieved in the development of the APRF, enabling the agreement that is planned to be developed to be agreed by the Economic and Health Ministers.</li> <li>A Roadmap towards the development of the final target of the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework Agreement has been adopted.</li> </ul>
------------------------	--

#### Activity 2.4.2 ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for Bioequivalence (BE) Study Reports of Generic Medicinal Products

Activity 2.4.2 ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for Bioequivalence (BE) Study Reports of Generic Medicinal Products	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	Pharmaceutical Product Working Group (PPWG) ASEAN Member States Drug Regulatory Agencies.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first module of the training for Courses conducted for identified ASEAN Officials to prepare the officials to conduct evaluations of Bioequivalence Centres who seek recognition under the MRA was concluded. Plans are in place for development of the second and third modules of the training.</li> <li><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</li> </ul>



<b>Activity 2.4.2</b>	<b>ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for Bioequivalence (BE) Study Reports of Generic Medicinal Products</b>
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASEAN Officials have undergone the first module of the training to undertake evaluation of Bioequivalence Centres Workshop on Falsified Medicines (March 22 to March 25 2021). <b>(ANNEXES 19 – 20)</b></li> </ul>
<b>Problems encountered</b>	Preparatory work was undertaken by the ARISE Plus experts, however the physical delivery of the course was not possible due to the COVID travel and Visa restriction. The training was redesigned to be delivered through video conference facility and a new dates set for the training.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	N.A.
<b>Overall result to-date</b>	The first of the planned 3 modules of the programme of training of evaluators for the BE MRA with has been delivered to ASEAN Officials.

#### Activity 2.4.3 ASEAN Pharmaceuticals Testing Laboratories Committee (APTLC)

<b>Activity 2.4.3</b>	<b>ASEAN Pharmaceuticals Testing Laboratories Committee</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	Pharmaceutical Product Working Group (PPWG), ASEAN Member States Drug Regulators.
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<p>Work in assisting the representatives from Official Pharmaceuticals Laboratories to develop its priorities and action plans and elaborate its role in the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework.</p> <p>A proposal listing priority initial initiatives and activities for the APTLC was developed on request of the APTLC presented at the first meeting held on 16 October 2021.</p> <p>Preparatory work on a workshop to deliberate on a work plan of action for the APTLC members is ongoing.</p> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	Proposed priorities and plans for the operationalisation of the APTLC. <b>(ANNEX 21)</b>
<b>Problems encountered</b>	N.A.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	N.A.





<b>Overall result to-date</b>	Priority activities have been identified through consultation with APTLC for the development of its first action plan.
-------------------------------	--

#### Activity 2.4.4 Combatting Falsified Medicines in ASEAN

<b>Activity 2.4.4</b>	<b>Combatting Falsified Medicines in ASEAN</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	Pharmaceutical Product Working Group, ASEAN Health Cluster 3, ASEAN Drug Regulators.
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This activity is on hold. ASEAN Health Cluster 3 has indicated interest and follow-up is planned in the 4<sup>th</sup> ARISE Plus Work Plan period.</li> </ul>
<b>Problems encountered</b>	N.A.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	N.A.

<b>Overall result to-date</b>	N.A.
-------------------------------	------

#### Activity 2.4.5 On Demand support for updating and existing harmonised technical requirements for pharmaceuticals

<b>Activity 2.4.5</b>	<b>On Demand support for updating and existing harmonised technical requirements for pharmaceuticals</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	Pharmaceutical Product Working Group, ASEAN National Drug Regulatory Agencies (NDRAs).
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	This activity is on hold due to lack of beneficiary demand.
<b>Problems encountered</b>	N.A.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	N.A.

<b>Overall result to-date</b>	N.A.
-------------------------------	------



## Component 3.0: Customs, Transport and ACTS

***Expected outcome: Enhanced harmonisation of the customs, transport and logistics systems in ASEAN.***

### Sub-component 3.1 Customs Measures

#### Activity 3.1.1 Supporting Enhancement of Customs Clearance Procedures (SPCD 04)

Activity 3.1.1 Supporting Enhancement of Customs Clearance Procedures (SPCD 04)	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ASEAN Customs Directors-General; Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC) and its Working Groups; the Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB); the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA). ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Joint Business Councils, EU ASEAN Business Council, ASEAN Secretariat.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The main focus of this activity is to support initiatives for the facilitation of Customs clearance of multi-modal transport consignments. There is a cross-cutting element between Customs, ACTS and Transport sectors, as set out in activities included below in this report.</li><li>ARISE Plus has previously developed a concept note for proposed follow-on support for the enhancement of Customs clearance procedures that relate in part to multi-modal transport. This concept note has been shared with counterpart personnel in the Customs Unit in the ASEAN Secretariat, and with ASEAN Member States (AMS) in the Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group (CPTFWG).</li><li>This activity includes the development and distribution of a survey for Customs Authorities to establish how multi-modal transport consignments are currently processed in ASEAN.</li></ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing.</p>
Outputs delivered	<p>The concept note for proposed support for this activity is attached to this report (<b>ANNEX 22</b>).</p> <p>The draft questionnaire for Customs Authorities is attached to this report (<b>ANNEX 23</b>).</p> <p>The interim expert report and annexes is attached to this report (<b>ANNEX 24</b>).</p>

Activity 3.1.1 Supporting Enhancement of Customs Clearance Procedures (SPCD 04)	
Problems encountered	The complexity of the cross-cutting issues between Customs and Transport counterpart sectors has caused some delay in formal endorsement of the activity.
Lessons learnt	An in-depth assessment of prior and ongoing AMS activities is beneficial in the provision of effective technical support.
Overall result to-date	ARISE Plus has provided a detailed framework, based on international standards, of the basis for the most effective Customs clearance methodologies of multimodal transport consignments.

### Activity 3.1.2 Supporting Customs Partnership with Business and the Trading Community (SPCD 06)

Activity 3.1.2 Supporting Customs Partnership with Business and the Trading Community	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ASEAN Secretariat; ASEAN Customs Directors-General; Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC) and its Working Groups; the Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB); the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA). ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Joint Business Councils, EU ASEAN Business Council.
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previously ARISE Plus has developed a concept note along with an explanatory slide-show presentation, accompanied by a series of questionnaires for the target groups involved. In conjunction with the ASEC Customs Division these questionnaires have been distributed to the public and private sector groups involved in Customs partnership.</li> <li>ARISE Plus has analysed the replies to the questionnaires, and has produced a final report with annexes at <b>ANNEX 25</b> to this report.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Complete</p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replies to the questionnaires have been analysed for the main regional and national bodies with a role in business partnerships.</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	The number of completed replies received to the questionnaires was relatively low.
Lessons learnt	An in-depth assessment of prior and on-going AMS activities is beneficial in the provision of effective technical support. Cross-cutting issues of Customs partnership with business may be more effectively continued with other groups such as the ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee (ATF-JCC).

<b>Overall result to-date</b>	ARISE Plus has proposed clear way forward in support of this activity, with a view to enhancing the way ASEAN Customs Authorities manage partnerships with business and the trading community.
-------------------------------	--

#### Activity 3.1.4 Supporting Customs Enforcement and Mutual Assistance Processes (SPCD09)

<b>Activity 3.1.4</b>	<b>Supporting Customs Enforcement and Mutual Assistance Processes (SPCD09)</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Customs Directors-General; Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC) and its Working Groups; the Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB); the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA). ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Joint Business Councils, EU ASEAN Business Council ASEAN Secretariat.
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial analysis has been carried out of the relevant ASEAN Strategic Plan of Customs Development (SPCD 09) on Customs Enforcement and Mutual Assistance, with Brunei as country coordinator.</li> <li>Analysis has been carried out of the existing mutual assistance and information sharing systems in ASEAN, as developed by the World Customs Organisation (WCO).</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Stopped, may be continued on a demand basis.</p>
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	None
<b>Problems encountered</b>	Delays encountered, because of the advent of the COVID-19 virus, which has had serious effect in delaying ARISE Plus support for this activity. Further, in view of the sensitive nature of issues involved in enforcement and mutual assistance, it would not be advisable to hold virtual workshops to pursue this activity. As a result ARISE Plus proposes to discontinue support for this activity in the current environment of the virus pandemic. Future support will be possible based on demand from AMS. Once virus restrictions have been lifted and it is possible to hold in-person workshops.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	Careful planning and assessment of counterpart needs are essential to the delivery of sound technical assistance activities, for the benefit of counterpart sectors.

<b>Overall result to-date</b>	Analysis of current mutual assistance and information sharing methods between ASEAN Customs Authorities.
-------------------------------	--

### Activity 3.1.5 Assistance to Narrowing the Development Gap in Customs (SPCD 13)

Activity 3.1.5 Assistance to Narrowing the Development Gap in Customs (SPCD 13)	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Customs Directors-General, Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC) and its Working Groups, the Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB).
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the context of the gap analysis carried out by ARISE Plus under a previous work plan, it was recommended that additional support is to be provided under this SPCD for post-clearance audit functions (PCA), and integrity.</li> <li>A concept note on proposed ARISE Plus support for Customs integrity has been developed, and distributed for comments to AMS. These comments have been incorporated into the concept note, which is attached to the expert final report at <b>ANNEX 26</b> to this report.</li> <li>A workshop on integrity has been proposed based on the concept note and discussions with AMS.</li> <li>With the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, AMS requested additional time to study the plans, as well as the date of the integrity workshop.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Stopped, may be continued on a demand basis.</p>
Outputs delivered	A concept note has been prepared, and AMS comments received and incorporated, on proposed methodology, content and timing for the support for the implementation of this SPCD.
Problems encountered	The proposed workshop has been postponed due to the advent of the COVID-19 virus pandemic. Further, in view of the sensitive nature of the issues involved in discussion of integrity issues, it would not be advisable to hold virtual workshops to pursue this activity. As a result ARISE Plus proposes to discontinue support for this activity in the current environment of the virus pandemic. Future support will be possible based on demand from AMS, once virus restrictions have been lifted and it is possible to hold in-person workshops.
Lessons learnt	It is challenging for AMS Customs Authorities with limited manpower resources to allocate the necessary staff participate in multiple technical support activities at the same time, leading to delays in implementation.
Overall result to-date	The initial preparatory stages to the provision of ARISE Plus support for this activity have been arranged, which will improve the way Customs Authorities deal with integrity-related issues in providing trusted services to relevant stakeholders in Customs and Excise fields.

## Sub-component 3.2 Transport Measures

### **Activity 3.2.1 Operationalising the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) and the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Inter-State Transport (AFAFIST)**

<b>Activity 3.2.1</b>	<b>Operationalising the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) and the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Inter-State Transport (AFAFIST)</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB), National Transit Transport Coordinating Committees (NTTCC), ASEAN Senior Transport Officials (STOM), ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group and ASEAN Secretariat; the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA), ASEAN Council of Bureau (COB).
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The main catalyst for operationalising the AFAFGIT is the implementation of the ACTS system in the region. The live-run phase C of the ACTS Pilot pilot has been successfully completed, and ACTS is now running on a live operational basis in six Participating Member States (PMS), namely Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.</li><li>• The legal framework for ACTS is now fully in place.</li><li>• A successful virtual ACTS launch event was held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020, and awareness and visibility activities are ongoing.</li><li>• ARISE Plus initial scoping work on development of the AFAFIST procedural manuals for the public and private sector is ongoing.</li></ul> <b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ARISE Plus has developed a concept note describing the differences between AFAFGIT and AFAFIST, for the consideration of members of of the ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG).</li><li>• Preparatory analysis has been carried out of the scope of the AFAFIST Procedural manuals, to be developed by ARISE Plus.</li><li>• Proposals have been made to ASEAN Member States for consideration of the Sub Working Group of the Customs Procedures and Trade Facilitation Working Group (CPTFWG) on ACTS (SWG-ACTS) and the Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG) to upgrade ACTS functionality with the development of a Transport Monitoring System (TMS) which would facilitate the full operationalisation of both AFAFGIT and AFAFIST.</li><li>• Analysis meetings of the TMS have been carried out with ASEAN Member States and transport experts from ASEC and TFWG. More detailed are presented under the ACTS system enhancement activity late in this report.</li></ul>

<b>Activity 3.2.1</b> Operationalising the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Goods in Transit (AFAFGIT) and the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Inter-State Transport (AFAFIST)	
<b>Problems encountered</b>	The ACTS implementation schedule has been delayed due to the interruptions to cross-border movement of goods caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam have encountered last-minute difficulties in implementing the necessary supporting Customs and transport legislation at national level to support cross-border movement of vehicles carrying goods-in-transit.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	Senior level Government commitment in ASEAN Member States is vital if complex project such as ACTS are to succeed.
<b>Overall result to-date</b>	ACTS has been successfully implemented on a pilot basis in the six Participating Member States, and at regional level in ACTS Central Services based in ASEC in Jakarta, Indonesia. ACTS has now been successfully implemented on a live operational basis.

**Activity 3.2.2 Supporting implementation of the Action Plan for the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multi Modal Transport (AFAMT)**

<b>Activity 3.2.2</b> Supporting implementation of the Action Plan for the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multi Modal Transport (AFAMT)	
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB), National Transit Transport Coordinating Committees (NTTCC), ASEAN Senior Transport Officials (STOM), ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group and ASEAN Secretariat; the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA).
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In support of the implementation of AFAMT, ARISE Plus is performing support activities for the execution of a pilot exercise for the implementation of AFAMT.</li><li>• ARISE Plus has analysed the situation of the AFAMT pilot execution and has developed a report on the current status of the pilot, annexed to this report at <b>ANNEX 27</b>.</li><li>• Previously ARISE Plus has produced a Feasibility Study (FS) of introducing transit and ACTS measures in the facilitation of multimodal transport operations in ASEAN, including a concept note on follow-on activities recommended in the FS.</li><li>• The immediate follow-on activity proposed by ARISE Plus in the FS is to develop a survey with Multimodal Transport Operators (MTOs) and national freight forwarders in AMS to gather relevant data and estimates on multimodal transport in ASEAN.</li></ul>



Activity 3.2.2 Supporting implementation of the Action Plan for the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Multi Modal Transport (AFAMT)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The interim report of ARISE Plus and annexes is at <b>ANNEX 28 - 29</b> to this report.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A pilot execution of AFAMT and lessons learned.</li> <li>A strategy proposing how transit in general and ACTS in particular can be enhanced to handle multimodal transport operations.</li> <li>A draft initial survey on the expansion of ACTS to handle multimodal transport with MTOs.</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	Some difficulties have been encountered in obtaining the necessary background information.
Lessons learnt	Coordination between public and private sector groups, and between Customs Authorities and Government transport agencies is essential for AFAMT to be effectively implemented.
Overall result to-date	ARISE Plus support has provided a solid basis for the implementation of AFAMT which has started with a Pilot between Thailand and Vietnam.

### Activity 3.2.3 Supporting the Implementation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of the Cross-Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicles (ASEAN-CBTP)

Activity 3.2.3 Supporting the Implementation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of the Cross-Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicles (ASEAN-CBTP)	
Main Beneficiaries engaged	ASEAN Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB), National Transit Transport Coordinating Committees (NTTCC), ASEAN Senior Transport Officials (STOM), ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group and ASEAN Secretariat; ASEAN Council of Bureau (COB).
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Previously ARISE Plus developed the following documents, and further progress on this activity is awaiting further responses from ASEAN Member States on the documents, as below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised Implementing Guidelines for the ASEAN-CBTP</li> <li>Action plan for the CBTP Pilot and</li> <li>Two CBTP procedural manuals, for the public and private sectors.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>

<b>Activity 3.2.3</b>	<b>Supporting the Implementation of the ASEAN Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of the Cross-Border Transport of Passengers by Road Vehicles (ASEAN-CBTP)</b>
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	The CBTP platform at <a href="https://cbtp.asean.org">https://cbtp.asean.org</a> has been updated, and contains information for users in passenger transport.
<b>Problems encountered</b>	The need to await reactions from AMS. The operational implementation of ASEAN-CBTP is pending ratification by additional countries of the ASEAN CBTP Agreement. The agreement is currently ratified by Myanmar, Philippines and Thailand. Cross-border land transport among several ASEAN Member States have been severely disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	Strong demand and involvement from ASEAN Member States would accelerate the progress of these activities.

<b>Overall result to-date</b>	ARISE Plus has supported the development of a firm basis for the operationalisation of the passenger agreement ASEAN-CBTP.
-------------------------------	--

### Sub-component 3.3 ACTS Implementation

#### Activity 3.3.3 Rolling Out of ACTS

<b>Activity 3.3.3</b>	<b>Rolling Out of ACTS</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Customs Directors-General; ASEAN Senior Transport Officials (STOM); the Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB); Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC) and its Working Groups; the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA); National Transit Transport Coordinating Committees (NTTCC); ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG) and ASEAN Secretariat.
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ACTS has been successfully installed in six Participating Member States (PMS), Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.</li><li>• ARISE Plus has carried out several ACTS training sessions of public and private sector stakeholders, and these sessions are on-going on an on-demand basis.</li><li>• Following the completion of ACTS pilot phase A (business scenarios), phase B (parallel run) and phase C (live run), ACTS has now been implemented on a live operational basis.</li><li>• Live ACTS operations are being supported by the ACTS Central Management Team (CMT) and ARISE Plus.</li><li>• ARISE Plus has held a series of weekly virtual conferences with PMS in conjunction with the CMT in order to stimulate an increased volume of</li></ul>

Activity 3.3.3	Rolling Out of ACTS
	<p>ACTS live operational transactions. These conferences are on-going; the summaries of discussions are held at <b>ANNEX 30</b> to this report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional bi-lateral conferences have been held with the banking community in Cambodia and Malaysia, to resolve queries relating to ACTS Customs guarantees.</li> <li>• In conjunction with the ACTS CMT, ARISE Plus has provided detailed guidance on the immediate preparatory actions to be carried out by PMS;</li> <li>• ARISE Plus has managed the production of ACTS publicity material in the form of promotional leaflets, banners and video available on the ACTS Information Portal at <a href="https://acts.asean.org">https://acts.asean.org</a>.</li> <li>• ARISE Plus supported ACTS publicity campaign in the form of ACTS Live Launch Event and Press Conference in November 2020 and subsequent publicity campaign in the form of on demand interviews by national and regional media outlet.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparatory arrangements, refresher training and documents to manage implementation of ACTS on a live operational basis.</li> <li>• ACTS live operational run has started successfully.</li> <li>• Promotional ACTS publicity and visibility material has been produced and is available on the ACTS Information Portal at <a href="https://acts.asean.org">https://acts.asean.org</a></li> <li>• A highly-successful virtual ACTS launch event took place on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020. This event stimulated considerable interest in ASEAN, and subsequently the awareness, profile and visibility of ACTS was promoted in various logistics publications in form of interviews with dedicated spokespersons.</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	<p>The advent of the COVID-19 virus delayed the start-up of ACTS. The reintroduction of cross-border transport of goods has been slow and complex with additional sanitary procedures that have acted to cause difficulties with ACTS transport operations. Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam considered it necessary to impose last-minute legal obstacles to ACTS, which has further delayed the project, while there was relatively low demand from Principal Traders and Transport Operators in Cambodia and Lao PDR to perform transit transport of goods. Changes in personnel in National ACTS Project Teams in some PMS have led to a reduction in national ACTS expertise, and a need for more training by ARISE Plus.</p>
Lessons learnt	<p>In-depth preparation at national level is essential if a large complex project such as ACTS is to be successful. National training expertise is essential for sustainability and cascade training in ACTS at national level.</p>

<b>Overall result to-date</b>	Although there have been delays, the ACTS system and related procedures have been effectively implemented in PMS, and the necessary training and training material have been provided. This acts as a good basis for the implementation of ACTS on a live operational basis.
-------------------------------	--

#### Activity 3.3.4 Developing the Capacity of the ACTS Central Management Team (CMT)

Activity 3.3.4 Developing the Capacity of the ACTS Central Management Team (CMT)	
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Customs Directors-General; ASEAN Senior Transport Officials (STOM); the Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB); Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC) and its Working Groups; the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA); National Transit Transport Coordinating Committees (NTTCC); ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG) and ASEAN Secretariat.
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The CMT has been responsible for managing the execution of the ACTS pilot, with day to day support from ARISE Plus; this has involved arranging weekly video conferences with PMS and the development of supporting documentation and operational ACTS action guides.</li><li>ARISE Plus has provided day to day additional technical expertise to the CMT, in order to improve their skills and knowledge.</li><li>The ACTS applications are now under the management of the CMT with technical and managerial support as needed from ARISE Plus. This strategy will help to ensure future ACTS system resilience and sustainability by the transfer of knowledge, experience and skills to ASEAN counterpart staff in the ACTS CMT.</li><li>Additional ACTS environments are being setup and will be operational soon in Central Services to further facilitate CMT's day to day operations.</li></ul> <b>Status:</b> Ongoing
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The knowledge and skills of CMT members have been enhanced by technical support from ARISE Plus.</li><li>The ACTS is now under the management of the CMT with as needed support from ARISE Plus.</li><li>Setup of additional ACTS environments in Central Services is progressing well.</li></ul>
<b>Problems encountered</b>	Minor delays in setting up additional ACTS environments due to priorities in other activities.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	Full participation of the CMT is vital if ACTS implementation is to be successfully sustained.

**Overall result to-date**

The expertise of the CMT on ACTS has been expanded to the extent that prospects are now good for the sustainable ACTS live operations from the perspective of central management.

**Activity 3.3.5 Carrying Out a Functional Upgrade of the ACTS**

Activity 3.3.5	Carrying Out a Functional Upgrade of the ACTS
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Customs Directors-General; ASEAN Senior Transport Officials (STOM); the Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB); Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC) and its Working Groups; the ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA); National Transit Transport Coordinating Committees (NTTCC); ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG) and ASEAN Secretariat.
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PMS were assisted daily as needed with any technical ACTS issues in the ACTS ICT environments via email and/or conference calls by the ACTS IT Team. Malaysia was assisted on-site as required and possible due to COVID-19 restrictions by the Malaysia based ACTS IT Team members.</li><li>• Vietnam is in progress of receiving on-site support with their ACTS ICT environment and applications.</li><li>• Singapore requires on-site support by ARISE Plus as well, which has been delayed by the advent of the COVID-19 virus.</li><li>• Helpdesk and corrective maintenance services were provided to participating AMS (PMS), to ensure business continuity of ACTS, and all bugs identified were fixed, tested by ARISE Plus and included in ACTS 3.3.0 software release.</li><li>• 16 ACTS change requests previously agreed by SWG-ACTS and approved by ACTS Change Management Board (CMB) were also included in ACTS 3.3.0 software release, have been tested by ARISE Plus and ready for installations in participating AMS.</li><li>• Development of ACTS version 3.3.0 has been completed along with all relevant documentation updates, including system specifications, testing documentation, other technical documentation, user manuals and training material and extensive testing by ARISE Plus.</li><li>• ACTS version 3.3.0 will be installed in testing environments in Malaysia and Thailand for User Acceptance Testing in May 2021.</li><li>• Subsequently ACTS 3.3.0 will have to be installed in all participating AMS at the same time as this software release includes changes in the message exchange structures and therefore roll out of this release will have to be strictly coordinated between all participating AMS.</li></ul>

Activity 3.3.5	Carrying Out a Functional Upgrade of the ACTS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two additional ACTS IT subsystems with initial description of scope were discussed in a 3-day ACTS analysis meeting with relevant stakeholders in the transport and Customs sectors, including representatives of SWG-ACTS and TFWG. The analysis meeting included detailed study and deliberation of detailed specifications of these systems to be developed by ARISE Plus. The systems are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport (freight/cargo, e.g. truck and passenger vehicles, e.g. bus and minibus) management and movement monitoring (Transport Monitoring System, TMS).</li> <li>Self-registration online of traders in ACTS (Online Trader Registration, OTR).</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing</p>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACTS change requests (CRs) have been developed and included in ACTS 3.3.0 software release, which will next be delivered to the participating AMS for User Acceptance Testing (UAT) and subsequently deployed in all participating AMS at the same time. These CRs are at <b>ANNEX 31</b> to this report.</li> <li>All corrective issues relating to software bugs identified during the pilot, live operations and testing performed on the system were resolved and fixes included in ACTS 3.3.0 software release.</li> <li>Two additional ACTS IT subsystems have been agreed to by SWG-ACTS and were analysed in a detailed Analysis Meeting.</li> <li>Following proposals by the ASEAN transport sector, ARISE Plus has initiated consideration of an additional issue, namely the integration of the general transit philosophy and specific ACTS functionality into multi-modal transport in ASEAN, as described under activity 3.2.2 to this report.</li> <li>Interim short-term technical reports are at <b>ANNEXES 32 - 38</b> to this report.</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	<p>Generally, very few problems were encountered in this activity, which progressed with good cooperation from ASEAN Member States and professional functional upgrade development by the ACTS IT Implementation Team. Hosting of TMS is still under discussion.</p>
Lessons learnt	<p>Recruitment of suitable ICT staff from the region at national and regional level has been essential to ensure sustainability of ACTS operations and future system resilience.</p>
Overall result to-date	<p>ACTS functionality has now been enhanced as per scope of ACTS 3.3.0 software release, which is now ready to be deployed in a coordinated manner in all participating AMS at the same time. With the additional changes agreed</p>



by AMS and included in ACTS 3.3.0, the functionality and user-friendliness of ACTS will be enhanced.



## Component 4.0: ASEAN Economic Integration Monitoring and Statistics

***Expected outcome: Strengthened results-based management and evidence-based decision making in the ASEAN integration process.***

### Sub-component 4.1 ASEAN Economic Integration Monitoring

#### **Activity 4.1.1 Developing an Internal ARISE Plus Monitoring System and an Integrated Monitoring Framework for ARISE Plus Regional and National Projects**

<b>Activity 4.1.1 Developing an Internal ARISE Plus Monitoring System and an Integrated Monitoring Framework for ARISE Plus Regional and National Projects</b>	
<b>Main Beneficiaries Engaged</b>	ARISE Plus TAT of regional project, EU Mission To ASEAN, ASEAN Integration Monitoring Division (AIMD).
<b>Tasks status</b>	<b>ARISE Plus regional project internal monitoring:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Undertook monitoring analysis for 6<sup>th</sup> progress report, and developed monitoring reports to support management, decision making and planning <b>Status:</b> Completed</li><li>• Developed contributions for Annual Work Programme 4 in conjunction with beneficiaries on sub-component 4.1 <b>Status:</b> Completed</li></ul>
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	<b>ARISE Plus regional project internal monitoring:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Executive summary and section on monitoring with monitoring analysis for 6<sup>th</sup> progress report.</li><li>• Inputs for Annual Work Programme 4.</li><li>• SNKE M&amp;E Lead final report (<b>ANNEX 39</b>)</li><li>• SNKE M&amp;E Lead interim report (<b>ANNEX 40</b>)</li></ul>
<b>Problems encountered</b>	Limited progress made on coordination for ARISE Plus regional and national projects due to competing priorities amongst all projects.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	The robust internal monitoring, reporting and learning system has been applied at all levels of the project (events, activities and components) and provided relevant analysis including an updated style of Executive Summary which provides a more strategic overview for EUD and DG DEVCO interlocutors.

<b>Overall result to-date</b>	<p>Enhanced management, decision making and high-level outreach in the ARISE Plus regional project enabled through a robust internal monitoring, reporting and learning system.</p> <p>ARISE Plus programme coordination activities initiated and awareness on synergies and potential areas for collaboration amongst the national and regional projects.</p>
-------------------------------	--

#### Activity 4.1.2 Supporting Implementation of AEC 2025 M&E Framework

Activity 4.1.2	Supporting Implementation of AEC 2025 M&E Framework
<b>Main Beneficiaries Engaged</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASEAN Integration Monitoring Division (AIMD) ASEC.</li> <li>• High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI).</li> <li>• ASEAN Economic Community Council.</li> </ul>
<b>Tasks status</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed a Foreign Business Sentiments Survey (FBSS) as part of the MTR which included feedback from over 500 foreign businesses. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>• Undertook analysis on the FBSS findings and developed analysis for the MTR <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>• Completed an ASEAN Business Sentiments Survey (ABSS) as part of the MTR which included feedback from over 140 ASEAN businesses. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>• Undertook analysis on the ABSS findings and developed analysis for the MTR <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>• Conducted Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with 14 Joint Business Councils on their feedback and recommendations for AEC integration efforts. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>• Undertook analysis of FGD findings with 14 Joint Business Councils and developed preliminary analysis for the MTR <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>• Designed Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC), ASEAN Future Workforce Council (AFWC) and the ASEAN Women's Entrepreneur's Network (AWEN) on their sentiments, feedback and recommendations for AEC integration efforts. The engagement of AWEN which was a recommendation from ARISE Plus enabled relevant inputs from a women's economic empowerment perspective. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> </ul>

Activity 4.1.2	Supporting Implementation of AEC 2025 M&E Framework
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertook analysis of FGD findings with ASEAN-BAC, AFWC &amp; AWEN and developed preliminary analysis for the MTR. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>Analysis of data from a subset of the compliance monitoring assessment worksheets for AEC Sectoral Work Plans (SWPs) that were verified by sectoral bodies and initial analysis on outcome level indicators (Key Performance Indicators/KPIs) of the AEC Blueprint 2025 corresponding to the sectoral work plans. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>Supported AIMD to undertake analysis for priority sectors covering energy, forestry, agriculture and fisheries (FAF) and transport. The work included identification of key gaps and issues in the implementation of the respective sectoral working plans and recommendations to strengthen implementation of these sectoral working plans until 2025. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>Supported AIMD in the conduct of the mid-term review (MTR) and finalisation of the MTR report, which was launched on 28 April 2021 by the Secretary General of ASEAN and the EU Ambassador to ASEAN. Support included the formulation of the public version of the MTR report, which was developed as a user friendly, impactful and analytical publication. This is complemented by a five-minute video presentation showcasing highlights of the MTR, which has been uploaded for viewing and downloading in YouTube. Both were developed within a very short-timeline of three (3) weeks with the strong collaboration and teamwork between the ARISE Plus expert team and AIMD. The publication was based on the Internal MTR Report of 250 pages, which was also supported by ARISE Plus.  The internal MTR Report has been finalised by the HLTF-EI, which subsequently submitted this to the AEC Council.  <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> </ul>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data from Foreign Business Sentiments Survey (FBSS) as part of the MTR which included feedback from over 500 foreign businesses.</li> <li>Analytical document on FBSS findings for the MTR.</li> <li>Data from ASEAN Business Sentiments Survey (ABSS) as part of the MTR which included feedback from over 140 ASEAN businesses.</li> <li>Analytical document on ABSS findings for the MTR.</li> <li>Data from Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with 14 Joint Business Councils.</li> </ul>

Activity 4.1.2 Supporting Implementation of AEC 2025 M&E Framework	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analytical document on FGD findings with 14 Joint Business Councils for the MTR.</li> <li>Analytical document on FGD findings with 14 ASEAN-BAC, AWEN and AFWC for the MTR.</li> <li>Analytical report covering a subset of the compliance monitoring assessment worksheets.</li> <li>Analytical reports for priority AEC sectors including energy, forestry, agriculture and fisheries (FAF) and transport.</li> <li>MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025 Final report.</li> <li>Launch event for MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025.</li> <li>Videographics of the MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025.</li> <li>Internal MTR report of the AEC Blueprint 2025.</li> <li>SNKE Final Reports (<b>ANNEXES 41 – 48</b>)</li> <li>JNKE Final Reports (<b>ANNEXES 49 – 51</b>)</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	The data collection for the business surveys took longer than expected and had to be extended a few times to encourage businesses to participate.
Lessons learnt	The activities enabled closer engagement between ASEAN and the business community including 14 Joint Business Councils, three (3) additional business councils / networks, foreign companies and domestic companies doing business across ASEAN. This closer engagement and dialogue on ASEAN integration efforts with the private sector who are the major actors of the AEC brought insights on areas where the AEC has performed well, areas requiring improvement and the business outlook for ASEAN. The data gathered and analysis, provide strong evidence-based findings for the MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025 Mid-term Review enhancing its robustness and credibility to support decision making for the remaining five (5) years of the AEC Blueprint 2025.
Overall result to-date	ASEAN is supported to undertake decision making for the remaining period of the AEC Blueprint implementation (2021-2025) in the form of analysis and recommendations through high quality technical and analytical outputs as part of an evidence-based MTR of AEC Blueprint 2025.

#### Activity 4.1.3 Demand-driven Support for Research, Capacity Building and Outreach Activities to Assist the Implementation of the AEC Blueprint 2025

Activity 4.1.3 Demand-driven Support for Research, Capacity Building and Outreach Activities to Assist the Implementation of the AEC Blueprint 2025	
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASEAN Economic Community Council</li> <li>High-Level Task Force on ASEAN Economic Integration (HLTF-EI)</li> <li>ASEAN Integration Monitoring Division (AIMD) ASEC</li> </ul>

Activity 4.1.3 Demand-driven Support for Research, Capacity Building and Outreach Activities to Assist the Implementation of the AEC Blueprint 2025	
Tasks status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Articles on, Sustainable Fundamental Needs, A Single Tourism Destination &amp; Private Sector Engagement based on the ASEAN Integration Report produced and submitted to AIMD <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> <li>A demand driven request was made by AIMD to develop an annotated outline for the Public version of the MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025. This request was made on a priority basis due to its strategic importance and pressing timeline. The ARISE Plus experts provided a good quality annotated outline for the Public version of the MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025 and this formed the basis of the MTR report that was launched on 28 April 2021. <b>Status:</b> Completed</li> </ul>
Outputs delivered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three articles on Sustainable Fundamental Needs, A Single Tourism Destination &amp; Private Sector Engagement which will be updated to AEC Monitoring Website when it is updated in AWP4</li> <li>High quality annotated outline for the Public version of the MTR of the AEC Blueprint 2025 which formed the basis of the MTR report based on a demand driven request from AIMD</li> <li>SNKE Final Reports (<b>ANNEX 43</b>)</li> <li>JNKE Final Report (<b>ANNEX 50</b>)</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	None, except very tight timelines which were nonetheless successfully met due to the strong collaboration between ARISE Plus and AIMD.
Lessons learnt	The strong working relationships, regular communication via online means since the onset of Covid-19 and high-quality TA outputs helped to build trust and credibility with AIMD. As a result, a demand driven request was made for an annotated outline for the Public MTR Report. The provision for demand driven support in this activity and the flexibility of the ARISE Plus experts to respond within a short period of time led to ARISE Plus making significant contributions for the drafting the Public MTR of the AEC Blueprint report under activity 4.1.2.
Overall result to-date	EU-ASEAN cooperation strengthened through demand driven support for ASEAN integration efforts in strategically important areas.

## Sub-Component 4.2 ASEAN Statistics Capacity Building

This section focuses on the activities implemented under the Work Plan 3 (WP 3) for the period of 1 November 2020 – 7 May 2021 under the component 4.2 – ASEAN Statistics Capacity Building. Irrespective of the travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, out of the eight Terms of

References (ToRs) approved during the first half of WP3 (Q2-Q3/2020), five ToRs are ongoing, implemented through distant support; two had been postponed and only restarted in late April 2021; and one is postponed until late 2021.

During the second half of WP3 (Q4/2020-Q1/2021) four new ToRs were developed and received the EUD approval in the middle of February; and one developed later, received approval in late April 2021.

Since October 2020, with international experts providing distant support can now be permitted, 13 ToRs could be implemented, involving 7 international experts (7 ToRs) and 7 regional experts (7 ToRs).

Over all, Two ToRs have been completed; 11 ToRs are ongoing, with 5 ToRs having experienced some delays. Detailed information about the ToR approval and implementation status, is presented in Annex 2 and Annex 5 of the report of the S-NKE on Coordination of Statistics Capacity Building Activities.

**ANNEX 52** presents the *Reports of the S-NKE on Coordination of Statistics Capacity Building Activities*, covering the period of November 2020 - April 2021.

## Implementation of WP3 Activities

Details on the activities implemented by the S-NKEs under Sub-Component 4.2. ASEAN Statistics Capacity Building including the plan for the next period, observations and recommendations, are presented below.

### Activity 4.2.1 Enhancing AEC Monitoring Databases

Activity 4.2.1	Enhancing AEC Monitoring Databases
Main Beneficiaries Engaged	ASEAN Integration Monitoring Directorate (AIMD), Statistics Division (ASEANStats), ASEC desk officers, and indirectly AEC sectoral bodies.
Tasks status	<b>Demand driven activity</b> There was no demand from the beneficiaries during the reporting period. Activities have been designed for AWP4, focussing on increasing capacity and utilisation of the databases amongst ASEC staff to address gaps and issues identified during the mid-term review of the AEC Blueprint.
Outputs delivered	N.A.
Problems encountered	N.A.
Lessons learnt	N.A.



Overall result to-date	N.A.
------------------------	------

#### Activity 4.2.2 Supporting the ACSS in Improving Collection and Dissemination of Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)

Activity 4.2.2	Supporting the ACSS in Improving Collection and Dissemination of Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)
Main Beneficiaries engaged	National Statistical Office of AMSs, ASEANstats, ACSS Committee, Sub-Committee on Planning and Coordination (SCPC), Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (WGSDGIs).
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<p>(1) <i>Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Organise</b> regional workshop and <b>undertake</b> TA on Assessment and indicator selection.</li> <li>• <b>Support</b> Finalisation of the SDGIs Selected Indicators, and preparation of the draft ASEAN SDGIs 2020 publication.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA on Preparation for the ASEAN SDG 2020 draft publication. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ TA to selected AMSs to assess any coordination challenges and recommend measures for a more effective coordination mechanism in data collection.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing. Tasks 1 and 2 have been successfully completed; task 3 (TA to selected AMSs to assess any coordination challenges and recommend relevant measures) is ongoing, with some delay.</p> <p>(2) <i>Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2 Follow-up.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA to three newly selected AMSs to assess coordination challenges and recommend solutions.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> improvement of the tools for quality assessment.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> provision of the estimate of missing values data.</li> <li>• <b>Support</b> the ASEANstats with the review and selection criteria and on the-job training to do data review and indicators selection.</li> <li>• <b>Organise</b> Technical workshop (on the job-training) on data aggregation and analysis.</li> <li>• <b>Organise</b> Regional workshop on SDGIs.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> a Regional Training on Data estimation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing. The ToR was only approved in mid-of-February 2021.</p>
Outputs delivered	(1) <i>Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2</i>



Activity 4.2.2	Supporting the ACSS in Improving Collection and Dissemination of Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questionnaire for assessment of coordination challenges.</li> </ul> <p><b>Interim Report:</b> <u>Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2 (ANNEX 53)</u></p> <p><i>(2) Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2 Follow-up.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall Timetable for Q1-Q2 2021.</li> <li>• List of proposed additional indicators and elements for quality assessment.</li> </ul> <p><b>Interim Report:</b> <u>Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2 Follow-up (ANNEX 54).</u></p>
Problems encountered	<p><i>(1) Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of potential sources of data for use as numerator and denominator is limited, in some cases.</li> <li>• The health incidence affecting the expert particularly during November 2020-February 2021 has slowed down the completion of the third task (task 1 and 2 have been successfully completed, irrespective of the travel restrictions).</li> </ul> <p><i>(2) Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2 Follow-up</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None, so far; it has only started in April 2021.</li> </ul>
Lessons learnt	<p><i>(1) Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distant support is possible and could be effective if planned and carried out by taking into account sufficient contingencies and approached more proactively.</li> <li>• Prioritising other line ministries who are potential data sources, in future consultation, is deemed crucial.</li> </ul> <p><i>(2) Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (SDGIs)-Phase 2 Follow-up</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None, so far; it has only started in April 2021.</li> </ul>
Overall result to-date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater momentum for monitoring SDG indicators is established with the availability of ASEAN SDGI Baseline Report.</li> </ul>

- Strengthened ASEANStats capacity in conducting a review and preliminary data analysis of the SDG indicators.

#### Activity 4.2.3 Supporting Gap Analysis and implementation of the Operational Guidelines for the ACSS Roadmap on SNA 2008

Activity 4.2.3	Supporting Gaps Analysis and implementation of the Operational Guidelines for the ACSS Roadmap on SNA 2008.
Main Beneficiaries engaged	National Statistical Office of AMSs, ASEANstats, ACSS Committee, Sub-Committee on Planning and Coordination (SCPC), Working Group on System of National Accounts (WGSNA).
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<p>(1) <i>Enhancement of the ACSS SNA Operational Guidelines and Strengthening Capacity of ASEAN Member States-Phase 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA on Gap Analysis in close collaboration with BPS Statistics Indonesia.</li> <li>• <b>Support</b> the finalisation of gap analysis through completion of the quality requirement template and setting up the plan for the immediate implementation.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA mission to selected ASEAN Member States to implement the agreed actions.</li> <li>• <b>Organise and support</b> Regional Workshop/Training on SNA to discuss the result of Gap Analysis.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing, with some delay.</p> <p>(2) <i>Development of Standard Statistical Metadata Template for the System of National Accounts and Social Indicators.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA to ASEANstats and five selected AMSs to review current state of the Metadata of the System of National Accounts as well as Metadata of the social indicators.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> Desk review of the latest international standards/handbooks; desk review of the SDMX and existing Metadata practices in a couple of developed countries.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> the development of the standard Metadata template for social indicators.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> the Development of the standard Metadata template for System of National Accounts.</li> <li>• <b>Organise and support</b> a two days-workshop on Metadata for System of National Accounts.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> not yet started; the ToR was only developed in March-early April in response to the urgent needs, and approved in late April 2021.</p>

Activity 4.2.3 Supporting Gaps Analysis and implementation of the Operational Guidelines for the ACSS Roadmap on SNA 2008.	
Outputs delivered	<p>(1) <i>Enhancement of the ACSS SNA Operational Guidelines and Strengthening Capacity of ASEAN Member States-Phase 1.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Template for Quality assessment available and partially completed</li> <li>• Metadata reviewed and analysed against the best practices and international standard.</li> </ul> <p><b>Interim Report:</b> <u>Enhancement of the ACSS SNA Operational Guidelines and Strengthening Capacity of ASEAN Member States-Phase 1 (ANNEX 55)</u></p> <p>(2) <i>Development of Standard Statistical Metadata Template for the System of National Accounts and Social Indicators.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA. The activity has not started yet.</li> </ul>
Problems encountered	<p>(1) <i>Enhancement of the ACSS SNA Operational Guidelines and Strengthening Capacity of ASEAN Member States-Phase 1.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel restrictions and the challenges of adapting to remote working, including communication barriers and the limited access of long-distance discussion in particularly in Myanmar, have slowed down the progress of implementation of the activities, although some momentum has been maintained.</li> <li>• Health incidence affecting the expert during March has contributed to some delay.</li> </ul> <p>(2) <i>Development of Standard Statistical Metadata Template for the System of National Accounts and Social Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA. Activity has not started yet.</li> </ul>
Lessons learnt	<p>(1) <i>Enhancement of the ACSS SNA Operational Guidelines and Strengthening Capacity of ASEAN Member States-Phase 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The decision to have the questionnaire partially pre-filled and to focus on the issues related to the compilation of quarterly Gross Domestic Products (GDP), high in the Agenda in Lao PDR and Myanmar, has created greater momentum which opened the way towards addressing the more fundamental issues of the annual GDP and other annual accounts.</li> </ul> <p>(2) <i>Development of Standard Statistical Metadata Template for the System of National Accounts and Social Indicators</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NA.</li> </ul>

**Overall result to-date**

- Better appreciation of the methodological and institutional constraints and the country prioritisation.

**Activity 4.2.4 Supporting the Implementation of the Balance of Payments (BOP) related statistics, particularly SITS and FDIS**

<b>Activity 4.2.4</b>	<b>Supporting the Implementation of the Balance of Payments (BOP), related statistics, particularly SITS and FDIS</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Member States (AMSs), Statistics Division (ASEANstats), ACSS Committee, Sub-Committee on Planning and Coordination (SCPC), Working Group on Statistics on International Trade in Services (WGSITS).
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Organise and support</b> Regional and Sub-Regional Workshop on SITS.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA mission to some selected ASEAN member States to assist with the improvement to compilation of EBOPS Key Services categories, and/or SITS data by partner countries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop a Methodological Review and Guide.</li> <li>○ Undertake a TA in one selected country to adapt the suitable best practices.</li> <li>○ Implement the TA to 2-3 AMS, to assist the countries with the review and analysis of survey results.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Organise and support</b> Regional Workshop/Training on FDIS.</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA missions to selected ASEAN member States to assist with the improvement to AMS data submission of FDIS outward flow and FDIS inward stock. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Undertake Technical Assistance to ASEANstats and the member states.</li> <li>○ Undertake a training to CLMV.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing, progressing significantly, both for the SITS and FDIS.</p>
<b>Outputs delivered</b>	<p>Statistics in International Trade in Services (SITS):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member States' documentation on SITS and international best practice reviewed.</li> <li>• Second Draft Methodological Review and Guide completed and delivered to ASEANStats.</li> <li>• First Draft Case Studies to be implemented in 4 AMS completed and sent to the respective countries.</li> </ul> <p>Foreign Direct Investment Statistics (FDIS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft questionnaire for Stock-taking Survey of the metadata and compilation issues relevant topics partly filled and sent to Member States.</li> </ul>

<b>Activity 4.2.4</b>	<b>Supporting the Implementation of the Balance of Payments (BOP), related statistics, particularly SITS and FDIS</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current state of FDIS issues and limitations in some selected countries' reviewed and the first thought on approached to addressing them proposed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Interim Report:</b> <u>Towards Meeting the ACSS 2022 SITS Targets– Phase 1 (ANNEX 56)</u> and <b>Interim Report:</b> <u>Strengthening the Methodology and Practice for Enhanced Compilation and Dissemination of FDI Inward Stocks, Outward Flows and Partner Country Data - Phase 1 (ANNEX 57)</u></p>
<b>Problems encountered</b>	<p>On SITS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None, so far. The activities started only in March 2021.</li> </ul> <p>On FDIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None, so far. The activities started only in March 2021.</li> </ul>
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with the right staff/institution, whose consistently builds their capacity, has proved to have eased the task to build the momentum and address issues and challenges, in both the SITS and FDIS.</li> </ul>
<b>Overall result to-date</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High momentum established in both SITS and FDIS activities.</li> <li>The approach to developing the Methodological Review and Guide is deemed useful.</li> </ul>

**Activity 4.2.5 Support for strengthened IMTS data processing and quality, in particular in CLM, and for compliance to IMTS standard including conceptual compliance and implementation of seasonal adjustment**

<b>Activity 4.2.5</b>	<b>Support for strengthened IMTS data processing and quality, in particular in CLM, and for compliance to IMTS standard including conceptual compliance and implementation of seasonal adjustment</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	National Statistical Office of AMSs, ASEANstats, ACSS Committee, Sub-Committee on Planning and Coordination (SCPC), Working Group on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (WGIMTS).
<b>Tasks status (ongoing, completed)</b>	<p>(1) <i>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 1.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Organise and support</b> Regional Training on IMTS data processing using SQL-based Eurotrace, migration to SQL-based Eurotrace, and strengthening the IMTS staff team capability in handling the data processing and credibility check properly.</li> </ul>

Activity 4.2.5	<b>Support for strengthened IMTS data processing and quality, in particular in CLM, and for compliance to IMTS standard including conceptual compliance and implementation of seasonal adjustment</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> TA mission to Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar and ASEANStats,</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing, with some delay.</p> <p><i>(2) Strengthening Analytical Skills to carry out Seasonal Adjustment using JDemetra+2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Organise and support</b> Regional Training on Seasonal Adjustment of IMTS data, for all ASEAN Member States (ToR approved under the WP2).</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Completed in April 2020.</p> <p><i>(3) Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Conduct</b> the development of a model and procedure (step-by-step guidelines) for quality assessment.</li> <li>• <b>Conduct</b> the development of a Methodological Handbook.</li> <li>• <b>Conduct</b> the assessment of the availability of the Customs Procedure Codes at the member states.</li> <li>• <b>Support</b> the definition of the requirements for and a feasibility study on sustainable compilation of trade quantity and mode of transport data.</li> <li>• <b>Conduct</b> a Regional Workshop on International Merchandise Trade Statistics.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing, progressing significantly.</p>
Outputs delivered	<p><i>(1) Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 1.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed overall implementation plan and some parts of the training materials for Eurotrace migration on-the-job training.</li> </ul> <p><b>Interim Report of SNKE on IMTS:</b> <u>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 1 (ANNEX 58)</u> and <b>Interim Report of the SNKE on Eurotrace:</b> <u>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 1 (ANNEX 59)</u></p>

Activity 4.2.5	Support for strengthened IMTS data processing and quality, in particular in CLM, and for compliance to IMTS standard including conceptual compliance and implementation of seasonal adjustment
	<p>(2) <i>Strengthening Analytical Skills to carry out Seasonal Adjustment using JDemetra+</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful implementation of Basic Training on Seasonal Adjustment.</li> <li>• Selected ASEAN data seasonally adjusted processed by ASEANstats staff with minor support from the expert (although with limited treatment of the calendar effect).</li> </ul> <p><b>Final Report:</b> <u>Strengthening Analytical Skills to carry out Seasonal Adjustment using JDemetra+ (ANNEX 60)</u></p> <p>(3) <i>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 2.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Methodological Handbook developed and delivered to ASEANstats.</li> <li>• Draft quality report developed and delivered to ASEANstats.</li> <li>• A questionnaire for survey of availability and comparability of the Member States' Customs Procedure Codes (CPC), mode of transport, and trade quantity data developed and sent to Member States.</li> </ul> <p><b>Interim Report on:</b> <u>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 2 (ANNEX 61)</u></p>
Problems encountered	<p>(1) <i>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 1.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic.</li> <li>• Migration to Eurotrace data processing tools could only be implemented after the Eurotrace training is provided; which was apparently very late, as it could only be completed late April 2021 due to the travel restrictions and the newly demanded feasibility study to justify the effectiveness of online training.</li> </ul> <p>(2) <i>Strengthening Analytical Skills to carry out Seasonal Adjustment using JDemetra+</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The training was initially somewhat low in priority in some Member States.</li> <li>• Travel restrictions.</li> </ul> <p>(3) <i>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 2</i></p>



<b>Activity 4.2.5</b>	<b>Support for strengthened IMTS data processing and quality, in particular in CLM, and for compliance to IMTS standard including conceptual compliance and implementation of seasonal adjustment</b>
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None, so far. Activity only started in March 2021.</li> </ul> <p>(1) <i>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well preparation related to the IT requirements, the right staff qualifications, and sufficient availability supporting documentations and training materials has recently led to very positive progress.</li> </ul> <p>(2) <i>Strengthening Analytical Skills to carry out Seasonal Adjustment using JDemetra+</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online training, especially if involves a lot of practical sessions, could be conducted successfully with well preparation related to the IT requirements, staff qualifications, and sufficient availability supporting documentations and training materials.</li> </ul> <p>(3) <i>Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activity by the expert, if involving mostly desk review and analysis, and if sufficient data and information is available at ASEANStats and in the internet, could be done efficiently and successfully, in particular with active feedback from the beneficiaries.</li> </ul>
<b>Overall result to-date</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved IMTS data quality and timeliness due to the operationalisation of the Eurotrace in ASEANStats.</li> <li>• Appreciation and high momentum towards learning the more advance techniques of seasonal adjustment.</li> <li>• Appreciation of the potential of the seasonal adjustment technique for data forecasting for improved timeliness of ASEAN statistics dissemination.</li> </ul>

#### Activity 4.2.6 Supporting ACSS in Strengthening ACSS' Statistical Communication and Visibility

<b>Activity 4.2.6</b>	<b>Supporting ACSS in Strengthening ACSS' Statistical Communication and Visibility</b>
<b>Main Beneficiaries engaged</b>	ASEAN Member States (AMSs), Statistics Division (ASEANstats), ACSS Committee, Sub-Committee on Planning and Coordination (SCPC), Working Group on Data Sharing, Analysis, Dissemination and Communication (WGDSA).

Activity 4.2.6	Supporting ACSS in Strengthening ACSS' Statistical Communication and Visibility
Tasks status (ongoing, completed)	<p>(1) <i>ACSS Statistics Communication Plan-Phase 2 and High-Level Advocacy Forum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Support</b> the finalisation of the Concept Note and Detailed Plan for ACSS Communication and Visibility 2020-2025 and the detailed plan for High-Level Advocacy Forum in Hanoi (covering a few sub-tasks related to ACSS Communication in Statistics),</li> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> the High-Level Advocacy Forum in Ha Noi.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Completed in December 2020</p> <p>(2) <i>Development of Video-graphics and Strengthening Video-graphics Skills for Enhanced ASEAN Data Visibility-Phase 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Undertake</b> Regional Training Workshop on Video/Motion Graphics, and post training support.</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b> Ongoing. The first part (preparation of video graphics) has been successfully completed in October 2020; the training part is postponed.</p>
Outputs delivered	<p>(1) <i>ACSS Statistics Communication Plan-Phase 2 and High-Level Advocacy Forum</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept Note for ACSS Ten Year Celebration.</li> <li>• First Draft Work Plan for the WG on Data Sharing, Analysis, Dissemination and Communication in Statistics (WGDSA) 2020-2025.</li> <li>• Detailed plan for the High-Level Advocacy Forum.</li> <li>• First Draft Metadata for enhanced ASEAN Open Data assessment.</li> <li>• Draft ASEAN-help-ASEAN Framework.</li> </ul> <p><b>Final Report</b> for Technical Assistance Activity Senior Non-Key Expert on: <u>ACSS Statistics Communication Plan-Phase 2 and High-Level Advocacy Forum (ANNEX 62)</u></p> <p>(2) <i>Development of Video-graphics and Strengthening Video-graphics Skills for Enhanced ASEAN Data Visibility-Phase 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Video/Motion Graphics product (Video-graphics 1) for display at the ACSS 10 celebration in December 2020.</li> <li>• Draft Training materials on Video/Motion Graphics</li> </ul> <p><b>Interim Report:</b> <u>Development of Video-graphics and Strengthening Video-graphics Skills for Enhanced ASEAN Data Visibility-Phase 2 (ANNEX 47)</u></p>
Problems encountered	<p>(1) <i>ACSS Statistics Communication Plan-Phase 2 and High-Level Advocacy Forum.</i></p>

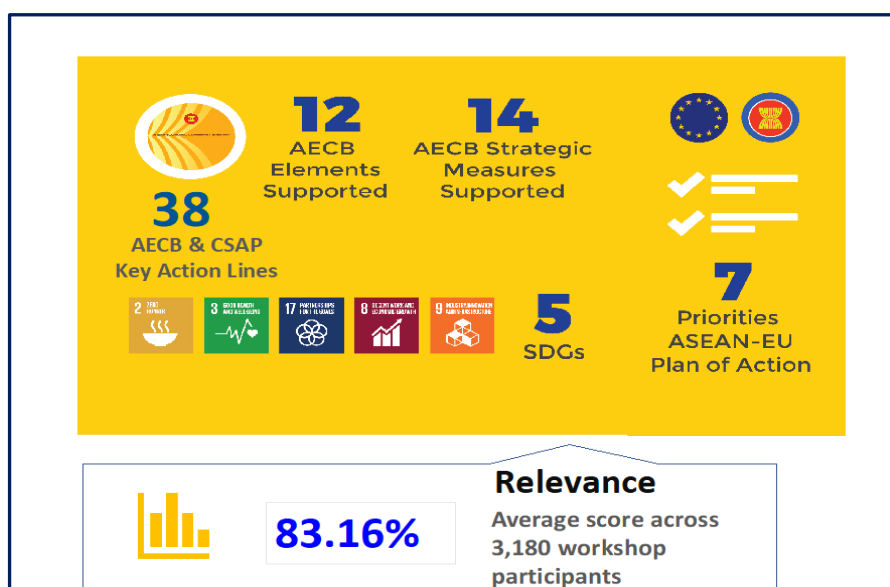
<b>Activity 4.2.6</b>	<b>Supporting ACSS in Strengthening ACSS' Statistical Communication and Visibility</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None needing any particular attention.</li></ul> <p><i>(2) Development of Video-graphics and Strengthening Video-graphics Skills for Enhanced ASEAN Data Visibility-Phase 2.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Following the successful exhibition of the Video Graphics at the ACSS-10 celebration in December 2020, the training, meant for further strengthening the staff skills in order to develop video graphics for screening at ACSS-10, was no longer considered urgent and to be postponed until late 2021; due to the travel restrictions and, partly, because ASEANStats sees that AMSs have successfully demonstrated their capability in Video Graphics at the ACSS-10. Moreover, for the more advanced training, an online training is deemed less effective, and therefore is postponed pending the removal of the travel restrictions.</li></ul>
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distant support can also be effective when there is the right momentum (such as ACSS-10 celebration) and if close consultation with Lead Country and beneficiaries can be well exerted.</li></ul>
<b>Overall result to-date</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improved confidence among the Member States and ASEANStats in raising the visibility of Statistics, owing to the best practice experienced with the ACSS High-Level Forum and their capability in producing quality video graphics presentation, and the availability of clear guidance and strategies for improved communication in statistics.</li></ul>

## SECTION 2 INTERNAL MONITORING ASSESSMENT

This section provides an internal monitoring assessment of the ARISE Plus programme since the commencement of the programme. The internal assessment focusses on core assessment criteria of relevance, partnerships, efficiency and effectiveness in line with the Monitoring Strategy of the programme. The analysis covers the programme for a period of 3.5 years, from its inception on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2017 until 30 April 2021. The monitoring analysis provides aggregate data and in selected areas it provides a breakdown by reporting period.

### Relevance

ARISE PLUS has had a strong level of relevance to the needs and priorities of its stakeholders, namely the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Member States (AMS) and the European Union (EU). The relevance of ARISE Plus has manifested itself through the strategic support it provides to 12 Elements and 14 Strategic Measures of the ASEAN Economic Blueprint (AECB) and 38 Key Action Lines of the ASEAN Consolidated Strategic Action Plan (CSAP). ARISE PLUS also supports 7 priority areas of the ASEAN-EU Plan of Action and 5 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These can be visualised from figure 1.



**Figure 1: relevance of ARISE PLUS**

ARISE Plus workshops were also highly rated in terms of relevance with an average score of 83.16% across 3 questions covering relevance in the feedback questionnaires across 90 workshops implemented from commencement until March 2020<sup>1</sup> involving 3,180 workshop participants.

<sup>1</sup> Data on relevance from the onset of the COVID19 outbreak in March 2020 to-date is not available, as all events and workshops have been conducted virtually. This provides very limited scope and practical avenues for gathering feedback data from workshop participants as many of the events were coordinated by ASEAN. During the next reporting period, feedback mechanisms will be strengthened for online events and will enable the availability of data.

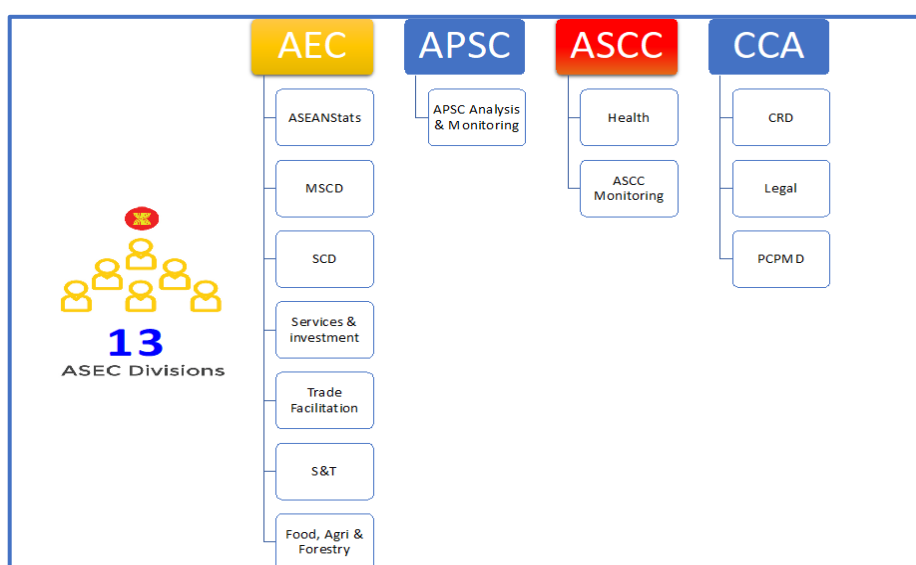
## Partnerships

The ARISE PLUS programme has engaged with 13 ASEC Divisions, 38 ASEAN Sectoral Bodies, working groups and ASEAN entities and 85 AMS entities as illustrated in figure 2.



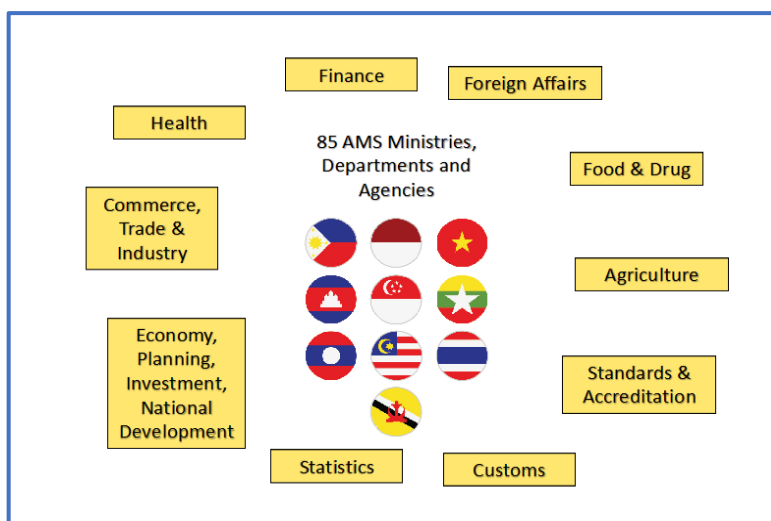
**Figure 2: overview of ARISE PLUS partnerships**

The partnerships within each of the major categories can be visualised in further detail through figures 3 and 4.



**Figure 3: ASEC Divisions engaged<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>2</sup> AEC=ASEAN Economic Community, MSCD = Monitoring Surveillance and Coordination Division, SCD = Standards and Conformance Division, S&T= Science & Technology Division, APSC = ASEAN Political Security Community, ASCC = ASEAN Socio Cultural Community, CCA = Community and Corporate Affairs, CRD = Community Relations Division, PCPMD = Programme Cooperation and Project Management Division

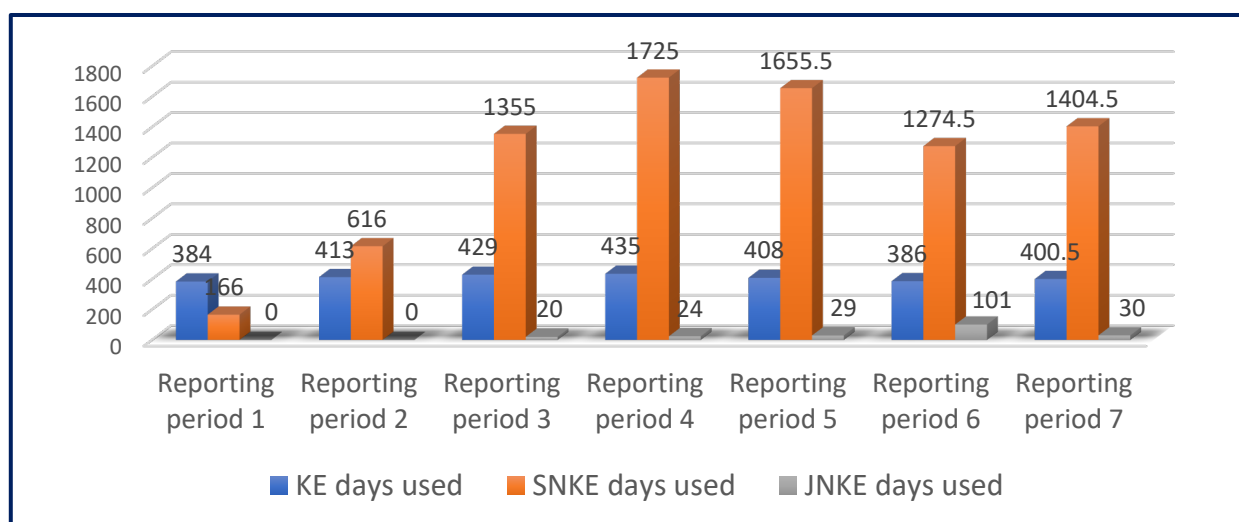


**Figure 4: overview of types of AMS Ministries and agencies engaged**

## Efficiency

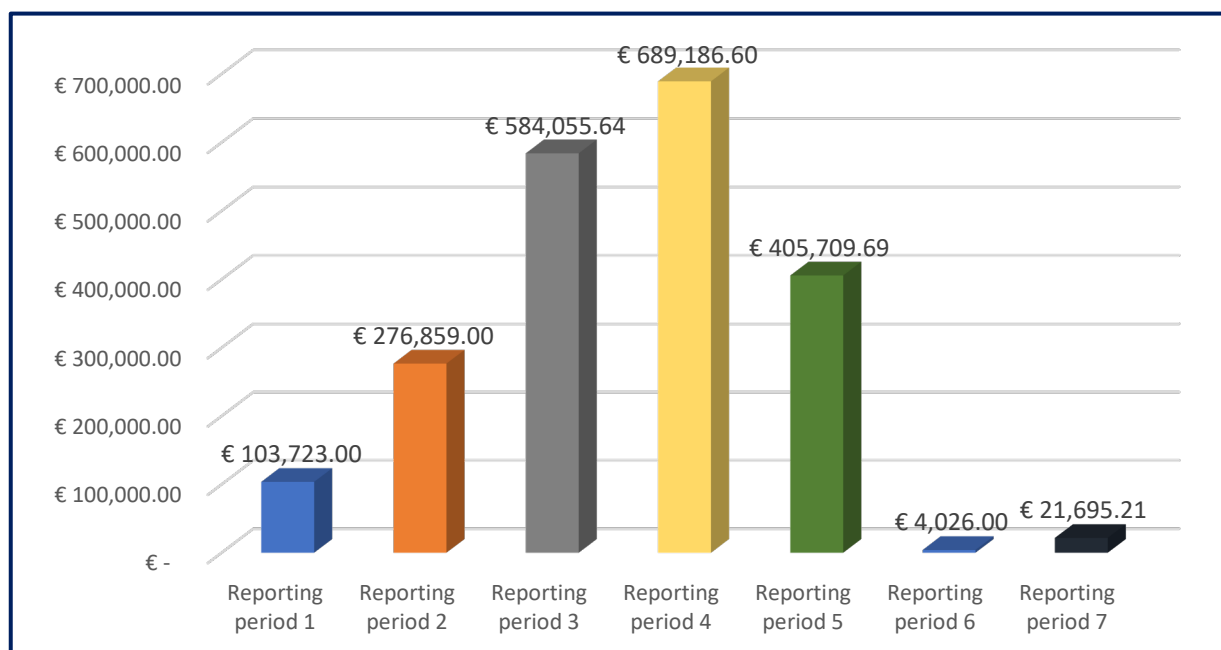
### Availability and utilisation of resources

A total of 2,855<sup>3</sup> key expert (KE) days, 8196 senior non-key expert (SNKE) days and 204 junior non-key expert (JNKE) days have been used since programme commencement until end of April 2021. Over 177 non-key expert (NKE) assignments have been contracted and 2,085,255 Euros of incidentals utilised. The utilisation of resources can be visualised from figures 5 and 6.



**Figure 5: expert days used (by reporting period)**

<sup>3</sup> According to figures as of April 2021 – these might be subject to change based on the approval process of the EUD

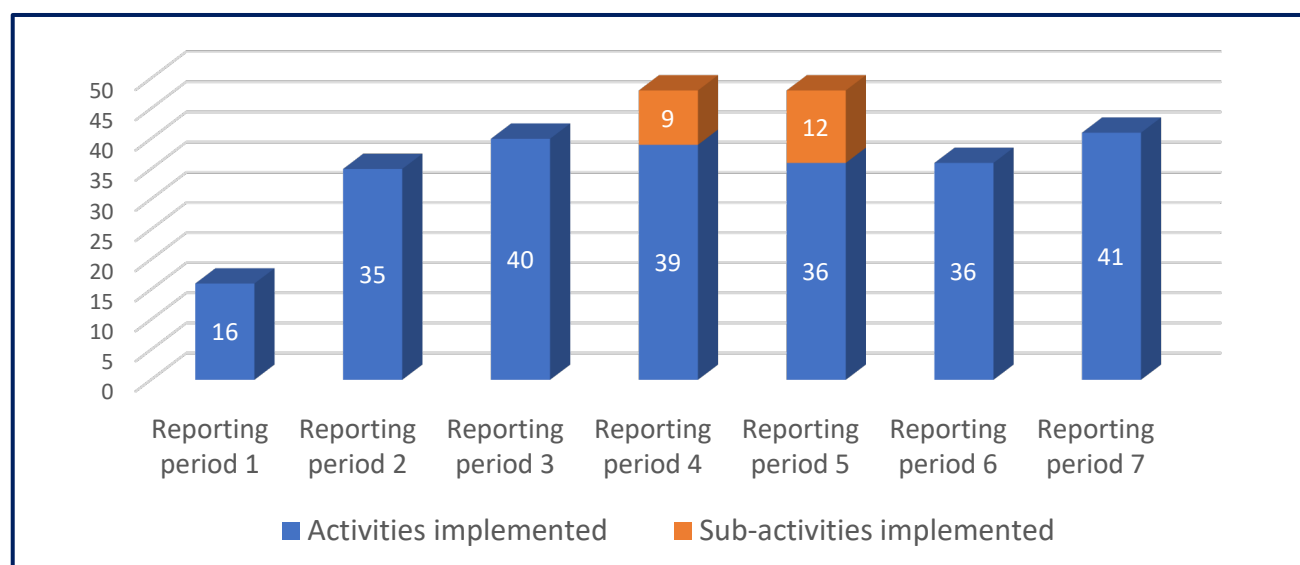


**Figure 6: incidentals used (by reporting period)**

During the current reporting period, the usage of incidentals due to translation of materials for ASEAN events and workshops which were held online.

### Activities Implemented

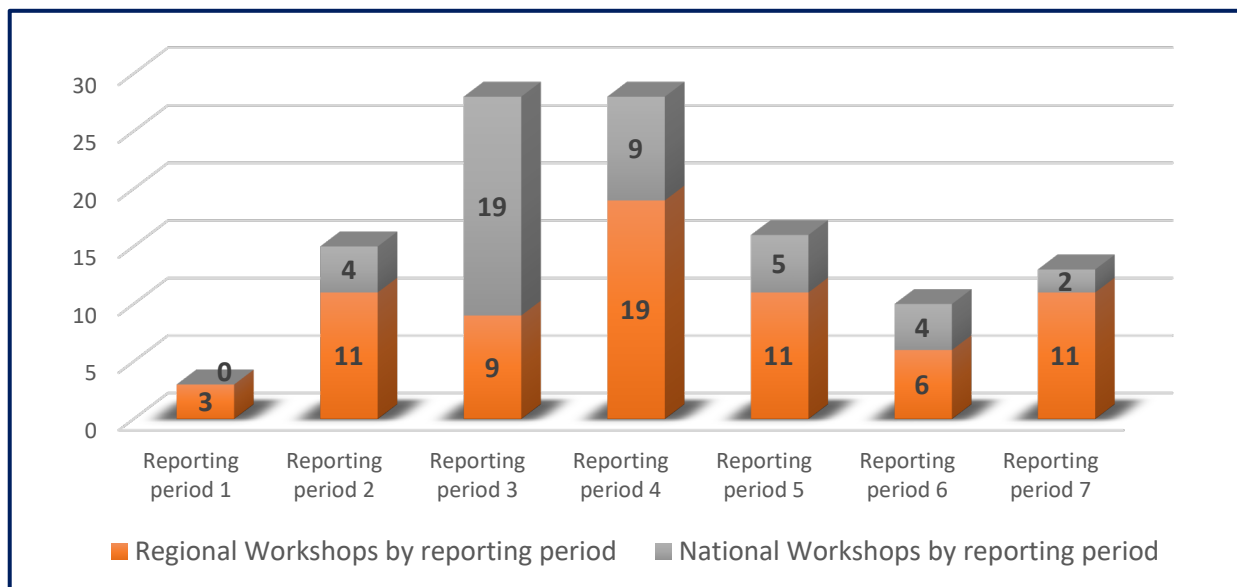
Resources used have resulted in the implementation of a total of 41 major activities during the reporting period. The number of activities implemented during each successive reporting period can be visualised in figure 7.



**Figure 7: activities implemented by reporting period**

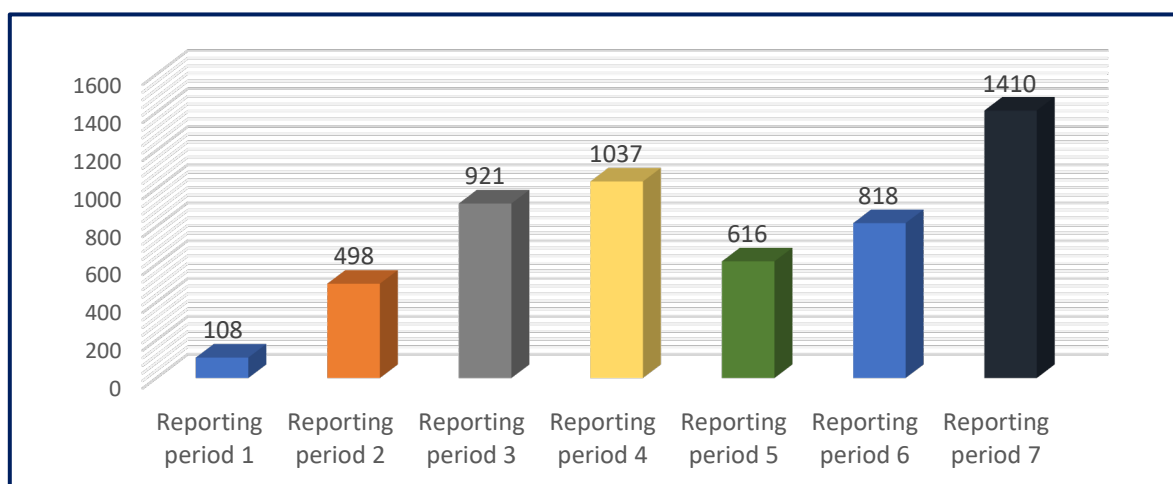


11 regional workshops were implemented during the reporting period. In addition, two national events were supported. A total of 113 workshops have been implemented since commencement of the programme. These figures together with a breakdown of both national and regional workshops are provided in figure 8.



**Figure 8: number of regional and national workshops by reporting period**

A total of 5,408 participants have attended workshops since commencement of ARISE Plus including 1,410 workshop participants during reporting period 7 as visualised in figure 9.

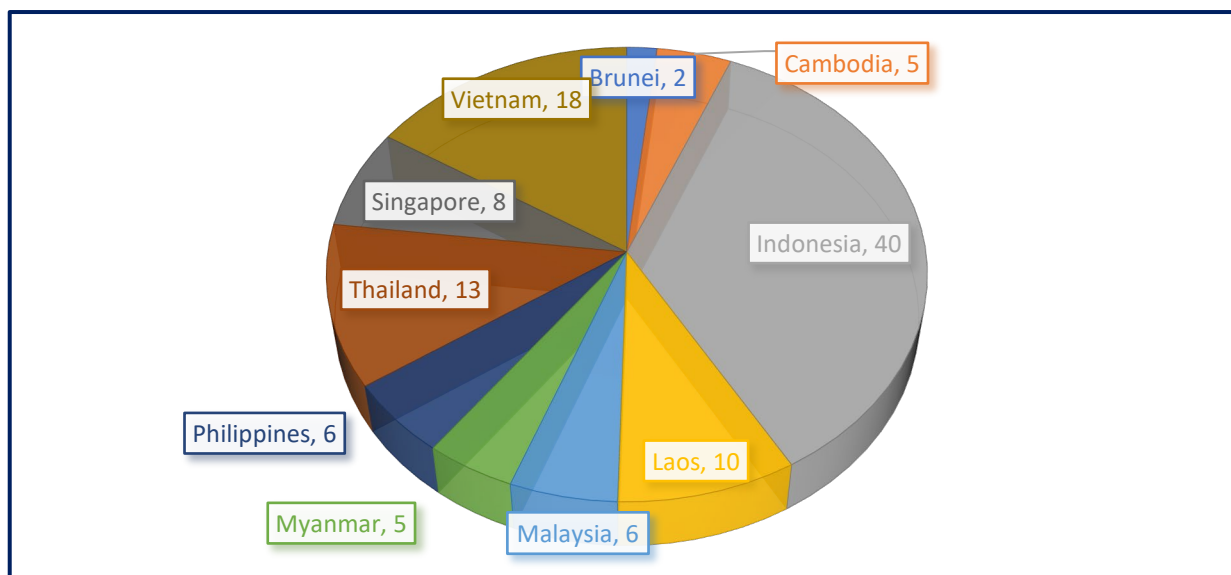


**Figure 9: workshop participants by reporting period**

## Effectiveness

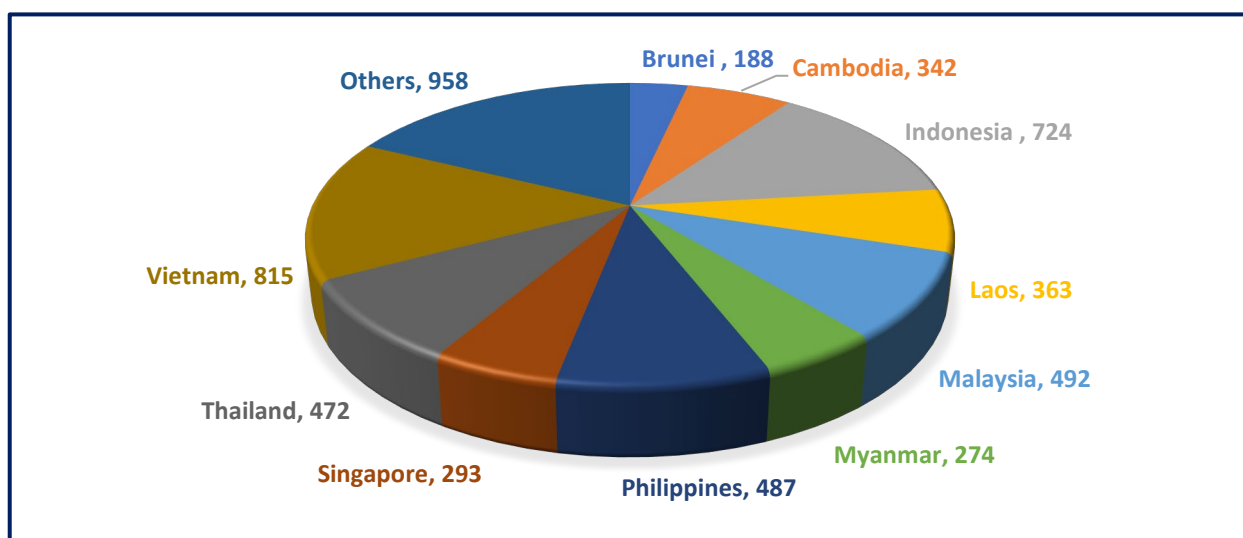
### Effectiveness of workshops

As illustrated in figure 10, ARISE PLUS workshops were hosted by all AMS demonstrating the strong ownership of the programme amongst AMS.



**Figure 10: number of ARISE PLUS workshops hosted by AMS (from inception)**

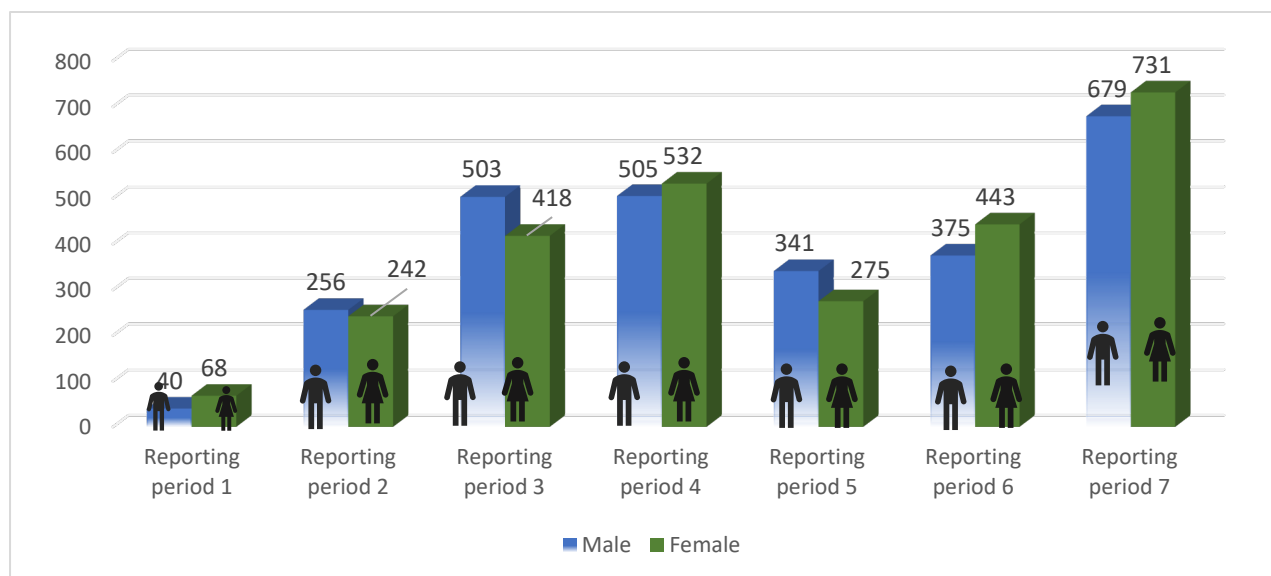
ARISE PLUS workshops have been characterised by an effective inclusive approach. All 10 ASEAN Member states are well represented across the participants. A total of 1,794 participants from the CLMV countries have attended the workshops. See figure 11 below for a breakdown of workshop participants by nationality.



**Figure 11: breakdown of workshop participants by nationality**

<sup>4</sup> Others include staff from ASEC, ARISE Plus experts, private sector participants, staff from EU member state embassies and EUD staff

In terms of gender, ARISE PLUS workshops have had a strong gender mainstreaming in terms of participants during each of the reporting periods as visualised from figure 12. A total of 2,709 female participants and 2,699 male have attended ARISE PLUS workshops since commencement.



**Figure 12: breakdown of workshop participants by gender**

The indicators of ARISE Plus are currently undergoing revision to cover the extension period and the updated programme results framework. Consequently, the results chain has not been provided. The indicators are expected to be finalised by end of June 2021 and a more comprehensive monitoring analysis will be conducted for the next reporting period using the revised indicators.



## SECTION 3 OVERVIEW OF USE OF RESOURCES

Cumulative Resources							
Reporting Period	KE1	KE2	KE3	KE4	Senior Non-Key	Junior Non-Key	Incidentals
1 <sup>st</sup> 6 Monthly Report covering Inception period and 1 <sup>st</sup> Month of AWP1 (8 <sup>th</sup> November 2017 - 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2018)	107	71.5	99.5	93.5	133	0	€ 101,811.15
2 <sup>nd</sup> Six Monthly Report (8 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 – 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2018)	97.5	97	103	113.5	556.5	5	€ 276,075.56
3 <sup>rd</sup> Six Monthly Report (8 <sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2019)	109	106	100	114	1,320.5	14.5	€ 584,055.64
4 <sup>th</sup> Six Monthly Report (8 <sup>th</sup> May 2019 – 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2019)	118	92.5	106	117	1,733.5	24	€ 704,574.91
5 <sup>th</sup> Six Monthly Report (8 <sup>th</sup> November 2019 – 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2020)	107.5	90.5	96	114	1,669	29	€ 406,930.01
6 <sup>th</sup> Six Monthly Report (8 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 – 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2020)	108.5	78	95	105	1,287.5	101	€ 9,928.69
7 <sup>th</sup> Six Monthly Report (8 <sup>th</sup> November 2020 – 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2021)	<b>94.5</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>1404.5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>€ 21695.21</b>
<b>Actual to Date</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>621.5</b>	<b>712.5</b>	<b>764</b>	<b>8104.5</b>	<b>203.5</b>	<b>€ 2,105,071.16</b>
<b>Programme Budget</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>1,070</b>	<b>11,888</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>€ 3,645,000.00</b>
<b>Balance Remaining</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>258.5</b>	<b>304.5</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>3783.5</b>	<b>196.5</b>	<b>€ 1,539,928.84</b>



Resources Used at the Component Level for the Reporting Period								
Sub Component	Title	KE 1	KE 2	KE 3	KE 4	Senior NKE	Junior NKE	Incidentals €
COMPONENT 0.0	Management and Outreach	94.5						1,523.59
COMPONENT 1.0	Trade Facilitation and Transparency		86			186		
COMPONENT 2.0	Standards and Conformity Assessment in Particular Healthcare and Agro-based products			113		161.5		
COMPONENT 3.0	Customs, Transport and ACTS				107	750		14,902.36
COMPONENT 4.0	ASEAN Economic Integration Monitoring and Statistics					307	30	4,923.20
Bank Charges								346.08
TOTAL		94.5	86	113	107	1,404.50	30	21,695.21



## SECTION 4 LIST OF OFFICIAL MEETINGS PARTICIPATED IN BY ARISE PLUS

No.	Dates	Place	Meetings/Workshops/Study tours/Trainings
1.	04 November 2020	Virtual	25th Meeting of Sub-Working Group on ASEAN Customs Transit System (SWG-ACTS Meeting)
2.	05 November 2020	Virtual	30th Pharmaceutical Product Working Group (PPWG) Meeting
3.	12 November 2020	Virtual	4th Joint Sectoral Committee on MRA for Inspection and Certification System on Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuff Products (JSC MRA on PF)
4.	17 November 2020	Virtual	37th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits
5.	19 November 2020	Virtual	EU-ASEAN Business Council (EU-ABC) Meeting
6.	20 November 2020	Virtual	31st Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group (PFPWG) Meeting
7.	25 November 2020	Virtual	54th ASEAN Consultative Committee for Standards and Quality (ACCSQ)
8.	8-10 December 2020	Virtual	10th Session of ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Committee
9.	15 December 2020	Virtual	34rd Meeting of Sub-Committee on ATIGA Rules of Origin (CCA)
10.	21 January 2021	Virtual	19th ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee (ATF-JCC)
11.	17 February 2021	Virtual	26th Meeting of the Sub Working Group on ASEAN Customs Transit System (SWG-ACTS)
12.	10 March 2021	Virtual	The 21st Meeting of the ASEAN Community Statistical System Sub-Committee on Planning and Coordination (SCPC21)
13.	23-24 March 2021	Virtual	40th ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TFWG) Meeting
14.	24 March 2021	Virtual	35th Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of the ATIGA (CCA)
15.	29 March 2021	Virtual	32nd Prepared Foodstuff Product Working Group (PFPWG) Meeting
16.	19 April 2021	Virtual	8th Meeting of the National Contact Points - ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (8th ARASFF-NCPs)



## SECTION 5 EVENTS ORGANISED BY ARISE PLUS

No.	Dates	Place	Regional/ National	Beneficiary	Meetings/Workshops/Study tours/Trainings
1	26 November 2020	Virtual	National	Philippines	ASEAN Trade Repository Workshop - Review of the Philippine Non-Tariff Measures Technical Barriers to Trade
2	30 November 2020	Virtual	Regional	ACTS	ACTS Launch Event
3	30 November 2020	Virtual	Regional	AMS	Workshop on ASEAN Guidelines for Traceability for Food and Feed
4	8 December 2020	Virtual	Regional	AMS	ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework -Principles and Outline
5	26 – 27 January 2021	Virtual	Regional	AMS	Third Workshop on the Development of the ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Organic Agricultural Products
6	22 February - 04 March 2021	Virtual	Regional	AMS	Regional Online Training on Seasonal Adjustment
7	22 – 26 March 2021	Virtual	Regional	AMS	ASEAN Workshop On Bioequivalence Inspections
8	7 – 9 April 2021	Virtual	Regional	AMS	Training for Experts (Module 1): Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Inspection and Certification Systems on Food Hygiene for Prepared Food Stuff (MRA on PF)
9	21 – 22 April 2021	Virtual	Regional	AMS	Workshop on the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Policy and the ASEAN Pharmaceutical Regulatory Framework (APRP and APRF)
10	22, 23, 26, 28 and 29 April 2021	Virtual	Regional	AMS	Training Workshop on Food Borne Disease for ASEAN Member States





## SECTION 6 ANNEXES

Annex	Activity	Experts outputs
Annex 1	1.1.1	Supporting the effective implementation of the ATIGA (ATR and NTR) in Malaysia and Philippines (1) and (2)
Annex 2	1.1.1	ATIGA implementation with focus on non-tariff measures in Indonesia and Myanmar
Annex 3	1.1.1	Mapping of non-tariff measures in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Vietnam
Annex 4	1.1.1	Supporting the effective implementation of the ATIGA (ATR and NTRs) in Thailand (1) and (2)
Annex 5	1.2.1	Full Operationalisation and Management of ASSIST, Including in the Services and Investment Sectors
Annex 6	2.1.4	Myanmar Electrical and Electronic Equipment Safety Regulations
Annex 7	2.2.1	Review of the processes for harmonisation of standards in ASEAN and implementation of initiatives to identify priority areas for harmonisation
Annex 8	2.3.2	Prepare and Conduct Training on Implementing MRA on Inspection and Certification Systems for Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuffs
Annex 9	2.3.3	Prepare for GAP Analysis on Implementing MRA on Inspection and Certification Systems for Food Hygiene for Prepared Foodstuffs
Annex 10	2.3.5	Proposed Work Plan for Capacity Building in the development of Risk Profiles with the concurrent Development of a Risk Profile of Leafy Vegetables & Proposed New Activities for the ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre
Annex 11	2.3.6	Supporting the development national Rapid Alert Systems for Food and Feed (RASFF) and the integration into ARASFF and the development of Common Traceability Standards
Annex 12	2.3.6	Development of ASEAN Sectoral MRA on Organic Agricultural Products, the ASEAN Certification Scheme on Organic Agriculture and related supporting documents
Annex 13	2.3.6	Preparatory work for the development of an ASEAN MRA on Organic Agriculture
Annex 14	2.3.7	Food Safety Training
Annex 15	2.3.7	Training on Risk Based Inspection
Annex 16	2.3.7	Training on Food Hygiene
Annex 17	2.3.8	Nutritional Labelling in ASEAN
Annex 18	2.4.1	Strengthening the Pharmaceuticals Regulatory Framework



Annex 19	2.4.2	Leading the implementation of a Training Workshop on Bioequivalence Inspections
Annex 20	2.4.2	Supporting the implementation of a Training Workshop on Bioequivalence Inspections
Annex 21	2.4.3	Proposed priorities and plans for the operationalisation of the APTLC
Annex 22	3.1.1	Concept note on suggested activities for adopting customs transit and ACTS measures to process multi-modal transport operations with ASEAN
Annex 23	3.1.1	Survey on multi-modal transport in ASEAN and ACTS
Annex 24	3.1.1	Carrying out a Survey with ASEAN Customs Authorities on Customs Procedures for Clearance of All Modes of Transport (including Multimodal Transport) and ACTS
Annex 25	3.1.2	Supporting implementation of effective customs partnership with business and the trading community
Annex 26	3.1.5	A concept note on proposed ARISE Plus support for Customs integrity with comments from AMS.
Annex 27	3.2.2	Pilot Implementation Strategy of AFAMT
Annex 28	3.2.2	Carrying out a Survey with Multimodal Transport Operators and National Freight Forwarders in AMS on Multimodal Transport and ACTS
Annex 29	3.2.2	Online Platform Developer for AFAMT
Annex 30	3.3.3	Note to file: ACTS start-up phase and subsequent ACTS live operations, 25 <sup>th</sup> Virtual Conference Call
Annex 31	3.3.5	ACTS change requests (CRs)
Annex 32	3.3.5	Planning, Coordination and Implementation of ACTS IT System and ACTS Live Operations
Annex 33	3.3.5	Support to Implementation of ACTS IT System and ACTS Live Operations
Annex 34	3.3.5	Software Testing, Test Documentation Update and Support for Testing Activities
Annex 35	3.3.5	Software Analysis, User Documentation Update and Support for Testing Activities
Annex 36	3.3.5	ACTS Software Development and Ad Hoc Support to the ACTS Technical Team
Annex 37	3.3.5	Functional Upgrade of the ACTS
Annex 38	3.3.5	Development of Software Enhancements and Database Clean-up Tools
Annex 39	4.1.1	Coordination of M&E Activities
Annex 40	4.1.1	Coordination of M&E Activities
Annex 41	4.1.2	Focus Group Discussions and Survey (to support AECB MTR)
Annex 42	4.1.2	M&E Publications: to draft, edit and package content for the Public AECB MTR Report



Annex 43	4.1.2	Qualitative M&E, publications and outreach
Annex 44	4.1.2	Assessment of priority sectors (Agriculture) for AECB MTR
Annex 45	4.1.2	Assessment of priority sectors (Energy) for AECB MTR
Annex 46	4.1.2	Mid Term Review of the AEC Blueprint 2025 (2nd Phase)
Annex 47	4.1.2	Design/layout, graphics and audio-visual materials for the Public AECB MTR Report
Annex 48	4.1.2	Assessment of priority sectors (Transport) for AECB MTR
Annex 49	4.1.2	Compliance Monitoring Analysis to support AEC Blueprint 2025 Mid-Term Review
Annex 50	4.1.2	Demand driven research, capacity building and outreach to support AECB implementation
Annex 51	4.1.2	Technical Verification and Quality Assurance to Support the AECB MTR Final Report
Annex 52	4.2.1	Coordination of statistics capacity building activities (1) & (2)
Annex 53	4.2.2	Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Indicators (SDGIs) – Phase 2
Annex 54	4.2.2	Strengthening Collection and Dissemination of ASEAN Sustainable Development Indicators (SDGIs) – Phase 2-Follow-up
Annex 55	4.2.3	Enhancement of the ACSS SNA Operational Guidelines and Strengthening Capacity of ASEAN Member States-Phase 1
Annex 56	4.2.4	International Trade in Services (SITS): Towards Meeting the ACSS 2022 SITS Targets – Phase 1
Annex 57	4.2.4	Strengthening the Methodology and Practice for Enhanced Compilation and Dissemination of FDI Inwards Stocks, Outward Flows and Partner Country Data-Phase 1
Annex 58	4.2.5	Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standards – Phase 1
Annex 59	4.2.5	Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standards – Phase 1
Annex 60	4.2.5	Strengthening Analytical Skills to carry out Seasonal Adjustment using JDemetra+
Annex 61	4.2.5	Strengthening IMTS Data Processing and Cooperation for Enhanced Availability, and Compliance with International Standard– Phase 2
Annex 62	4.2.6	ACSS Statistics Communication Plan-Phase 2 and High Level Advocacy Forum



## SECTION 7 LIST OF ASEAN SECTORAL BODIES, WORKING GROUPS AND ENTITIES WITH WHICH ARISE PLUS WORKS

- ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ABAC)
- ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Connectivity
- ASEAN Committee on Consumer Protection (ACCP)
- ASEAN Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (AC-SPS)
- ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality (ACCSQ)
- ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Investment (CCI)
- ASEAN Coordinating Committee on the Implementation of ATIGA (CCA)
- ASEAN Customs Coordinating Committee (CCC)
- ASEAN Customs Directors-General
- ASEAN Expert Group on Food Safety
- ASEAN Federation of Forwarders Associations (AFFA)
- ASEAN Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (ARASFF) Steering Committee
- ASEAN Risk Assessment Centre for Food Safety (ARAC)
- ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN)
- ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Crops
- ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries
- ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock
- ASEAN Senior Transport Officials (STOM)
- ASEAN Single Window Steering Committee (ASW-SC)
- ASEAN Trade Facilitation Joint Consultative Committee (ATFJCC)
- ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group
- ASEAN Transport Facilitation Working Group (TWFG)
- Customs Capacity Building Working Group
- Customs Enforcement and Compliance Working Group
- EU-ASEAN Business Council (EUABC)
- Experts Working Group on Organic Agriculture
- Senior Economic Officials Meeting (SEOM)



- Senior Officials Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (SOM AMAF)
- Transit Transport Coordinating Board (TTCB)
- Sub-committee on ATIGA Rules of Origin (SCA-ROO)
- ASEAN Community Statistical System (ACSS) Committee
- Sub-Committee on Planning and Coordination (SCPC)
- Working Group on Data Sharing, Analysis, Dissemination and Communication (WGDSA)
- Working Group on SNA