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# ASEAN Officials in Negotiation Simulation over Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the French Regional Delegation for Cooperation in South-East Asia conducted a workshop on 'Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for ASEAN Member States', 2–4 September 2013 at the premises of the ASEAN Secretariat in Jakarta, Indonesia.

This 3-day-workshop gathered 20 officials from ASEAN countries to contribute to the ASEAN post-2015 development agenda following the process outlined by the Rio+20 Conference in July 2012. The participants took part in a negotiation simulation and were assigned to envision a possible set of SDGs for ASEAN, complete with relevant targets and indicators, which could ensure monitoring of implementation progress.

The workshop was conducted with the support of 2 eminent experts: Prof. Laszlo PINTER from the Central European University (CEU) and Mr Simon OLSEN from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). The training equipped participants with practical information about international and regional processes related to the post-2015 development agenda. It also encouraged participants to acquaint themselves with data and statistics. This information helped them gain a genuine understanding of ASEAN countries' specific context and realities regarding various aspects of development. The simulation familiarised participants with the challenges they are likely to encounter in real-life negotiations on SDGs and were encouraged to prioritise and allocate appropriate resources through consensus and critical understanding of issues.

Mr André DE BUSSY, Regional Counsellor for the French Regional Delegation for Cooperation in South-East Asia was pleased to highlight in his opening remarks the exceptional assistance offered by the ASEAN Secretariat in bringing this project to fruition. Mr DE BUSSY was grateful to acknowledge the important contributions and expertise brought by ASEF, with which the French Delegation would like to further its partnership for future projects.

Prof. Emil SALIM, Member of the President of Indonesia's Advisory Council and Presidential Advisor for Environment and Sustainable Development Issues, in his keynote speech stressed the necessity of harmonising efforts across the ASEAN region. According to him this effort will curb inequality, alleviate poverty and reduce humanity's environmental footprint.

For more information, please visit <http://bit.ly/1bPiz2a>

## ABOUT THE ORGANISER



The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, sustainable development, economy, public health, and governance. Founded in 1997, ASEF is a not-for-profit, intergovernmental organisation located in Singapore. It is the only permanently established institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM). Together with about 700 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 600 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 17,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

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