ISSUES of ASEAN
Skilled Labor Mobility

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“Our objective is to facilitate the slow flow of ASEAN skilled labor mobility, one of the most prominent issues in ASEAN. By achieving it, will we not only increase the GDP region-wide, narrow the economic disparity between each member state, but also our collective well-being will be improved”
Migration Situation in ASEAN

There has been a slight increase of migrants to every ASEAN countries, except Thailand and Lao PDR. However, the margin of the increasing migrant has been fairly small beside Malaysia and Singapore.

Thus, the migration flow in ASEAN has become more concentrated in the economically advanced countries like Singapore and Malaysia, but Thailand remains the Number One Migrant Destination.
Migration Situation in ASEAN

Across ASEAN, migrants mainly flow to 3 countries: Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore respectively.

The migrants mainly come from Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, Lao PDR, and Cambodia.
Migration Situation in ASEAN

- 25% of 1.3 million workers are skilled workers in Singapore.
- 10.2% of the workers are high-skilled workers in Malaysia.
- 3% of the workers are skilled workers in Thailand.
Challenges

- The Complexity of qualification
- Limited interest in moving within the region
- The imposition of National Level Barriers
- Disparity of quality education
However, net enrollment in Tertiary education was fairly low in CLM, compared to ASEAN 6 and Vietnam.

Majority of people agreed that university and vocational training provided skills needed for the enterprises.
Cooperation in standardizing the qualification

Immediate:
Creating the uniformed standardized policy

Medium:
Adjusting the policy and monitor the loopholes

Recommendations
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- Investing in national training and education systems – Culture and Skills training
- Widening and publicizing the job opportunity region-wide
- Close cooperation between employers and governments
- Policy of 3-year work permit to minimize brain drain
Closer integration under AEC could lift aggregate output by 7% by 2025 and 14 millions more jobs.

Malaysia and Thailand could reach high-income status, avoiding middle-income trap.

Output per worker could double in CILTV.

Countries can compete in global markets through high productivity, not on low labor costs.
Reference List

- https://www.theglobaleconomy.com/rankings/Tertiary_school_enroll ment/Asia/