



ARAIBA replacing the ASEAN CSR Network

Advancing Responsible Business for Sustainable, Equitable, and Inclusive ASEAN Community

ASEAN CSR Network is transiting to ARAIBA, registered as a company in Malaysia to set clear focus on responsible and inclusive business agenda.

About ASEAN CSR Network

Established on 8 December 2010, ASEAN CSR Network (ACN)'s mandate is to promote and facilitate the adoption of **responsible business conduct** in ASEAN to achieve a sustainable, equitable and inclusive ASEAN Community. Its vision is to create a responsible business community that makes ASEAN a better place to live for all. This is part of the ASEAN Vision and workplans.

ACN creates **change** by influencing and working with different actors, ranging from ASEAN bodies, ASEAN member states to the private sector, civil society and international organisations, who can influence the way businesses operate.

We define **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** as the firm's contribution to sustainable development – to ensure that the needs of the present generation are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. It is the responsibility of business for their impacts on Society. It is the responsibility of business.

(C)redible	(S)trong Connector	(R)egional
ACN is a thought-leader that shapes and advances the responsible business agenda in ASEAN	ACN is a business and multi-stakeholder platform that works to mainstream responsible business through collective action	ACN has strong regional presence that provides ASEAN perspectives and expertise on responsible business

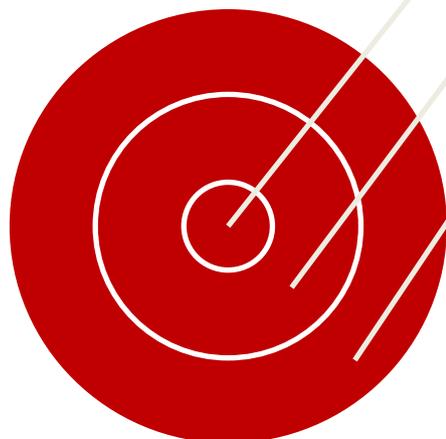
ACN is a **regional network** whose **members** are CSR networks, business chambers and associations in ASEAN. It currently has members and relationship with business associations in all the ASEAN countries.

As an **accredited ASEAN entity** under Annex 2 of the ASEAN Charter, ACN has unique access to the ASEAN processes which enables it to further strengthen its voice and influence on the regional agenda. It is a registered **charity** in Singapore and the Sector **Champion for responsible and inclusive business** with the ASEAN Business Advisory Council.

To promote evidence based advocacy and thought leadership, ACN conducts research on the state of CSR in the region. Every 2 years, we had worked with the Centre for Sustainability and Governance on the state of disclosure of sustainability reporting and business integrity. We had done a study on Business and Human Rights with Mahidol University among others.

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Work Programmes



- 1. Advocacy and thought leadership** to influence policies on CSR by promoting a shared vision and understanding on responsible business through consultations, evidence-based research and guidebook publications
- 2. Capacity building** to support businesses and maximise their resources in doing CSR through knowledge sharing and training.
- 3. Enabling collective action** to harmonise CSR efforts at the regional level by providing a platform for coordination, cooperation and information exchange.

Priority Thematic Areas

Business Integrity	Business & Human Rights	Gender Equality	Environmental Sustainability
<p>ACN works with relevant stakeholders to promote the UN Convention against Corruption, the UN Global Compact's 10th Principle and other internationally accepted standards, moving towards harmonising business integrity standards across the region.</p> <p>ACN supports national and regional collective action initiatives that aim to uphold the principles of transparency, accountability, ensure good corporate governance and create fair market conditions.</p>	<p>ACN supports the adoption and implementation of internationally accepted standards and norms on business and human rights, particularly the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.</p> <p>ACN works towards the endorsement of the Regional Strategy on CSR and Human Rights by ASEAN, and the adoption of National Action Plans (NAPs) by AMS. It also supports the implementation of the ASEAN Guidelines for CSR on Labour and promotes the International Labour Organisation (ILO)'s Tripartite Declaration. This includes promoting ILO Decent Work Agenda.</p>	<p>ACN encourages the private sector actors to uphold gender rights by eliminating gender pay gap, expanding roles of women in decision-making, ensuring financial inclusion, enhancing work-life balance for women, and preventing sexual harassment at work.</p> <p>By working closely with ASEAN and international companies, ACN is able to help strengthen the capacities of businesses, with a specific focus on MSMEs, to integrate gender equality into their business operations value chains.</p>	<p>ACN works with its partners to identify and address the most pressing environmental issues in the region by supporting targeted solutions and opportunities for sustainable growth. Where awareness is lacking, ACN works to help businesses understand the importance of environmental sustainability.</p> <p>Given the commitment of AMS, for Net Zero and Circular Economy, ACN promotes responsible behaviour that supports the circular economy for businesses in ASEAN with the EU funded SWITCH-Asia.</p>

Key Milestones

Year	Milestone
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of ACN: 6 founding members – ASEAN Foundation, League of Corporate Foundations (Philippines), Singapore Compact for CSR (now Global Compact Network Singapore), Indonesia Business Links, International Chamber of Commerce Malaysia, CSR Club of Thai Listed Companies Associations – signed off on ACN's framework and agreed to work together for the advancement of CSR in ASEAN.
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACN Expansion to Vietnam and Myanmar: Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and Union of Myanmar Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) joined ACN, expanding ACN's representation to 7 out of 10 ASEAN countries. • Launch of the ASEAN CSR Vision 2020 – 3-year work plan (2014-2017) that guided the work of ACN to mainstream responsible business in the region. • Establishment of the Regional Working Group on Business Integrity in ASEAN: Comprises of 7 members from 6 ASEAN countries who are committed to promote business integrity and fight against corruption in the private sector through collection action.
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSR is recognised as a cross-cutting issue in 3 community pillars in the ASEAN 10-year work plan ASEAN 2025: Forging Ahead Together. • Launch of the Small Grants Fund Programme to provide supplementary funding to local and regional organisations who are engaged in work to promote CSR and with an interest to link their work to regional objectives. • Held the ASEAN CSR Next Generation in Bali, Indonesia with Indonesian Coordinating Minister Puan Maharani and the ASEAN Secretary General Le Luong Minh as Guests of Honour
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch of Integrity Has No Borders – a regional advocacy campaign promoting business integrity in ASEAN: http://integrityhasnoborders.com • ASEAN Guidelines for CSR on Labour adopted by ASEAN Labour Ministers. • Formation of the Sustainability Consortium of Professionals and Educators (SCOPE) – a platform to advance the agenda and application of sustainability among institutions and organisations in the business and social communities. • Development of the Regional Strategy on CSR and Human Rights to promote and enable CSR and Human Rights among businesses in ASEAN. • Formation of the Southeast Asia Alliance on Sustainable Palm Oil (SASPO) to support the use of sustainable palm oil.
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation with ASEAN to be an ASEAN Entity under Annex 2 of ASEAN Charter. • Launch of the ASEAN CSR Fellowship to build up the next generation of ambassadors for responsible business in Southeast Asia. • Launch of the regional integrity pledge – Integrity Has No Borders Pledge to encourage organisations to show their commitment and support for the business integrity in ASEAN.
2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with the ASEAN Business Advisory Council as the Sector Champion for Responsible and Inclusive Business as member of their Joint Business Council. • Developed with ABAC a Code for Responsible and Inclusive Business.
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launched membership for ASEAN Responsible and Inclusive Business Alliance (ARAIBA) • Did a baseline study on Sustainable Consumption and Production regarding climate change and consumers
2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed the Mobilisation of Businesses in ASEAN for Circular Economy project with EU Funded SWITCH-Asia
2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transiting to ARAIBA as a legal entity registered in Malaysia • Formed the ASEAN Circular Economy Business Alliance (ACEBA) under ARAIBA