



14th South-East Asia Survey Congress 2017



“ Bridging the Gap through MRA ”

Pengiran Matusin Matasan
AFLAG

The International Rizqun Hotel
Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam
15th August 2017



Topics

- ☐ ASEAN
- ☐ Signing of MRA
- ☐ Surveying Framework Arrangement
- ☐ Roadmap Implementation
- ☐ Challenges & Strategies
- ☐ Success Stories
- ☐ AFLAG
- ☐ Conclusion



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The Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established on **8th August 1967** in Bangkok, Thailand.



The signing of the
[ASEAN Declaration](#)
(Bangkok Declaration) by the
Founding Fathers of ASEAN, namely
Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines,
Singapore and Thailand



- ❖ Brunei Darussalam joined on **7th January 1984**
- ❖ Viet Nam on **28th July 1995**
- ❖ Lao PDR and Myanmar on **23rd July 1997**
- ❖ & Cambodia on **30th April 1999**
- ❖ making up what is today the **Ten Member States of ASEAN**



AIMS AND PURPOSES



To accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavours in the spirit of equality and partnership in order to strengthen the foundation for a prosperous and peaceful community of Southeast Asian Nations



Some significant dates

- **15th March 1995:** AFLAG (ASEAN Federation of Land Surveying & Geomatics) was established
- **15th December 1995 :** The ASEAN Economic Ministers signed The ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (**AFAS**) to formally institutionalize the Cooperation in trade services in ASEAN
- **January 2007 :** ASEAN signed [The Cebu Declaration on the Acceleration of the Establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015](#)
- **2015: AFTA (ASEAN Free Trade Area)**



The OBJECTIVES of AFAS

- To enhance cooperation in Services amongst ASEAN
- To improve efficiency and competitiveness, diversify production capacity, and supply and distribution of services of their services suppliers within and outside ASEAN.
- To eliminate substantial restrictions to trade in services amongst member states.
- To further expand liberalization in trade in services beyond those undertaken by Member States under GATS with the aim to achieve a free trade area in services.



Signing of MRA



MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS (MRA)

At the 7th Summit in Bandar Seri Begawan, 5th November 2001, ASEAN Leaders mandated the start of negotiations on Mutual Recognition Arrangements (**MRA**) to facilitate the flow of professional services under AFAS.



The ASEAN COMMUNITY

At the 9th ASEAN Summit in 2003, the ASEAN Leaders resolved that [an ASEAN Community](#) shall be established.

At the 12th ASEAN Summit in January 2007, the Leaders affirmed their strong commitment to accelerate the establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015 and signed [The Cebu Declaration on the Acceleration of the Establishment of an ASEAN Community by 2015](#).



ASEAN Economic Community 2015 and Beyond....

Single market and
production base

Competitive economic
region



Equitable economic
development

Fully integrated region in
the global economy



THE ASEAN CHARTER

**The ASEAN Charter is a
constituent instrument of the
Association of Southeast Asian
Nations. It was adopted at the 13th
ASEAN Summit in November
2007; signed on 20th November
2007 and effective December 2008**



... amongst the aims and objectives of The ASEAN Charter

5. To create a single market and production base which is stable, prosperous, highly competitive and economically integrated with effective facilitation for trade and investment in which there is free flow of goods, services and investment; **facilitate movement of business persons, professionals, talents and labour;** and freer flow of capital;

6. To alleviate poverty and narrow the development **gap** within ASEAN through **mutual** assistance and cooperation



ASEAN MRA's

- ❑ *MRA on Engineering Services* (9 December 2005);
- ❑ *MRA on Nursing Services* (8 December 2006);
- ❑ *MRA on Architectural Services and Framework Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Surveying Qualifications* (19 November 2007);
- ❑ *MRA on Medical Practitioners and MRA on Dental Practitioners* (26 February 2009);
- ❑ *MRA Framework on Accountancy Services* (26 February 2009) and subsequently as *MRA on Accountancy Services* (13 November 2014); and
- ❑ *MRA on Tourism Professionals* (9 November 2012).



The ASEAN SURVEYORS



**The ASEAN Economic Ministers
signed The Framework Arrangement
for the Mutual Recognition
of Surveying Qualifications
on 19th November 2007
in Singapore**



The objectives of the Framework Arrangement

- 1. To identify the framework and establish the basis** *for Competent Authorities to observe while negotiating MRAs between or amongst each other to facilitate the mutual recognition and mobility of Surveying Professionals as it is recognised that ASEAN Member Countries may have different nomenclatures and requirements*
- 2. To exchange information in order to promote trust and adoption of best practices** *on surveying standards and qualifications.*



Roadmap & Implementation Plan

how to bridge the gap

how to accelerate

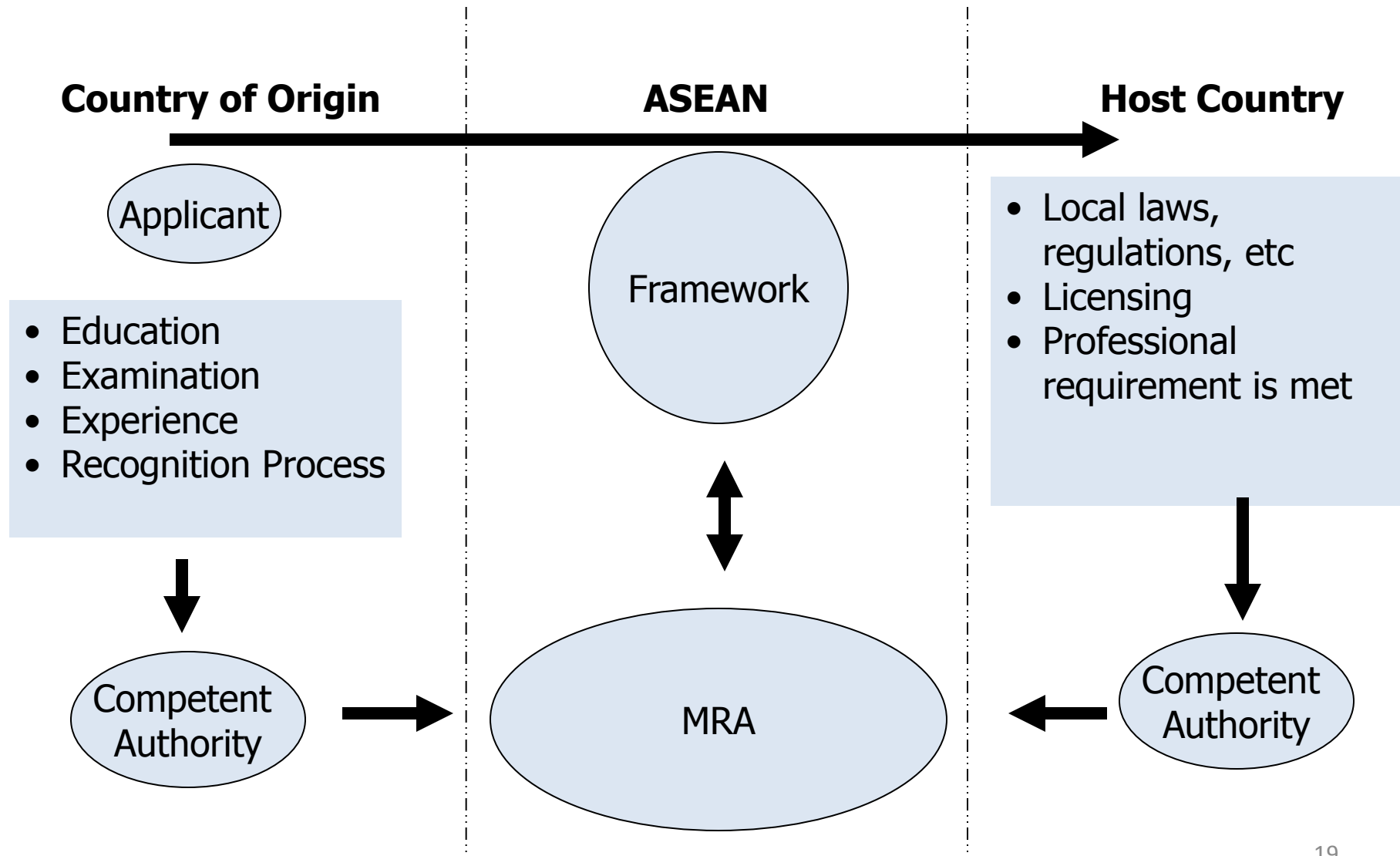


The Roadmap and Implementation Plan

The Meeting of the Competent
Authorities of the Framework
Arrangement for the Mutual
Recognition of Surveying Qualifications
Developed an Implementation /Action
Plan to Enhance Mobility of ASEAN
Professionals on Surveying Services

MRA OF SURVEYING QUALIFICATIONS

Schematic Diagram



What is Mutual Recognition?

- *Mutual recognition is a process which allows the qualifications gained in one country (the home country) to be recognised in another country (the host country).*
- *In different organisations, MRA is a device:*
 - **EU:** for securing the free movement of professionals within the single
 - **WTO:** for creating a global marketplace for services
 - **FIG:** to ensure global exchange of professional qualifications - through a concept that serves the nature of the surveying profession



MRA ...

Goal of MRA :

To facilitate the flow of foreign professionals taking into account relevant domestic regulations and market demand conditions

MRA enables :

Professional services certified or registered by the relevant authorities in their home country to be mutually recognized by other signatory Member States



Challenges & Strategies

Challenges ...



- recognition/definition of surveying services
- the different levels of development between member states
- accessibility and quality of education systems,
- regulatory and licensing/registration systems in place



The Roadmap and Implementation Plan ...

An Expert Group, Land Equity International (LEI) was engaged to provide the technical assistance to find solutions to move The Roadmap & Implementation Plan forward faster



Enhancing Mobility of ASEAN Professionals on Surveying Services

LEI aimed to develop an implementation strategy for the ASEAN MRA for Surveying with the result of improving the freer movement of surveying professionals across ASEAN



Enhancing Mobility of ASEAN Professionals on Surveying Services

While the MRA in ASEAN in Surveying has not been implemented, it is evident that there is currently no limitation on the free movement of surveying professionals engaged in specific projects requiring engineering surveys, GIS and related activities, mapping, geodetic surveying and hydrographic surveying. However, without the MRA being implemented, a surveyor from one ASEAN country could face difficulties in practising surveying in another ASEAN country



Enhancing Mobility of ASEAN Professionals on Surveying Services

The one area where mobility is limited and MRA implementation difficult is in Cadastral surveying related to Land Administration, property and land development. In undertaking cadastral surveys, surveyors act as agents of the state or on behalf of government, and are registered or licensed by the State to undertake these surveys.

The fact that in ASEAN there are multiple legal systems, cultural differences and countries at different stages of development, mobility and mutual recognition of cadastral surveyors across all ASEAN member states still difficult.



Enhancing Mobility of ASEAN Professionals on Surveying Services

- However, “Mutual Recognition” is an enabler
- The core goal to implement an MRA can only be achieved by enhancement of a sustainable surveying profession across all ASEAN member states that underpin country specific, regional and global progress and development



Enhancing Mobility of ASEAN Professionals on Surveying Services

This Project confirmed that a long term vision for mobility and mutual recognition agreements for Professional ASEAN surveyors requires ASEAN-wide appropriate education, professional competencies and institutions

If these needs across AMS can be better understood, documented and enhanced, then MRS's and mobility of surveyors will be enhanced



Enhancing Mobility of ASEAN Professionals on Surveying Services

As a result, the major outcome of this project is:
... a Road Map with detailed activities and outcomes to better understand, document and enhance the education, professional competencies and institution sustainable surveying profession across all ASEAN member states that underpin country specific, regional and global progress and development



The Roadmap and Implementation Plan ...

The Surveying MRA Group Agreed to work towards *ASEAN Registered Surveyor* by excluding the *Land Cadastre* at this juncture with the following focus:

- **Educational Template**
- **Licensing and registration procedure**
- **National Surveying Boards**



The Roadmap and Implementation Plan ...

➤ Educational template

Member States are to prepare the educational template used by the Surveying/Geodetic Program in their universities.



The Roadmap and Implementation Plan ...

➤ **Licensing and registration procedure**

The procedure for awarding license/certificate for ASEAN Registered Surveyor will be further discussed, based on the existing licensing and registration procedure adopted across ASEAN Member States



The Roadmap and Implementation Plan ...

➤ National Surveying Boards

The composition for the various surveying boards to be shared for information and reference.



✓ Success Stories



The Current Status of Registered ASEAN Professionals

Member States	Engineering (ACPEs)	Architecture (AAs)	Accountancy (ACPAs)	Surveying
Brunei Darussalam	15	11	-	-
Cambodia	53	4	-	-
Indonesia	962	145	-	-
Lao PDR	11	9	-	-
Malaysia	304	39	-	-
Myanmar	299	12	-	-
Philippines	260	68	-	-
Singapore	257	86	47	-
Thailand	187	26	89	-
Viet Nam	204	17	-	-
Total	2,552	417	136	-





.... success stories ...

Work towards *ASEAN Registered Surveyor* has been entrusted to Malaysia.

Malaysia will develop a concept paper for discussion in the coming CCS Meeting in October in Cambodia

.... success stories ...

- ✓  **Brunei Darussalam and Singapore** have signed bilateral MRA on Surveying Education Qualifications in November 2016.
- ✓  A bilateral MRA on Surveying Education Qualifications between **Land Surveyors Board Peninsular Malaysia** and **Land Surveyors Board Singapore** has also been concluded.



King Bhumibol Adulyadej - King Rama 9





AFLAG



AFLAG: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The objectives of **AFLAG**, amongst others, shall be:

- ☐ To serve as a focal point for exchange of ideas related to land surveying and geomatics in the ASEAN region
- ☐ To cooperate with national and international organisations and to support and supplement their work



The Role of AFLAG

- assist Competent Authorities in ASEAN Member States in Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening
- assist to establish professional institutions
- assist to set up regulatory and licensing/registration systems
- training



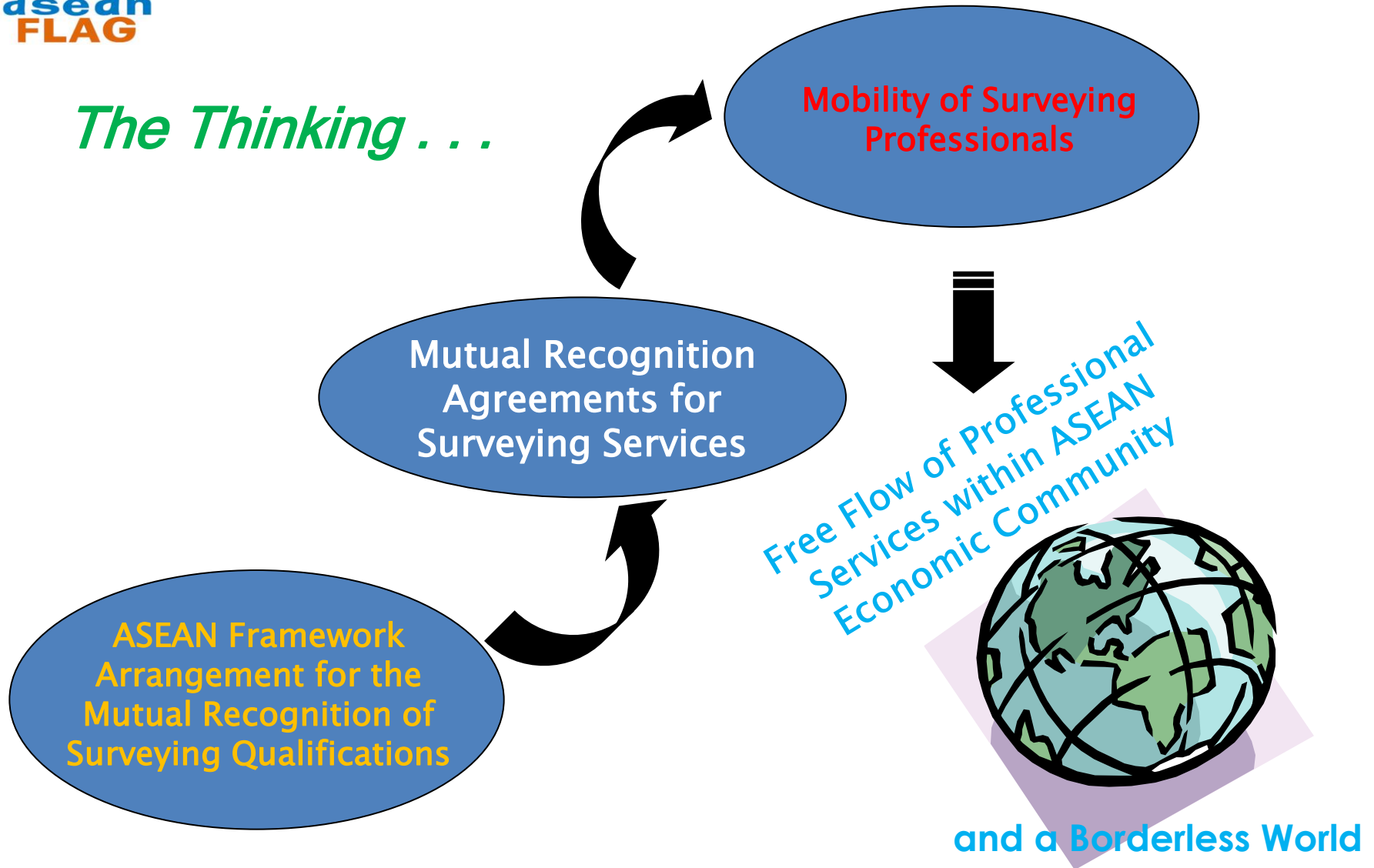
AFLAG Activities

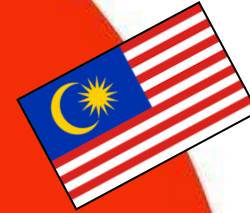
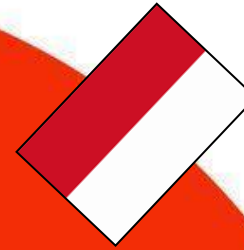
- ✓ Regular Council Meetings; minimum 3x annually in different capitals
- ✓ CPD programs
- ✓ technical visits
- ✓ binneal conference – The South East Asia Survey Congress



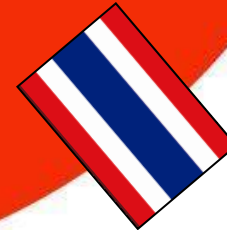
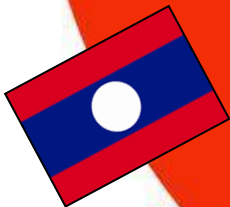
Conclusion

The Thinking . . .





MIND THE GAP





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Happy Birthday ASEAN





no matter how many times
the teeth bit the tongue,
they still stay in the same mouth

That's the spirit of AFLAG & ASEAN

thank you

terima kasih