Myanmar Laos Vietnam Thailand Cambodia Brunei Malaysia Singapore Indonesia

Special Seminar on Social Policy in Southeast Asia

For the last two decades Southeast Asia has been experiencing a number of economic improvements, especially with the progress of regional economic integration under the ASEAN Economic Community. As part of developing resilience to market shocks, a lesson learned from the 1997 Asian financial crisis, Southeast Asian governments have been building national social policies to implement growth strategies while overcome socioeconomic inequalities.

In 2013, the ten ASEAN leaders adopted the Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection that reaffirmed their mutual commitment to building an ASEAN community that is "socially responsible and people-oriented". As social protection has become as a key component of the new global development agenda under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), governments of ASEAN countries vow to eradicate poverty. Nonetheless, the total social protection expenditure in the region ranged from 0.8% to 6.3% (2017); it is still below the global 13% average.

This presentation will focus on the recent development of social policy in Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam, and the challenges of building welfare regime in the region.

Date and Time: March 20, 2025, 15:00-17:00

Venue: Room 515 (第六演習室), GSID Building

Speaker: Jafar Suryomenggolo

Jafar Suryomenggolo is associate researcher with the Centre Asie du Sud-Est (CASE), Paris. He is currently Visiting Professor at the Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences (ILAS), Kyoto University (2025).

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