



Forum: General Assembly

Issue: Increasing Involvement between SADC and ASEAN Blocks

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Introduction

ASEAN is an organisation created in the 1960s in Bangkok, Thailand with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration. The charter (listed below) covers issues of quality of life, education, women empowerment, economic growth and trade. The organisation consists of ten nations in South East Asia with ranging populations and wealth, with the largest being Indonesia and the smallest being Brunei Darussalam.

SADC is an organisation formed in the 1990s in Windhoek, Namibia. The organisation consists of fifteen Southern African nations with ranging populations and economies, the largest by population being the Democratic Republic of Congo and smallest being the Seychelles while South Africa has the largest economy of the organisation. SADC serves to increase fruitful trade between member nations and address issues of poverty and quality of life as shown in the SADC protocol listed below.

Key Terms

ASEAN-Association of Southeast Asian Nations

SADC-Southern African Development Community

Protocol-a legally binding document committing Member States to the objectives and specific procedures stated within it.

GDP-Gross Domestic Product



Countries and Organizations Involved

Vietnam
Thailand
Myanmar
Philippines
Singapore
Malaysia
Lao PDR
Indonesia
Cambodia
Brunei Darussalam

Listed above are member states of **ASEAN**.

Angola
Botswana
Democratic Republic of Congo
Lesotho
Madagascar
Malawi
Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
Seychelles
South Africa
Swaziland
United Republic of Tanzania
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Listed above are member states of **SADC**

General Overview

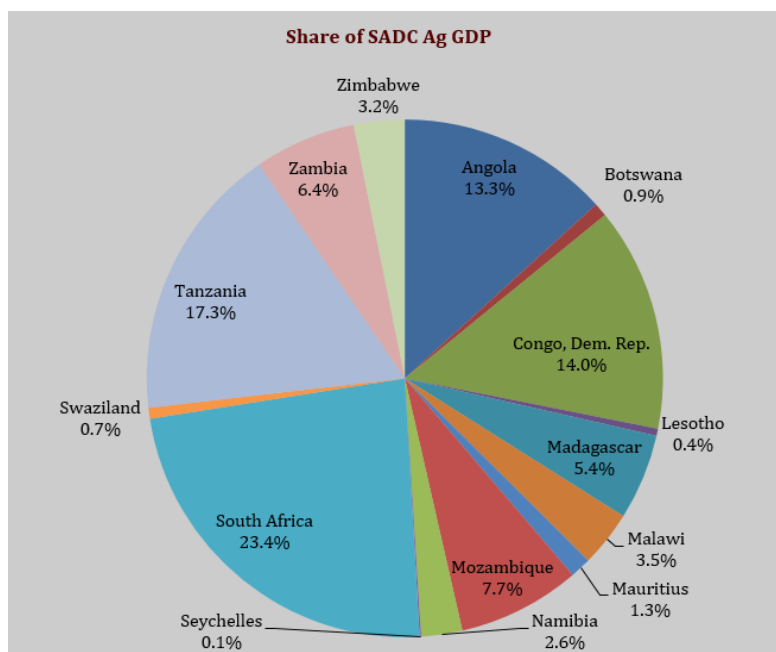
SADC

The Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan is underpinned by the **SADC Vision**, which charts the direction for the development of the region. The Declaration "Towards the Southern African Development Community", adopted by Heads of State or Government of Southern African States in Windhoek, Namibia, on 17 August 1992, calls upon all countries and people of Southern Africa to develop a **vision of a shared future, a future within a regional community. (sadc.int)**

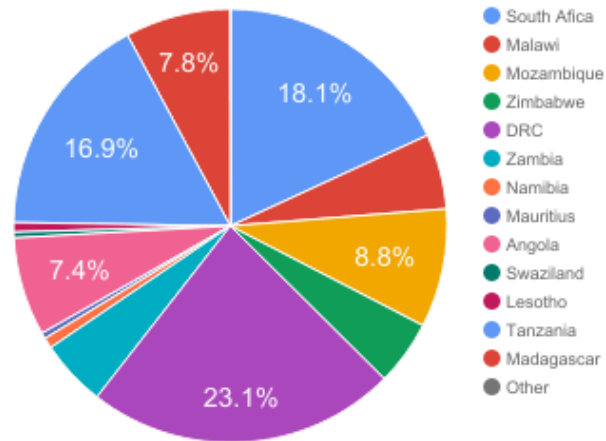
The SADC Vision is to build a region in which there will be a high degree of harmonisation and rationalisation, to enable the pooling of resources to achieve collective self-reliance in order to improve the living standards of the people of the region.

The vision of SADC is one of a **Common Future**, a future within a regional community that will ensure economic well-being, improvement of the standards of living and quality of life, freedom and social justice and peace and security for the people of Southern Africa. (sadc.int)

SADC has flourished from the time of its advent, however, in recent years trade in southern Africa has seen a deep decline as has progress from the SADC group and it seems the idea of a **Common Future** is a far off goal and living conditions have not since seen any significant improvements. Nor has trade between these countries been balanced and fruitful in recent years.



% SADC Population



The above charts show that more populous nations do not always produce as much nor do they contribute as much to the total GDP, for example The DRC contributes approximately 23% of the total population yet the contribution to the total gross produce from SADC nations is only 14%. This shows a low GDP per capita (\$953 per capita) contributing to a lower standard of living within the country, also taking into consideration that the average person is most likely earning less than that.

Many SADC members receive UN aid yet GDPs do not increase, increased SADC involvement and trade may increase local production and exports as well as reducing the imports of items which could be manufactured/produced within the nation, for example: Zimbabwe currently is spending food aid on maize imports from Zambia and South Africa where half the aid could be used for seed imports and/or farming advancements to create a more sustainable means of food production.

ASEAN

As set out in the ASEAN Declaration, the aims and purposes of ASEAN are:

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;



To promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries of the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter;

To promote active collaboration and mutual assistance on matters of common interest in the economic, social, cultural, technical, scientific and administrative fields;

To provide assistance to each other in the form of training and research facilities in the educational, professional, technical and administrative spheres;

To collaborate more effectively for the greater utilisation of their agriculture and industries, the expansion of their trade, including the study of the problems of international commodity trade, the improvement of their transportation and communications facilities and the raising of the living standards of their peoples;

To promote Southeast Asian studies; and

To maintain close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organisations with similar aims and purposes, and explore all avenues for even closer cooperation among themselves.

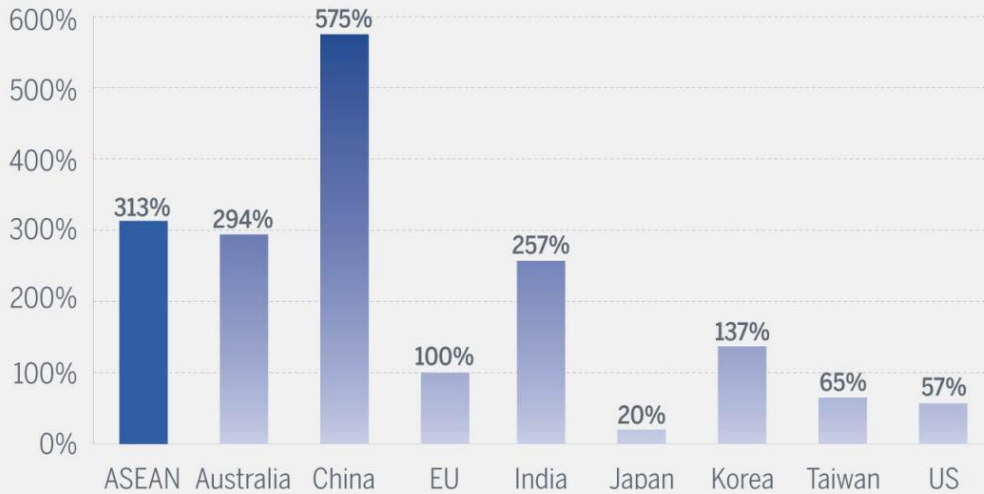
ASEAN has been greatly effective since its advent and still continues to benefit all member nations, considerably stabilising member nations' economies and allowing growth for the smallest and largest economies, ranging from USD11 Billion GDP to USD850 Billion GDP.

No decline in progress is noticeable as it stands, however, poverty is still present and living conditions are still below UN standards.

ASEAN is the second fastest growing economy in the world, yet average per capita GDP remains lower than the majority of nations in the region, as represented below.

GDP GROWTH

ASEAN has been the second-fastest growing economy in Asia between 2001-2013.



PER CAPITA GDP

ASEAN's Per Capita GDP falls between that of India and China.





Related UN resolutions and Previous Approaches to Solving the Issue

The partnership between ASEAN and the United Nations continues to grow more solid and substantive, most recently through our productive contacts at the ASEAN Summit in [the Lao People's Democratic Republic] earlier this month. With ASEAN's Community Vision 2025, our cooperation has entered a new phase, including through a new five-year Plan of Action for the period from 2016 to 2020.

I welcome ASEAN's strong commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which has great potential to transform the subregion and to show how we can translate global goals into regional and national action. The multidimensional character of ASEAN's development strategy is consistent with the depth and breadth of the 2030 Agenda.

I am encouraged that many Governments across the world are aligning their policies and programmes behind the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. There has also been great progress during the past week towards the entry into force of the Paris Agreement on climate change. ASEAN are making important contributions to this work. I welcome the ratifications of the Paris Agreement by several of your members, and I urge others to show similar leadership so that it can cross the threshold this year.

The United Nations looks forward to working with ASEAN to bring these pacts to life, to address poverty, inequality and environmental challenges across the region, and to meet our core promise to leave no one behind.

In a speech given by Ban Ki Moon in 2016.

[Report on Southern African Development from UN earth summit](#)

Works Cited

ASEAN official charter as listed on asean.org

ASEAN economic growth charts according to asiamattersforamerica.org

SADC official Protocol listed on sadc.int

SADC populations and GDPs according to sadc.int

Regional Development Summit address by Ban Ki Moon un.org/press

UN Earth Summit sub-regional report on Southern Africa

<https://www.un.org/esa/earthsummit>



Appendix

	Population/ millions	% of total SADC population
South Africa	52.98	18.14%
Malawi	16.36	5.60%
Mozambique	25.83	8.85%
Zimbabwe	14.15	4.85%
DRC	67.51	23.12%
Zambia	14.54	4.98%
Namibia	2.303	0.79%
Seychelles	0.089173	0.03%
Mauritius	1.296	0.44%
Angola	21.47	7.35%
Swaziland	1.25	0.43%
Lesotho	2.074	0.71%
Tanzania	49.25	16.87%
Madagascar	22.92	7.85%