

12th Japan-Singapore Symposium

23 – 24 October 2017 • Singapore

Public Forum
Ballroom 2, Level 3
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Presentation by

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A “Problem-Solving Approach” To Japan-ASEAN in the next 50 years

- **Value proposition:** co-creation of solutions to shared challenges and problems in the next 50 years
- Outer space infrastructure and development
- End of ASEAN’s demographic dividend?
- Tackling Urbanisation challenges
- Innovation and Disruption
- Military integration and inter-operability with ASEAN forces

Future of ASEAN-Japan Space Exploration and Research

- ▶ Japan already engages in space data sharing with ASEAN members
- ▶ Vietnam signs agreement with JAXA, Sep 2017 for data on rice, water quality and forestry issues from ALOS-2 earth observation satellite
- ▶ Future possibilities for **joint space exploration and research projects** as several ASEAN countries such as Singapore and Thailand already have space and satellite capabilities,
- ▶ **Shared challenges** of space debris collisions and space critical infrastructure for navigation and communication on Earth etc
- ▶ Who knows? Perhaps in 50 years a **regional ASEAN Space Agency** plus cooperation with Japan, similar to European Space Agency cooperation with Canada?

Shared challenges of ageing: end of ASEAN's demographic dividend in 50 years?

- ▶ Japan an ageing country with population decline
- ▶ ASEAN's demographic dividend may peak around 2030 and populations start ageing...
- ▶ **Japan-ASEAN Health Initiative** : Tokyo provides assistance to train 8000 persons over five years to promote healthy lifestyles and disease prevention
- ▶ Inter-generational tensions between young and elderly; pensions reforms; healthcare costs will become increasingly important in ASEAN as in Japan...

Joint solutions to shared challenges as ASEAN urbanises

- ▶ Japan has experience dealing with **urbanisation challenges** such as traffic management; urban transportation like Tokyo Metro; air and water pollution; water supply management solutions etc
- ▶ **Forecast urban population of 373million in ASEAN by 2030, nearly half of ASEAN population now lives in urban areas**, there is room for greater cooperation to address shared challenges
- ▶ **Tokyo Suido Services (now TSS Tokyo Water)** contracted with Bangkok Metropolitan to maintain its water supply system, especially expertise in detecting and fixing leaks
- ▶ JICA planning **Metro Manila** subway project to ease congestion
- ▶ **Mitsubishi Electric** testing new membrane technologies for waste water treatment and recycling, **in cooperation with Singapore**
- ▶ **SG-Japan Infrastructure Roundtables**: Pooling of resources and expertise in third country projects

Innovation and coping with disruptive technologies and trends: Japanese companies in ASEAN might be very different in the next 50 years from what they were in past 50

- **Panasonic** urban farm in Singapore since 2014
- **Fujitsu** launches 2016 high-tech vegetable farm in **Vietnam** as a **co-creation platform**
- **Fujifilm** now moved into skincare and cosmetics market
- **Tech companies** that faced growing competition and disruption from new technologies, diversify to survive
- KPMG 2017 survey finds that **ASEAN CEOs see disruption** as an opportunity to develop new products and restructure
- Potential for co-creation of new products and services?

Integration and closer inter-operability between ASEAN and Japan militaries?

- Can Japan in next 50 years play a larger role in regional security through greater military cooperation with ASEAN?
- **Germany Framework Nations Concept**; allows smaller nations like Dutch brigade integrated into the German Bundeswehr Rapid Response Forces Division and 1st Armoured Division, **requires consent of both sides to deploy bi-national units** while integrating German military into regional security (Foreign Policy 2017)
- **German-Dutch naval cooperation agreement** allows German navy to use Dutch amphibious ships for transport and helicopter landings.
- **Can there be similar integration between Japan and ASEAN forces?**
- **Problem-solving gaps in capabilities for both sides** and providing niche expertise areas against shared challenges: humanitarian assistance and disaster relief; peacekeeping etc...

Mindsets and Mentalities: a two-way learning process

- **ASEAN is not ONE, but 10 countries**
- ASEAN experience **managing diversity** and multi-cultural, multi-lingual, multi-religious contexts, movement of peoples
- Japan becomes more diverse in next 50 years?
- More understanding of Japan's own historical ability to assimilate foreign influences
- More **trans-national links amongst grassroots movements** in ASEAN and Japan on issues ranging from democracy to environment and climate change?

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