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ASEAN Human Capital Development Investment Symposium (AHCDIS) 2025: Day 2 Preview

Muhammad Safwan Ramlan

Head of International Business

ASEAN Year of Skills 2025

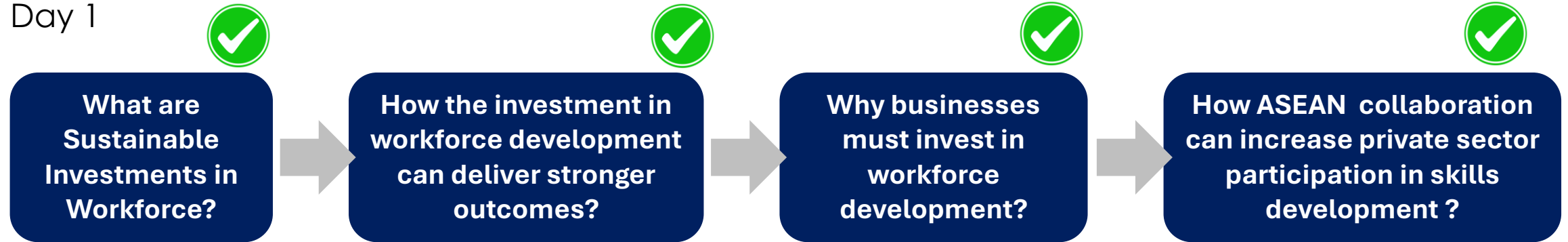
Human Resource Development Corporation (HRD Corp) Malaysia



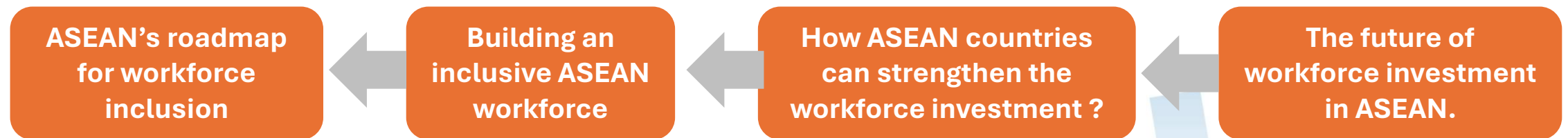
Empowering ASEAN's Future: Investing in Skills
for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development

PREVIEW OF DAY 2 AHCDIS

Day 1



Day 2



KEY ISSUES TO ADDRESS



Limited Financial Resources by Several ASEAN Countries



Limited Investment and Participation of Employers

Limited Effectiveness and Impact of Investments



Limited Contribution of the Financing in Skills Development for Promoting Social Inclusion



KEY ISSUES TO ADDRESS

10:15 AM

PRESENTATION 3

Topic: **Train Smarter, Not Harder: The Future of Workforce Investment in ASEAN**

This plenary session will examine how ASEAN can future-proof its workforce by transitioning from supply-driven to demand-driven skills and technical and vocational education and training (TVET) systems that enhance enterprise productivity, promote decent work and foster inclusive economic growth.

Presenter:



ARLYN SIAOTONG
Chief Administrative Officer Regional Office VI
Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE)

11:35 AM

PANEL DISCUSSION 3

Topic: **Skills, Strategy & Success: Making Every Workforce Dollar Count**

This panel session will focus on strengthening workforce investments in ASEAN to drive productivity, job creation and economic growth. The discussion will highlight strategies to enhance policy coherence, improve financing decisions and foster stronger stakeholder collaboration.

Moderator:



MEGA IRENA
Assistant Director /
Head of Labour &
Civil Service Division
ASEAN Secretariat

Panel Speakers



DR AKIKO SAKAMOTO
Senior Skills and Employability Specialist
International Labour Organisation (ILO)



DR RUBEN D TORRES
General Secretary
ASEAN Trade Union Council (ATUC)



STEPHEN YEE
Assistant CEO
Singapore National Employers Federation (SNEF)



DR MUHAMMAD ALI
Director of Vocational Training and Apprenticeship
Management, Directorate General of Vocational Training and
Productivity Development
Ministry of Manpower Indonesia

KEY ISSUES TO ADDRESS

2:00 PM

PLENARY ADDRESS 4

Topic: **No One Left Behind: Building an Inclusive ASEAN Workforce**

This plenary session will focus on how ASEAN can foster inclusive workforce development by ensuring financing mechanisms and skills strategies are accessible to vulnerable groups.

Presenter



EDWARD VRKIC
Resident Representative
United Nation Development Programme (UNDP)
Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei

3:20 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION 4

Topic: **Right Skills, Right Now: Future-Proofing ASEAN's Workforce**

This panel session will focus on advancing inclusive workforce development across ASEAN, ensuring all individuals can access skills training and decent employment opportunities regardless of background or circumstance.

Moderator:



Jordi Prat Tuca
Technical Specialist
Skills and the Future
of Work
International Labour
Organization (ILO)

Panel Speakers



IZZA ISMAIL
Regional Education & Skills Advisor, Southeast Asia
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office



DEBORAH MELISSA BOTTREAU
Board Member
ASEAN Young Entrepreneur Council



DATO' PROF ULUNG DR. RAJAH RASIAH
Professor of Economics
Asia-Europe Institute, University Malaya

Let's begin the session.

