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Developing a Roadmap for ASEAN Mutual Recognition

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*Based on the work of Land Equity International and the ASEAN Surveyor
Working Group, supported by Australian Aid.*



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ASEAN

The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)



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Project Objectives

LONGER TERM OUTCOMES:

- (1) Systematic and effective implementation of ASEAN MRAs.
- (2) Freer movement of services professionals in ASEAN in general, and specifically of surveying professionals.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To assist ASEAN to transform its existing Mutual Recognition Framework on surveying and services, and other relevant initiatives, into a well-functioning mechanism to facilitate mobility of professionals by developing an appropriate roadmap/implementation plan.

Stage 1: Inception

Develop literature review, approve workplan, engage key stakeholders.

Stage 2: Needs Assessment

Assess the present state of mobility of professionals and explore possible formats of eventual mobility.

Stage 3: Develop Roadmap

Develop an appropriate roadmap towards mobility of surveying professionals in ASEAN.



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Foundation of Mutual Recognition in ASEAN

- World Trade Organisation General Agreement on Trade in Services – 1994
- ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services - 1995
- ASEAN Coordinating Committee on Services (CCS)
 - Mutual recognition arrangements for identified professional services agreed in July 2002 and in July 2003 mutual recognition of surveying qualifications proposed
- ASEAN Framework Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Surveying Qualifications – 19 November 2007



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Foundation of Mutual Recognition in ASEAN

- **Founded on objectives of ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS)**
 - Enhance cooperation in services
 - Improve efficiency and competitiveness
 - Eliminate restrictions to trade in services
 - Liberalise trade in services
- **Recognises that qualifications are an essential component and that AMS have different development levels**



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The ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Surveying Services

Objectives:

- Framework and basis for country-country MRAs
- Exchange of information to promote trust and best practices

Definitions/Terminology

- Host country / Home Country
- FIG Definition of a Surveyor *but excludes planning and urban development*



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The ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Surveying Services

Basis of Recognition:

- 3.1 Education meets requirements of home country. Host country accepts.
- 3.2 “may be a need” for exam
- 3.3 Minimum amount of experience
- 3.4, 3.5 Accessibility and equity of process
- 3.6 Ethics
- 3.7 *AMS agree that basis of recognition requirements in accordance with spirit of standards and guidelines of FIG*



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The ASEAN Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) on Surveying Services

Rights to Regulate

- MRAs shall not reduce, eliminate or modify the rights, powers and authority of each AMS to set and regulate necessary laws, rules, regulations, national policies, standards, requirements.
- AMS to exercise regulatory powers in good faith.

General Activities

- 5.1 Build confidence through standards, best practice and exchange of information
- 5.2 Responsibilities to undertake subsequent MRAs, M&E, promote CPD, exchange information



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Appendix III

PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR A
MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENT OF
SURVEYING QUALIFICATIONS

(Refer to Article 6.1)

Mutual Recognition Arrangement
on Surveying Qualifications
between
<Listing of Competent Authorities
Participating in the Arrangement>

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this MRA is to establish the conditions under which a Surveying Professional in one jurisdiction may have his/her qualifications recognised in another jurisdiction that is a Party to this Arrangement pursuant to the ASEAN Framework Arrangement for the Mutual Recognition of Surveying Qualifications.

2.0 Definitions

3.0 Terms and Conditions

4.0 Terms of Recognitions

5.0 Administration of the Arrangement

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised by their respective governments, have signed this Mutual Recognition Arrangement on Surveying Qualifications.

DONE at, on in copies in the English language.



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Analysis of Key Issues for MR in ASEAN

- Different levels of development, education, registration and licensing systems
- Lack of common definition of surveying services
- Private sector engagement
- Appropriate representation and participation
- Information sharing between countries
- Institutional capacity development and regional ownership
- Sustainability of the profession



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Present status of MR In ASEAN

- Mutual recognition is **already technically operational**
- Registration practices are **typically open to non-nationals**
- **Companies** are also working internationally in the region
- National regulation is typically applied in the **cadastral sector only**
- Mutual recognition applies **to private surveyors only**



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So what's the core need?

- **Sustainability of the profession!**

- Sharing information
- Supporting development / less developed – achieving SDGs
- Create aspirational standards and pathways
- Promoting young surveyors



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Form of Future Mobility of Surveying Professionals in ASEAN

- Education
 - *identifying common standards and cooperation on surveying education*
- Institution
 - *identifying models for the establishment and operation of survey boards and professional associations*
- Profession
 - *Specific steps towards bilateral mutual recognition and potentially an ASEAN Standard*



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