

# **EABC Panel Discussion on ASEAN's Mid-Year Economic Review 2015 ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) *Illusion or Reality?***

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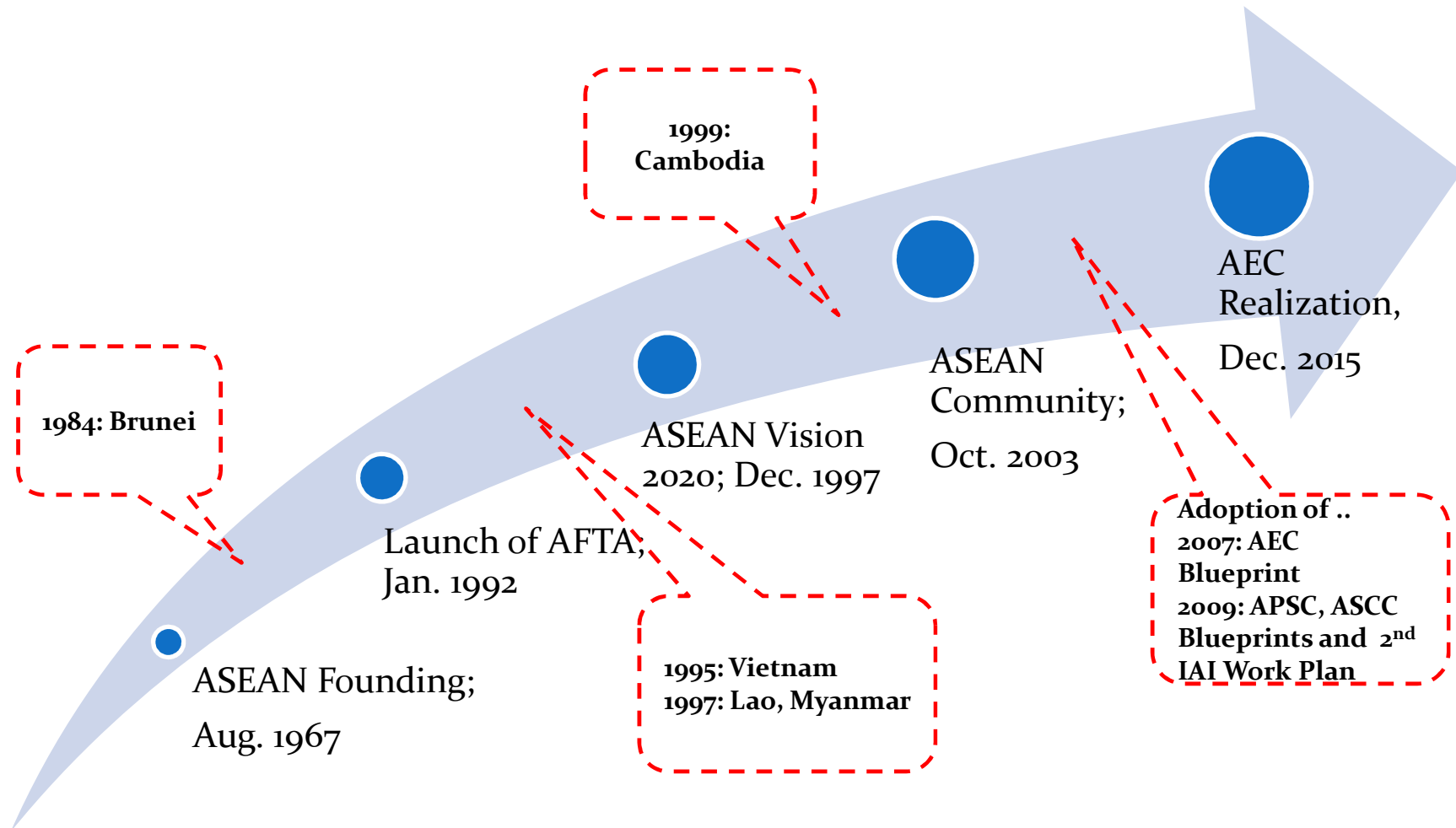
*“The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a community of more than **600 million** people living in ten countries in one of the most dynamic regions of the world. Consistent with this, ASEAN’s share of world GDP and world trade has sharply increased over the past decades ...*

*As the global economy is still recovering from the deep financial and economic crisis of 2008, ASEAN’s regional integration agenda has become even more important ...*

*The ASEAN Economic Community’s bold vision of achieving the free flow of goods, services, investment, and skilled labor in the region is precisely what is needed to achieve higher productivity growth and economic diversification ...”*

*Source: Axel van Trotsenburg, ASEAN Integration Monitoring Report, World Bank and ASEAN Secretariat, 2013*

# Revolution of regional economic integration in ASEAN



# ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)

- AEC Blueprint was signed in 2007 with the 4 pillars;

A: Single  
Market and  
Production  
Base

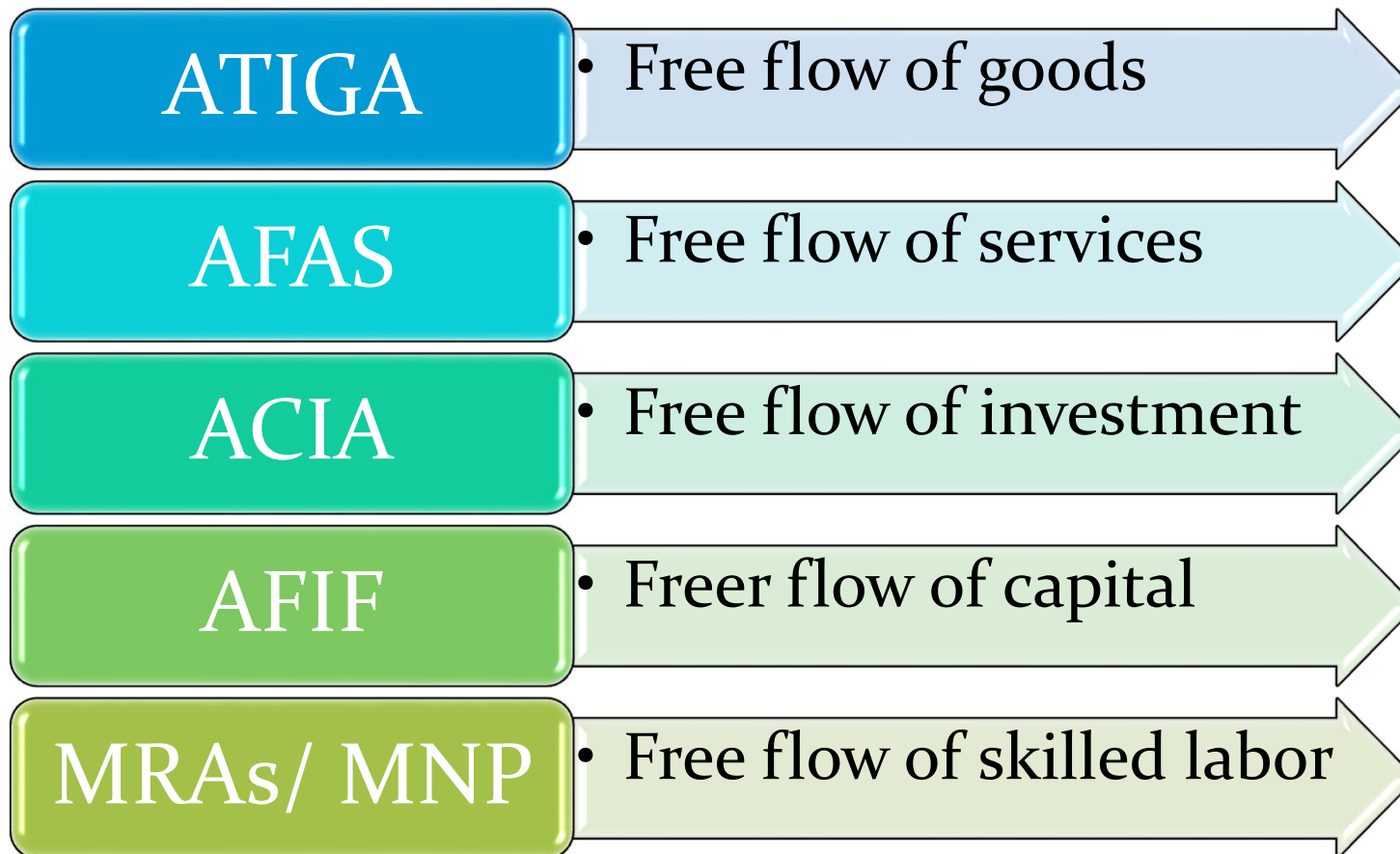
B:  
Competitive  
Economic  
Region

C: Equitable  
Economic  
Development

D:  
Integration  
to Global  
Economy

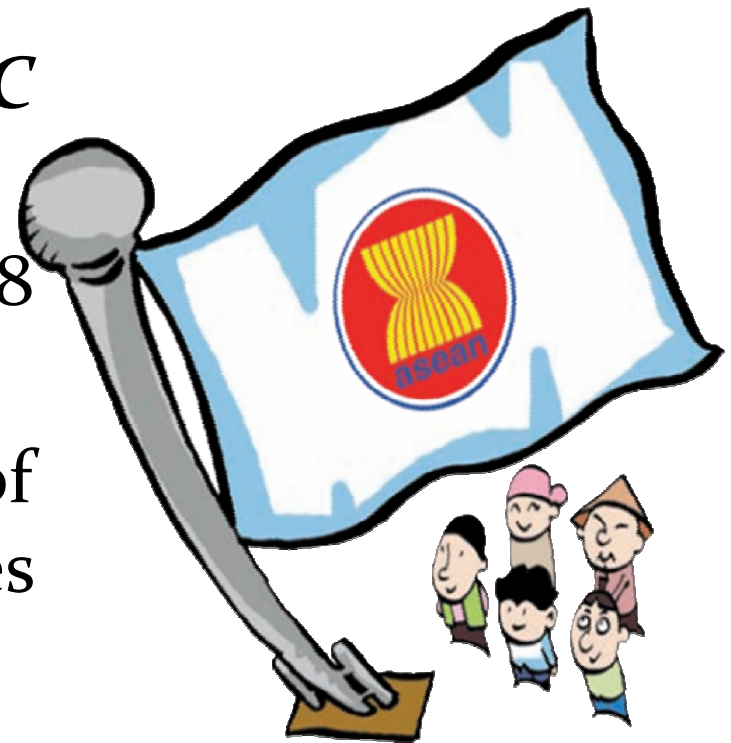


# The most self-related pillar is “Single Market and Production Base”



# Progress of AEC Implementation

- Using the so-called *AEC Scorecard* as a monitoring tool
- To date, Phase I – Phase IV (2008-2015)
- Implementation rate is **82.1%** of the prioritized key deliverables (as of August 2014)





# Challenges

- Delays in ratification of the signed ASEAN agreements and protocols,
- Willingness and eagerness of AMS to achieve ASEAN's goals of "One Vision, One Identity, Once Community"
- Translation of regional initiatives to national laws and regulations,
- Different levels of development within a member state and across the region.



**AEC 2015:  
Illusion or Reality?**