

I would like to provide some updates in addition to the ones that have been written in the paper.

ASEAN and its Member States are in the same view on the importance of utilisation of administrative data and Big Data as alternative sources for official statistics., and we included these in the current strategic plan of the ASEAN Community Statistical System as well as in the Work Plan of relevant ASEAN Working Groups.

In 2020, ASEAN Community Statistical System agreed to start a collective initiative on the utilisation of Big Data to enhance official statistics by implementing lead-country approach and ASEAN-Help-ASEAN mechanism since we acknowledge that some of Member States already have valuable works in this area.

In 2021, we conducted a series of workshop, led by BPS Statistics Indonesia and Department of Statistics Malaysia, to provide ASEAN Member States with necessary knowledge and skills to initiate the works on utilising Big Data in their own country. Then it is followed with the implementation of pilot project on Big Data by five Member States in 2022, and other five Member States and ASEANstats in 2023.

Great appreciation to Indonesia and Malaysia for playing their roles as the lead countries and resource person during the capacity building activities, preparation and implementation of the pilot project.

Appreciation also to SIAP who is willing to conduct relevant training to enrich the knowledge and skills and to provide Member States with additional insights on this matter.

Although currently we did not set a high target for this pilot project, we believe it would contribute to the enhancement of capacity and readiness of ASEAN Member States and ASEANstats in utilising Big Data for official statistics.