

22 July 2019

This class make us understand the whole picture of trading in Asean. Each country in CLMVT has their own ability to produce the varieties of products like Cambodia is good in financial and insurance, Laos is focusing on constructor industry and energy, Myanmar is about mining and natural resources industry due to having abundant resource. All the investor countries are not suppose to invest only certain host country but they prefer to invest in different country to reduce the risk too. For example, Japan do not have to invest about electric industry only in Thailand but they also invest in Myanmar too. I just notice that Korea has played the important role as foreign investor in Asean. They started invest in Thai and then move to be core investor in Vietnam in order to wage rate and expand to new market.

Trading is not just buy and sell as the traditional way but they have to develop the strategy all the time. Moreover, trading across countries are more complicated in order to culture or different level of purchasing power. Now and then, growing with the groups can go further much more growing alone or we call “ White Ocean”. From now, many countries turn to assemble and help together. On the other hand, before working together, many countries are willing to improve themselves for reaching the standard and get certification for guarantee their ability. For example, In the past, they did not allow foreign labor to work in Japan because they afraid of substitution in Japan labor. Nowadays, Japan are facing with ageing society, people are not able to work, needed take care and less consume, in recession of economic. So, they are more flexible in policy because they require huge amount of nurses to their countries. Surprisingly, majority of nurse labor in Japan is Philippine instead of Thai. Despite, Thai is most well-known about great service. The reason is that everything is based on standard. Philippine create certain institution for nursing in Japan, they concern in standard and deep detail such as learning Japanese culture and Japan language.

To having advantage competition, we are supposed to follow the new trends. There are classified the main factor into four factors. first one is joint venture, we have to increase equality

among country and no discrimination for better productive in cooperation. Second, no employment, improving in technology is new step of development. In my opinion, this step should be silently develop because if we develop too fast, unemployment problem will dramatically increase and they cannot adapt themselves to new circumstance. Third, whole supply chain, all company should have second plan and always realise in the worse case. Last and most importance, government policy, about tax reduction and infrastructure development is the attractive factor for FDI. I think concerning only on our country is not enough, we should understand and catch up with global situation for gaining opportunities to be part of them. In Thailand, we have a lot of thing to improve. We shouldn't rely on particular sector but we should involve all the cooperation sectors such as investor, government and civil together for becoming developed country.

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I feel familiar with Myanmar. Indeed, I know nothing about this country, this lecture quite interesting topic. Myanmar just open their country in a few years ago. They have a lot of thing to learn and develop within country but they do well in several sector such as military power or economic sector in growth rate due to strong foundation in country. Advantage competitive of this country is people. Patience, strong ambition and enthusiasm include in Burmese people that make them rapidly growth in economic and other aspects.

Myanmar seem to have problem about political. In fact, after they improve their political

structure under the new constitution for maintaining union of Burma, their political issue is more stable around twice as much than Thailand which drive Burma moving forward so fast. Because they can increase trustworthy and credibility for investor to invest. Even Burma start to develop lately than other countries but they are more efficient. They has reformed in political, economic, social and so on. Recently, they focus more on human right. there are a lot of corruption, discrimination and inequality in Myanmar, they try to improve by signatory to human right international standard for enhancing standard living of people. And, they involve in National reconciliation and peace centre (NPRC) to be another alternative for create peace process.

Even though they are developing far from the past but it is not enough to attract FDI investor. Many investor have to think twice before invest in Myanmar because of undeveloped infrastructure, confused licence, quality of labor and language barriers. Growth rate is continuously increasing every year but net foreign direct investment is still the same since 2011. This is a terrible problem for Myanmar because without investment from foreign investor, they could lack of technology transfer, relationship among globalisation and face with higher amount of unemployment rate. In my opinion, their advantage is rich natural resource. So, using it efficient as much as they can is the way of sustainability. And I recommend them to develop about labor quality. Majority of teenager in Myanmar are uneducated because of poverty. They prefer work to

earn income more than study to acquire the knowledge. It is reasonable because they have to be survival first and then move further to be long-term development like paying attention to education. But, New trend of economic is developing in technology and less unskilled labor force. So, if burmese labor still are uneducated, how can they survive in new era. Government should stimulate to support in education aspects. For example, Government can help by launch the specific capability institution for up level of productivity standard of labor. And, labor do not have to graduated from university or college because of expensive tuition fee but they should receive certification in particular standard like cooking institution or language institution to guarantee the quality.

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Before integrated all the country to be Asean, they have to be the same standard, agree in the same regulation and clearly separate the area of integration that all of these will encourage all the countries in Asean such as Cambodia and Thailand being union. They are classified the area into 5 areas which are Good, Service, Investment, Labor and Capacity. Lecture today will not focus only on international agreement but it will show the another part deeply in real life activity.

We have learned a lot in theory about the Asean. So now, I am going to explain the problem in reality in each of topic sequently. Trading in goods is the first topic that we are talking about, there are sophisticated in international trade in order to agreement and negotiation. As we know Asean try to manage in tariff reduction for increase price incentive to be attractive factor among Asean countries. In reality, even government implements in tariff reduction, they still occur unexpected situation like non-tariff barriers which unofficial payment delivers to the third party like mafia around border country. This problem cannot be eliminated because we has no power enough. Second is combining of services and investment. Some area have the illegal business, obviously in Golden Triangle, which regulation between country is not strong enough to prohibit some kind of these business like gambling or drug. The consequence is that we cannot calculate accurately in GPA because firms do not report everything and we do not know the whole business activities. And the number of illegal businesses will rising because they can escape their own country to another. We are far from succession of movement of labor and capital because we have different standard of skilled worker and currency.

Thinking about Asean can be union as European or not. I think it can be but it take a long times. We have to have everything as the same standard like economic, education or regulation. Nowadays, several countries try to develop their countries to be middle income and some countries are trapped in middle income. So, we have to help each other to be developed further and have strong foundation based on education, skilled labor.

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China

When I was young my grandmother always told me about her stories. In that time I thought she just find some stories to make me fell asleep but after this class it was changed my mind. My grandmother came from China so she is 100% Chinese. Her childhood was very struggle because her family was not rich, so everything seems difficult for her. At that time education was not supported by the government, there was a policy that forbidden citizens to study. If any citizens catch the one who breaks the law, she/he will be promoted and another will be arrested. In order to study, my grandmother need to join the class at 4am secretly. Most of the chinese people in that time trust in the government. They believe that the government will lead the country correctly so they obey every policies and laws. Besides education, the reason my grandmother moved to Thailand is she fled from the war in China and start to settle.

Nowadays, China is a leading country of the world and have many significant role in other countries such as being an important investor that have very high purchasing power in Thailand, Laos and Cambodia. Moreover, China also leads the world's technology industries, they are totally living in a cashless society. Almost everything was sold online, and that make everyone can stay at home to enjoy shopping and no cash needed. The cashless society make more seller join the online market and make a lot of profit while those in offline market such as retailer cannot compete in the market. So they need to adjust strategy to capture worldwide trend in order to survive.

Even though China has several advanced innovations and rapidly grow in economic. They still discriminate each other among different status with in country for example student who born in other province outside shanghai. They are not able to study in shanghai university due to registration system. So, there are alot of institutionalized discrimination from government in China. In my opinion, It is so important because People mind can be an obstacle of next step in China. Improving in human capacity is the another exciting challenge because they have a huge number of populations in China. If the majority of Chinese are educated and reach the standard, they will gain a lot of advantage from it such as unemployment rate reduction and increasing potential in China.

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We understand pros and cons of CLMV country. Start with historical context, they have shared the related history in same period that make them have similarity in development level. Vietnam tend to be independent lately but they are willing to reach the goal for becoming developed country the most. Thanks for their ambition, Now, Vietnam is the most advance and has infrastructure. On the other hand, Myanmar just open their country a few years ago. They start with solving the conflict within country first for strong base and what we should keeps eyes on is next step of Myanmar. All of these countries have natural- rich as a comparative advantage. And, they still are vulnerable in several important aspects like weak government policy and rural-urban migration.

We have many key players being drivers of urban growth. But I am interested specifically in Infrastructure and Foreign investment. First, I will mention about Infrastructure. Developing in infrastructure is not only for enhancing the standard of living and serving convenience for people. But we will gain a lot of advantage. For example, it shows a country potential to attract foreign investor and also be positive impact for tourism sector. About foreign investment, I think they have both side about this. As we know positive impact of investment is technology transfer, employment opportunity and increasing in economic growth. In contrast, My opinion is that we can rely on foreign investment just in short period. Because if we do not have a clear agreement and strong policy, investor will definitely take advantage from us. Like in case of natural curse in Myanmar, they do not realise to sustain their resource and focus only income. So in a next few year, Jade may no longer belong to Myanmar. Another example is in Laos, we cannot denied that foreign investment helping them to develop the country. But don't forget that helping is the cost which have to pay. China develop infrastructure for Laos, this is not the kindness or gift for their relationship. Their help exchanges for rental agreement that Laos have to give land for them to rental as long as

they need and no negotiation. I did not blame that all the investors are bad but I intend to share the negative impact of FDI to be a caution.

I believe that CLMV country will become the middle income soon and can be grown further because of well cooperation among country. Moreover, I concern in rural area in each country. Most investors are willing to invest in economic zone which government will focus to develop in some specific province. So, expanding development to whole country is the challenge for them.