

ANSSR: Economy Priorities and Progress Assessment Measures

Brunei Darussalam

Brunei Darussalam is in the midst of pursuing a 30-year development plan known as the Brunei Darussalam Long Term Development Plan. The Plan aims to place the economy in the top ten globally in the areas of quality of life and income per capita (*Wawasan* or Vision 2035).

The Brunei's Vision 2035, (also known as '*Wawasan Brunei 2035*'), clearly defined three goals, as follows:

- To ensure well-educated, highly-skilled and accomplished Bruneians;
- To ensure a high quality of life; and
- To build a dynamic and sustainable economy.

An important feature of the Vision is the incorporation of strategies and policy directions for development that will provide proper directions to achieve the stated goals. The first Outline of Strategies and Policy for Development (2007-2017) elaborates eight strategies, which covers all aspects of socio-economic development, namely:

- education;
- economy;
- security;
- institutional organisation;
- local business development;
- infrastructure;
- social security; and
- environment.

These eight Strategies are used as a guide to policy makers, regulators and implementers towards realising the *Vision 2035*. In order to prepare development programmes and projects into a more manageable time periods, Brunei Darussalam designs a *five-yearly National Development Plan*. This plan is to manage all new and on-going programmes and projects in line with the strategies and policy directions.

Brunei Darussalam's ANSSR priorities are derived primarily through extracting elements of structural reforms from the Vision. This exercise involved continuous engagement with stakeholders including non-government organisations (NGOs), academia, business community and civil service in aligning their respective development initiatives and plans to the *Vision 2035*.

In ensuring progressive contribution to the Vision 2035, monitoring and evaluation process has been adopted. This comprises of the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which measure progress towards achieving the Vision. Furthermore, programmes and projects supporting the vision are also subject to scrutiny based on three fundamental criteria, namely, prospective contribution to growth, policy relevance, and implementation capacity of the agencies.

ANSSR Priorities

Promoting more open, well-functioning, transparent, and competitive markets	
Priority:	To create environment conducive for business, investment and innovation
Progress assessed based on:	<p>GOAL: To improve Brunei's ranking in World Bank Ease of Doing Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce technology and online system to simplify business applications and payment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Establishment of a Business Licensing System (BLS) by 2012</u> The facility provides a single window which integrates forms for the 13 agencies thus streamlining process and procedures; - <u>e-Registry</u> to reduce time to register companies; - <u>Establishment Authority for Building Control and Construction Industry (ABCi)</u> It serves as a one agency, consolidating processes and procedures of several agencies for approvals of construction and building application; - <u>e-Customs</u> enable processing of documents, make payment of fees and duties online; and - <u>e-Contribution Solution</u> allows employers to make contribution to their registered employees' personal security fund (Employees Trusted Fund and Supplemental Contributory Fund). • Review and amendment of existing law, orders, acts, and/or procedures related to business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reviewed Income Tax Act and Corporate Tax; - To review and amend the Companies Act; and - To review and amend the Land Code. • Introduce new law, orders, and/or acts to facilitate business dealings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enacted The Architect, professional Engineers and Quantity Surveyors Order, 2011; and - To enact Building Control Order. • Establish new agency to facilitate business dealings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of Public Credit Bureau by 2012 • Transparency improvement through publications and establishment of Government's official e-portal (i.e. e-Darussalam), which provides requirements for business applications. • Upgrading of the capacity of business-related implementing agencies

Promoting labour market opportunities, training and education	
Priorities:	To develop skilled, innovative, qualified, creative, adaptable human resource with the same quality with developed economies.
Progress assessed based on:	<p>GOAL 1: To develop and strengthen the human capital by utilizing the Human Resource Development (HRD) Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced three new schemes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training and Employment Scheme Collaboration between the Government; training providers and employers which aims to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ necessary and relevant skills required; ➤ employment to local jobseekers; and ➤ substantial working experience. At least 10% of jobseekers in Brunei Darussalam are given training per year. - Private Sectors' Human Capacity Building Scheme. To develop expertise and skills required by domestic market; and hence, provide the employees in private sector with the same development opportunities as employees in the public sector. To be fully implemented by 2012. - Technical and Vocational Education Scholarship in local private institutions Scheme To widen/increase access to higher education into the local private institutions, for unemployed "O" and "A"-level (or equivalent) school leavers at various level, i.e.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Higher National Diploma (HND) and its equivalent; ➤ Higher National Certificate (HNC) and its equivalent; ➤ National Diploma (ND) and its equivalent; and ➤ Pre-National Diploma (PND) and its equivalent. At least 10% of unemployed "O" and "A"-level school leavers will enter post-secondary education system (i.e. Technical and Vocational Education as stated above).
	GOAL 2: To optimise the domestic labour market potential through systematic planning
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a working group with several agencies To discuss and identify types of manpower requirements by the nation • Setting up a dynamic and flexible labour market information To improve both short- and long-term supply and demand of labour. This is to ensure that individuals are able to develop and enhance the skill required in the dynamic marketplace.