



**ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network (AFTN)
Inaugural Seminar, June 2024**

Call for Papers

“Dawn of a New Age in the ASEAN+3?”

Paper submission deadline: February 29, 2024

The ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (AMRO), with the support of its member authorities and partners, recently initiated the AFTN, a network of leading think tanks and eminent research institutes from around the ASEAN+3 region. The inaugural AFTN Seminar, to be held in June 2024 (location to be confirmed), will focus on the **economic and/or financial implications of population aging and corresponding policy recommendations**, with particular emphasis on its medium- and long-term impact on economies in the region.

Seminar theme

Aging populations, resulting from increases in life expectancy and declining fertility rates, have become a worldwide phenomenon. The problem already affects several economies in the ASEAN+3 region, regardless of whether they are advanced economies (Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Korea, Singapore), emerging market economies (China, Malaysia, Thailand), or even developing economies (Vietnam).

Left unaddressed, an aging population poses a myriad of economic challenges. A non-exhaustive list includes low long-run growth and productivity; slowdown in technological innovation; higher healthcare costs; and strained public finances, as public pension and medical provision costs rise amid lower tax revenues.

Topics of interest

We invite submissions of papers on macro-financial issues of importance arising from population aging in the ASEAN+3 region—from either an economy-specific or regional perspective—that include (but are not limited to):

- Climate change/carbon emissions
- Digitalization
- Financial market implications
- Fiscal space/spending
- Health care
- Income inequality
- Labor market reform
- Mitigation strategies
- Pension reform

- Regional spillovers
- Savings, investment, growth

Submissions from both AFTN members and other research institutions are welcome.

The seminar will prioritize contributions that propose and guide actionable policy recommendations useful to ASEAN+3 member economies.

Submission guidelines

Please send submissions to Jorge Chan-Lau, Principal Economist (Jorge.Chan-Lau@amro-asia.org), cc Denise Ong, Senior Knowledge Management Specialist (Denise.Ong@amro-asia.org), by **February 29, 2024**. Papers should be:

- Original, unpublished work that has not been submitted or accepted for publication elsewhere.
- Between 6,000 and 10,000 words in length, including tables, figures, and references.
- Written in clear, concise English.

Each paper should be accompanied by a cover letter with the name(s) and contact information of the author(s), and a brief description of the research.

Review process

All papers will be reviewed by a panel of experts. Authors will be notified of the decision on their papers by **end-March 2024**.

Other issues

Seminar invitations and an Administrative Circular will be circulated in April 2024. For related enquiries, please contact Vincentius Krisna, Strategy and Coordination Officer (VincentiusKrisna.JuliWicaksono@amro-asia.org).