

# Good practices on Single Window Regional Integration – Experience of ASEAN countries



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# Outline



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- ASW essentials
  - Technical architecture
  - Legal framework
- ASW brief chronology
- Benefits from cross-border exchange
- Incremental benefits from ASW
- Key lessons learned



# ASW Essentials



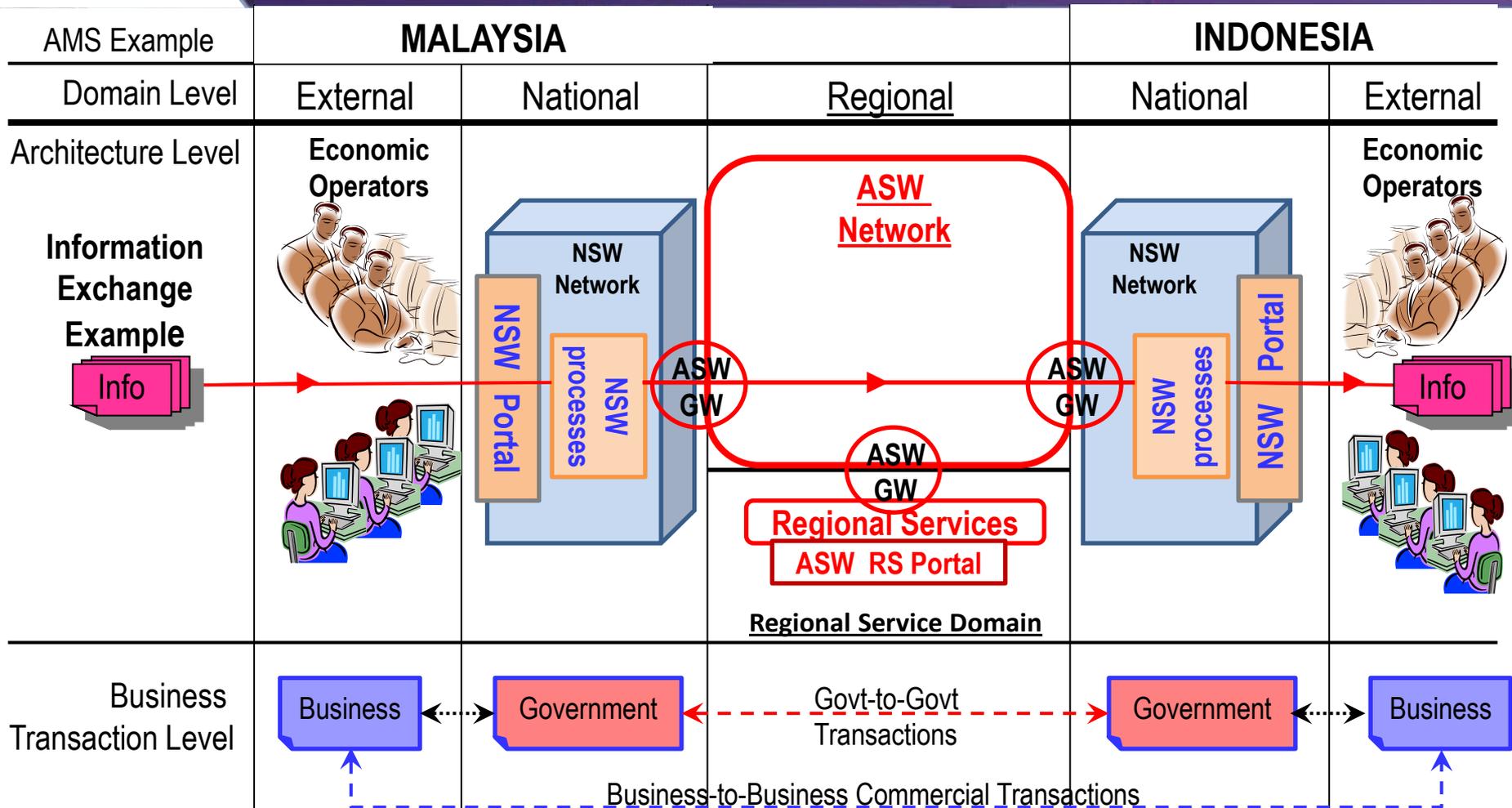
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- What it is: connecting NSWs
- What it's not: a single entry point for ASEAN traders
- An architecture for electronic data exchange
- For ASW: NSWs are national gateways that serve as single point of connectivity with other AMS NSWs

# ASW Technical Architecture



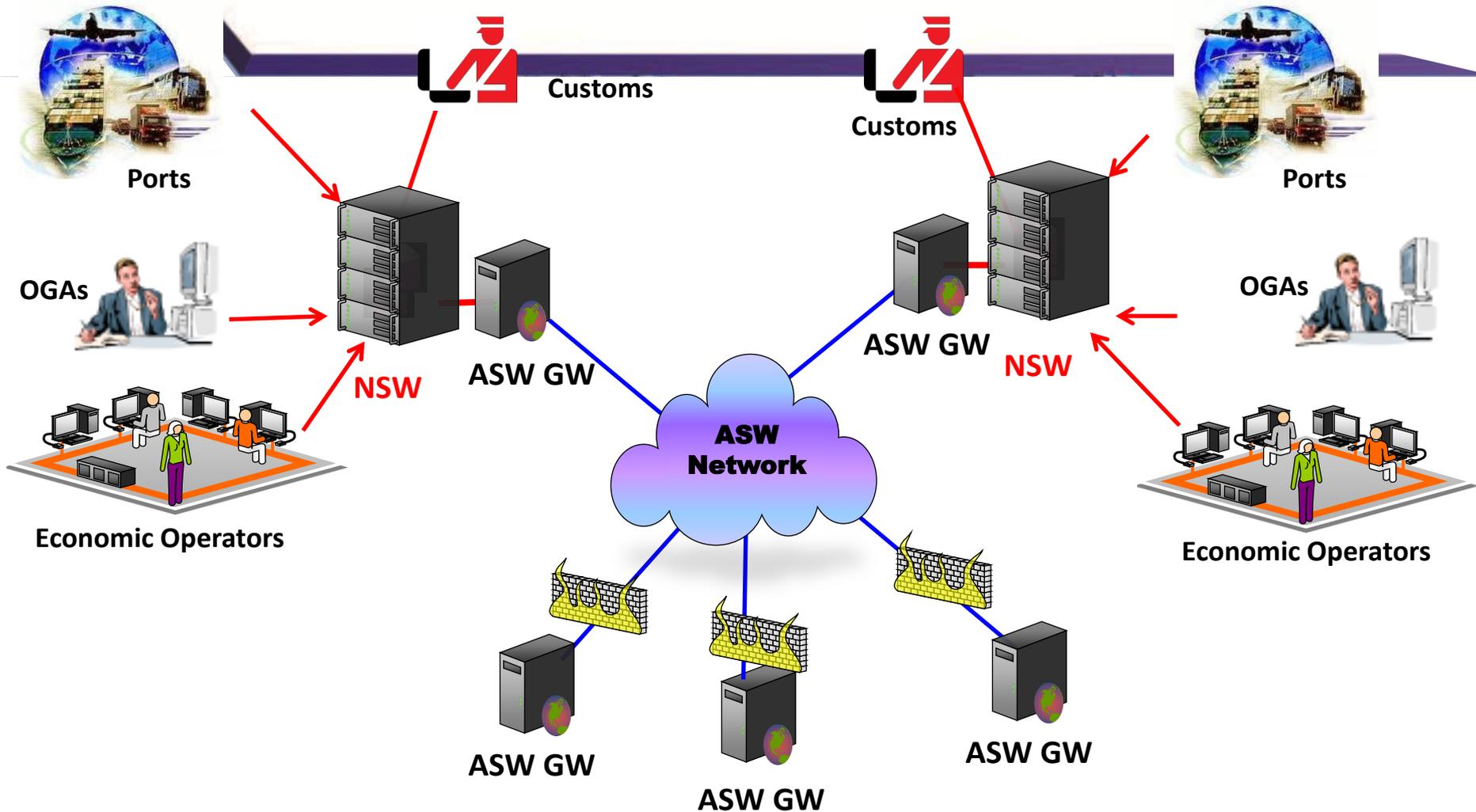
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# ASW Architecture: Another View



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# ASW Legal Framework



- Regional legal framework dependent on national legal frameworks
- SW Legal gap analyses in Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Philippines, and Indonesia
- Regional legal framework discussions ongoing for 'live' ASW



# ASW Brief Chronology



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- 2003: Heads of State endorse idea of single window to support the ASEAN Economic Community
- 2004: Inter-Agency task force to establish ASW
- 2005: ASW Agreement signed
- 2006: ASW Protocol signed (incl. technical guide)
- 2007: First meeting of ASW Steering Committee
- 2009: Launch of ASW Pilot Project; development of software application to exchange origin certificate
- 2010: Legal MOU for Pilot signed by Customs DGs
- 2011: Architecture design for ASW Pilot complete

# ASW Brief Chronology (continued)



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- 2012: ASW Sustainability Study complete – covers value proposition, governance, staffing, business model, financial feasibility analysis, transition path
- 2012: ASW/NSW Symposium
- 2013: Completion of ASW pilot architecture implementation between 7 member states, over a million messages exchanged on test basis
- 2013: Preliminary evaluation of pilot conducted; conclusion: Pilot successfully achieved its objectives
- 2013: Cross-border business process analysis, priority BPs and documents identified
- 2013: ASW web portal launched, [asw.asean.org](http://asw.asean.org)

# ASW Key Upcoming Activities



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- Information Process model: Analyze process and information flow at both national and regional levels for priority business processes and documents
- Data harmonization: Data structures, XML schema to be finalized for priority documents
- Legal: Regional legal framework for live environment to be finalized, national legal frameworks to be compliant
- ASW pilot finalization and live environment by 2015
- ASW full evaluation
- Regional management team in place

# Benefits from Cross-Border Exchange of Data



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## For Governments

- Risk management
- Improved compliance
- Pre-arrival processing
- Traceability of support documents
- Validation of point of origin
- Real-time updates of regional code sets
- Promotes harmonized regional procedures



# Benefits from Cross-Border Exchange of Data



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## For Business

- More efficient supply chain
- Pre-arrival processing/clearance
- Customs transit regime
- Reduce paper submission
- Promote data convergence and re-usability
- Enhance track-and-trace
- Improve predictability, reduce costs



# Incremental Benefits from ASW



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- Technical inter-operability
- Legal inter-operability
- Data validation
- Standardization and harmonization
- Platform for any business application
- Better view of regional data through regional portal
- Time stamping for record keeping in case of disputes



# Some Challenges to Realizing ASW

- NSW implementation
- Complexity: many players
- Harnessing vast amounts of data
- Consensus-based decision-making
- Financial constraints, plan for sustainability
- Effective regional and national legal frameworks



# Lessons Learned from ASW



- Mandate from highest levels key to ASW and NSW implementation
- Institutional set-up: need active regional coordinator, technical and legal working groups, independent experts for reality check
- Individual champions at national level, initiating bilateral initiatives, encouraging collaboration
- Need vision: Ambition is good, but need dose of realism (no super-portal)

# Lessons Learned from ASW



- Critical to get started early on legal framework
- Distributed architecture ensures data is not retained centrally
- International open standards critical for technical inter-operability
- Data harmonization and compliance with WCO Data Model
- National-level and cross-border business process analysis and information/process flow
- Donor support can be useful

# Final Thoughts



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- Is ASW an unqualified success that should be imitated?
  - Enabled connectivity but need to see impact in live environment
  - Promoted NSW development in ASEAN
  - Promoted intra-ASEAN collaboration
  - Increased technical and legal capacity of AMS
- ASW architecture only the beginning

# Thank You



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