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# ASEAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION BRIEF



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## From the Editor

As ASEAN maintains its strong economic resilience, the region also continues to make steady progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint 2025. This thirteenth issue of the ASEAN Economic Integration Brief highlights that, despite facing multifaceted global challenges, ASEAN has laid a solid foundation to address emerging issues, including digital transformation and sustainable economic development. This issue also features special articles on the region's journey and provides insights into the next stage of ASEAN's economic integration.

In the first special article, H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, the Secretary-General of ASEAN, shares his perspectives on the future of ASEAN Economic Community, outlining six priorities to guide ASEAN moving forward. SG Dr. Kao also underscored the importance of building upon the successes achieved during Cambodia's Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2022, and carrying forward the momentum into Indonesia's Chairmanship this year.

The second special article features H.E. Airlangga Hartarto, the Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and the Chair of the ASEAN Economic Community Council 2023. Minister Airlangga elaborates on Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship and its efforts to establish ASEAN as the Epicentrum of Growth. In addition, he highlights the Priority Economic Deliverables for this year, focusing on the three strategic thrusts namely Recovery and Rebuilding, Digital Economy, and Sustainability.

As a regular feature of the AEIB, this issue includes analysis of regional economic outlook, the latest updates on the AEC, as well as key economic indicators relevant to the region.

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# The Future of ASEAN: Six Priorities for Action

H.E. Dr. KAO  
KIM HOURN

Secretary-General of  
ASEAN



**S**ix months into my tenure as the Secretary-General of ASEAN, I am honoured to be in this critically important position to build upon the successes of Cambodia's Chairmanship of ASEAN in 2022, under the theme "ASEAN A.C.T.: Addressing Challenges Together," and to carry forward the momentum to Indonesia's Chairmanship of ASEAN this year, centred around the theme of "ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth."

Certainly, ASEAN is a unique region with strong and robust economic prospects and promising future. Currently the fifth largest economy in the world, with a combined GDP of more than USD 3.6 trillion in 2022, the region is poised to become the fourth largest economy by 2030, behind only the United States, China, and India.

Supporting these promising growth prospects is the favourable and dynamic demographic of the region. Currently, around 60 per cent of our region's total population of 670 million are under the age of 35 and it is estimated that 50 per cent of ASEAN's population will join the ranks of the middle-class by 2030, doubling the size of the region's middle-class population of 2020.<sup>1</sup>

Whilst ASEAN's economic integration has progressed significantly, it is crucial that ASEAN continues to prioritise and takes decisive actions in its regional economic integration efforts. To that end, I believe it is imperative to

focus on what I refer to as the **Six Ps**, which I have set out during the Transfer of Office of the Secretary-General of ASEAN on 9 January 2023, as follows:

*First, **peace** is the prerequisite of virtually everything we can name of, ranging from the right to live, to sustainable development. The maintenance of **peace**, stability, and security in the region is so vital to all aspects of ASEAN's integration, including economic integration, as well as ASEAN Community-building, so we cannot afford to take peace for granted. The three fundamental factors have been the cornerstone in fostering the region's economic integration thus far. Peace, stability, and security are not only vital to the deepening of ASEAN's internal economic integration, but also plays a crucial role in strengthening our engagement with the global economic community.*

*Second, it is crucial for ASEAN to build upon the **prosperity** it has achieved to date. Despite global challenges, ASEAN has maintained its growth momentum and is expected to grow by a comparatively strong 4.7 per cent this year and 5.0 per cent next year.*

ASEAN's prosperity has also been driven by the region's robust commercial environment as evidenced by its position as the fourth largest trader in the world with a trade value of USD 3.8 trillion, accounting for 7.8 per cent of global trade. To continue advancing its prosperity, ASEAN needs to prioritise the effective implementation of the *Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement*. Concurrently, it should also continuously upgrade its internal and external Free Trade Agreements to ensure that they are relevant, modern, forward-looking, and responsive to the emerging trends and developments.

Fostering a conducive investment environment, likewise, is critical to the region's prosperity-building efforts. In 2021 alone, ASEAN attracted a total of USD 197.2 billion investment, and this made the region the third largest foreign direct investment (FDI) recipient globally. As a result of global supply chain restructuring, ASEAN should leverage its advantages to attract potential investments in areas of strategic importance for the region, such as the digital economy (e.g. semi-conductor and electric vehicle) and green investment (e.g. renewable energy and sustainable infrastructure).

*Third, whilst it is imperative for our economic integration efforts to go beyond economic growth, it is also important to focus on the **planet**. It is encouraging to see that we have redoubled our effort to integrate sustainability concerns into*

<sup>1</sup> Bain and Temasek, with contributions from Microsoft (2022). *Southeast Asia's Green Economy 2022 Report: Investing behind new realities.*

our economic integration efforts in recent years, which is evident by the launching of the *Framework for Circular Economy for the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)*, as well as the ongoing work to develop an *ASEAN Carbon Neutrality Strategy*, amongst others. Nevertheless, moving forward, it is essential for the AEC to further elevate its sustainability agenda, ensuring that it serves not only profit-driven objectives, but also advances the region's inclusive and sustainable development pathways.

*Fourth*, it is crucial to place **people** at the centre of AEC policy-making. Whilst the business community will always play an important role in our economic integration endeavours, equal attention must be directed towards the marginalised groups that may be impacted by the implementation of AEC initiatives. These marginalised groups would include women, youth, micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and other vulnerable segments of our society. By prioritising their needs and interests, as well as ensuring their inclusion, we can foster a more equitable and inclusive AEC that benefits all stakeholders.

*Fifth* is the strategic importance of our **partnership** with our partners, particularly ASEAN's Dialogue Partners, Sectoral Dialogue Partners, and Development Partners, which is the key to achieving our 'Global ASEAN' objective. Beyond the RCEP and its existing FTAs, ASEAN should continue to actively look to establish economic partnerships

and engagements with new and diverse partners. By expanding and diversifying our network of partnerships, we can further enhance ASEAN's global presence and unlock new opportunities for economic growth and development.

*Finally*, it is important for ASEAN to transform its **potentials** into tangible benefits for its people. To achieve this, ASEAN must be able to take bold actions consistently and timely to deepen its economic integration. This ambition is exemplified by, amongst others, our determination to develop a high-quality *ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA)* by 2025. Expected to be the first of its kind in the world, the DEFA will not only add value to the already dynamic digital environment in the region, but will also pave the way for ASEAN to become a leading digital economic community.

The next five years of my tenure will undoubtedly be one in which we must address difficult challenges and complex issues. Nevertheless, I am confident that with the support of my team at the ASEAN Secretariat, and working closely with the ASEAN Member States, external partners and friends from within and outside the region, as well as the wider stakeholders, we will successfully achieve our AEC 2025 goals and chart our post-2025 economic integration agenda and priorities for the benefits of our region and its people.

Let us make peace a top priority for our people living on this planet to expand their partnership in order to attain prosperity.

## ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

**A**SEAN demonstrated strong economic resilience with 5.7 per cent growth in 2022, driven by robust domestic consumption, enhanced investment, and expanded trade.

The manufacturing sector continued to play a vital role as the primary driver of growth, whilst the services sector is poised to contribute further to economic expansion. Despite the region facing several challenges, including persistent inflation, financial tightening, and weakened global trade, ASEAN economy is expected to maintain a robust growth

trajectory underpinned by its strong fundamentals. Growth is projected to reach 4.7 per cent in 2023 and 5.0 per cent in 2024.

**ASEAN Trade.** In 2022, ASEAN's trade exhibited robust performance, achieving a strong growth rate of 14.9 per cent and reaching a value of USD 3.8 trillion. This growth was primarily driven by the expansion of trade in fuel (HS-27) and electronic products (HS-85), which recorded annual growth rates of 52.5 per cent and 11.7 per cent, respectively.





**Table 1. GDP, Trade and Investment**

AMS	Annual GDP Growth			Trade in 2022		FDI in 2022	
	2022	2023f	2024f	USD billion	Growth per cent	USD billion	Growth Per cent
ASEAN	5.7	4.7	5.0	3,847.0	14.9	224.2	5.5
BN	-1.6	2.5	2.8	23.3	24.9	-0.3	-238.9
KH	5.3	5.5	6.0	50.7	19.6	3.6	2.7
ID	5.3	4.8	5.0	529.4	23.8	22.0	4.0
LA	2.3	4.0	4.0	17.2	26.5	0.6	-40.7
MY	8.7	4.7	4.9	655.8	22.0	17.1	40.8
MM	2.4	2.8	3.2	34.3	20.7	3.0	196.6
PH	7.6	6.0	6.2	224.0	7.4	9.2	-23.2
SG	3.6	2.0	3.0	990.1	14.8	141.2	7.7
TH	2.6	3.3	3.7	592.3	9.6	9.9	-32.1
VN	8.0	6.5	6.8	729.7	9.5	17.9	14.3

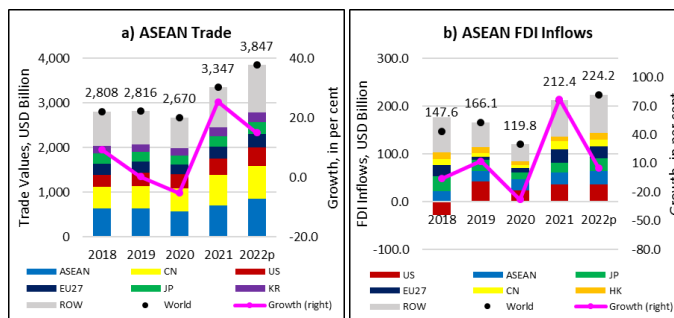
Source: ASEAN Secretariat (June 2023); GDP Forecast is based on ADB (April 2023)

Amongst the trading partners, China emerged as the largest bilateral trading partner, accounting for a total trade value of USD 722.2 billion, equivalent to 18.8 per cent of ASEAN's overall trade. Following China, the United States and the European Union held significant shares of 10.9 per cent and 7.7 per cent, respectively. Notwithstanding, intra-ASEAN trade retained the largest share at 22.3 per cent (up from 21.3 per cent in 2021), indicating a deepening integration of trade within the region. This intra-regional trade growth, was primarily driven by trades in fuels and electronic products.

**ASEAN FDI.** The total amount of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows into ASEAN reached USD 224.2 billion in 2022, indicating a moderation from the high growth rate of 77.4 per cent in 2021 to 5.5 per cent in 2022. The primary sector experienced the most decline, plummeting by 61.6 per cent due to disruptions in global commodity markets. Meanwhile manufacturing and services demonstrated resilience, recording growth rates of 12.8 per cent and 6.0 per cent, respectively. In terms of partners, the US retained its position as the largest with total inflow of USD 36.6 billion, accounting for a 16.3 per cent share of ASEAN's total inflows. Japan took over the second place with a share of 11.9 per cent (up from 9.8 per cent in 2021) following a substantial growth of 27.7 per cent. On the other hand, the European Union's share declined to 10.7 per cent, placing them in the third position. Nevertheless, intra-ASEAN investment continued to play a substantial role in the region's investment landscape, accounting for 12.3 per cent (increased from 12.0 per cent in 2021). This highlights the importance of investment flows within the ASEAN region itself.

**Purchasing Manager Index (PMI) in Manufacturing and Tourism.** The positive outlook for the region is further underpinned by a resilient manufacturing sector and a promising recovery in tourism. Despite some AMS experiencing declines in manufacturing PMI in the fourth quarter of 2022 due to weakened external demand, the overall economic prospects remain favorable. Encouragingly,

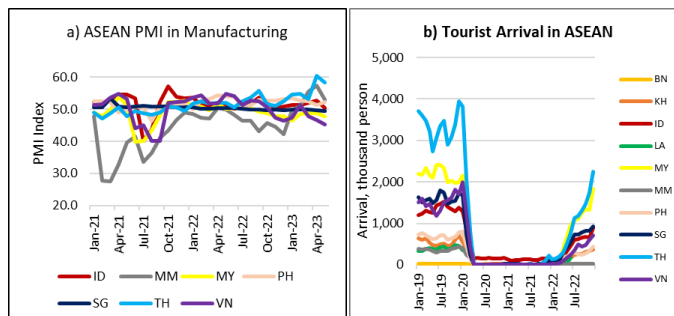
**Figure 1. ASEAN Trade and Investment**



Source: ASEAN Secretariat (June 2023)

the second half of 2022, with monthly arrivals in seven AMS surpassing half of their pre-pandemic monthly average by early 2023. Moreover, the region anticipated positive spillover effects— including in trades and services— resulting from the reopening of China's borders.

**Figure 2. PMI and Tourism**



Source: a) Trading Economics (May 2023); b) ASEAN Secretariat (May 2023)

**Risks.** The road to economic recovery in the region is not without obstacles and potential pitfalls. Inflation has been more persistent than expected, driven in large part by the ongoing conflicts in Eastern Europe, which have caused vulnerabilities in food and energy prices. Meanwhile, there is a looming possibility of prolonged monetary policy tightening, which could introduce risks to financial stability. In addition, escalated geopolitical tensions and the potential for economic fragmentation, combined with climate-related policies adopted by major nations, poses threats to long-term growth prospects for the region. In this regard, ASEAN should address both immediate and long-term challenges by implementing comprehensive and adaptive strategies.

**Way Forward.** As ASEAN sustains its positive economic growth trajectory, it must adopt a multifaceted strategy to tackle future challenges. This strategy entails economic diversification, prioritising regional integration, and promoting multilateralism. ASEAN's intensified sustainability efforts, encompassing the transition to a circular economy, achieving carbon neutrality, and embracing the digital economy, will play a vital role in driving the region's development. By proactively addressing these transformative initiatives, ASEAN can navigate challenges, ensure resilience, and pave the way for a prosperous future.

# SPECIAL FEATURE

## ASEAN as an Epicentrum of Growth: Propelling Southeast Asia as an Economic Powerhouse

### H.E. AIRLANGGA HARTARTO

Coordinating Minister for  
Economic Affairs of the  
Republic of Indonesia

Chair of ASEAN Economic  
Community Council 2023



In the bustling corridors of power and economic opportunities across the region, Indonesia assumed the ASEAN Chairmanship in 2023 with a resolute vision of “ASEAN Matters: Epicentrum of Growth”, shedding light over ASEAN’s pivotal year of resilience and the vastly untamed economic possibilities that lie within Southeast Asia. Half a year after delving into the helm of the ASEAN leadership, Indonesia believes in the *Epicentrum of Growth* as a clarion call for ASEAN Member States to spearhead initiatives that will propel the ASEAN Economic Community into new heights, fostering new engines of growth ripe for shared prosperity and redefining ASEAN’s position as an economic powerhouse.

Under the ASEAN Economic Community, Indonesia housed the 16 Priority Economic Deliverables (PEDs) this year under 3 Strategic Thrusts, namely: 1. **Recovery and Rebuilding**; 2. **Digital Economy**; and 3. **Sustainability**.

The first strategic thrust centres around the crucial task for ASEAN to rebuild regional growth through connected markets and new competitiveness. In the aftermath of addressing shared challenges together posed by the global pandemic, it is imperative for ASEAN to chart a path towards a resilient regional economy. This thrust includes PEDs on services facilitation, financial stability, food security, trade and investment beyond the region, and resilient supply chain for industrial projects.

Under this thrust, ASEAN has thus far welcomed the ASEAN Leaders’ Declaration on Advancing Payment Connectivity and Promoting Local Currency Transaction. This Declaration, amongst others, recalled the bilateral payment connectivity developed between Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. We encourage broader participation to this initiative to facilitate smoother trade and investment flows and promote financial stability within the region.

With the other PEDs progressing underway, Indonesia seeks to lay the foundation for a more resilient ASEAN in the face of future crises, including by unlocking the vast potentials of ASEAN’s services sector, strengthening the region’s food supply chain and logistical systems, and promoting growth of new avenues of industrial production networks within ASEAN and beyond.

Recognising the rapid waves of digitalisation, the second strategic thrust seeks to accelerate inclusive digital economy transformation and participation. The forefront of this thrust is the implementation of the Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap (BSBR) and the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025.

This year’s milestones will include the full implementation of the electronic certificate of origin through the ASEAN Single Window, advancing cross-border payment linkages, harmonising regulations on digital data flows, and accelerating the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA) negotiations. Indonesia believes these PEDs will harness clearer pathways for ASEAN’s digital ecosystem, leveraging concrete benefits for businesses to inclusively thrive, including for MSMEs.



Bearing in mind of a greener economy, the third strategic thrust highlights the promotion of sustainable economic growth for a resilient future. This thrust encompasses PEDs on harmonised standards, electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem, blue economy, sustainable finance, and interconnected energy security.

At the 42<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Summit, the Leaders welcomed the Declaration on Developing Regional Electric Vehicle Ecosystem, serving as a foundation to further develop policy recommendations in improving EV infrastructure and charging stations across ASEAN. In line with ASEAN's commitment to transition finance, AEC has achieved a significant milestone with the release of the ASEAN Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance Version 2, by incorporating transition finance to support greener economy and aligning with global efforts to mitigate climate impacts.

Looking ahead, Indonesia's ASEAN Chairmanship will espouse the new ASEAN Blue Economy Framework and establish the inaugural ASEAN Blue Economy Forum, both providing a solid cornerstone for blue economy as a growth

driver of the region. Other upcoming milestones also include the Roadmap of ASEAN Harmonised Standards to Support SDGs Implementation and the Joint Declaration for ASEAN's Energy Interconnectivity through flagship projects under the ASEAN Power Grid and the Trans-ASEAN Gas Pipeline.

By adopting sustainable practices within regional collaboration, this strategic thrust serves as a testament to Indonesia's commitment to champion ASEAN as a responsible and forward-thinking regional community.

Indonesia believes that these PEDs have resounded a call to action, urging AMS to seize this unprecedented moment to position ASEAN as a formidable force in the global economic arena. As the *Epicentrum of Growth* beckons a symbol of resilience and boundless possibilities, we look forward to reinforcing the vision of an economically vibrant and increasingly integrated ASEAN Economic Community.

## UPDATES ON THE ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY



**D**espite facing multifaceted global challenges, ASEAN continues to make steady progress in the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) *Blueprint 2025 over the past six months*. The AEC has prioritised critical action lines to post-pandemic recovery and emerging issues, demonstrating commendable efforts on digital transformation, sustainable economic development, and deepening market integration within the region and global, amongst others.

### Digital Transformation

The digital transformation has brought about fundamental changes in the way the economy functions and how societies interact. ASEAN recognises the importance of digital transformation and has placed it high on its agenda. Significant progress has been achieved in various areas, including e-commerce, paperless trade, digital payment, and cybersecurity.

Notable progress has been made in the implementation of the *Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap on Digital Transformation*,



which aims to advance both ASEAN's economic recovery and digital economy integration.

The expansion of the *ASEAN Customs Declaration Document (ACDD)* is being accelerated to facilitate the exchange of export declaration information amongst ASEAN Member States (AMS). As of today, eight AMS have joined ACDD live operation, whilst two remaining AMS are expected to have full live operation within this year.

ASEAN is also expediting the completion of the study on the *ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA)*. The goal is to conclude the Framework within 2023 and the substantive modules of the Agreement by 2025. The DEFA, once completed, would be a crucial step for ASEAN to realise its strategic goal of becoming the leading digital community, powered by secure and transformative digital services, technologies, and ecosystems, as identified in the *ASEAN Digital Master Plan 2025*.

Another major initiative, the *Framework for Promoting the Growth of Digital Start-up Ecosystems* has been completed in



February 2023. Upon the completion of this project, relevant ministries and agencies in AMS could develop practice-based policies that will foster start-up ecosystems in their respective countries.

Furthermore, to guide the establishment of common principles for trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI), the development of a *Guideline on AI Governance and Ethics* is currently underway. Once completed, the Guideline will give certainty and guidance for businesses in the region on key governance and ethical issues that need to be addressed when deploying AI.

In the area of payment system, there are currently six Quick Response (QR) payment linkages between Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam that will promote regional payment connectivity and simplify retail payment within the region.

### **Sustainable Economic Development**

ASEAN has been actively mainstreaming the sustainability agenda across its sectors as a strategic action to maintain the region's economic competitiveness and long-term resiliency. Recently, during the Special Retreat Session held on 7 May 2023, the AEC Council Ministers engaged in productive discussions on various sustainability topics, including circular economy, carbon neutrality, the taxonomy on sustainable finance, and the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem. *The ASEAN Leaders' Declaration on Developing Regional EV Ecosystem* at the 42<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Summit further demonstrates the region's commitment in supporting the adoption of EV and establishing ASEAN as a global production hub for the EV industry.

In January 2023, ASEAN launched the *Framework on Sustainable Tourism Development in Post COVID-19 Era* that aims to guide sustainable tourism development agenda in the region. This Framework seeks to strengthen existing relationships with local communities, visitors, and other relevant stakeholders to enhance ASEAN's strong reputation and branding.

To attract sustainable investment and further promote investment benefits for social and environmental objectives, ASEAN launched the *Report on Sustainable Investment*. Developed through a strong collaboration between ASEAN and OECD, the Report aims to help AMS in implementing the sustainable investment component of the *ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework*, by providing indicators to assess the sustainability impact of FDI, benchmark investment policy reforms and investment promotion programmes, and advise ways to empower responsible business conduct and policy initiatives to advance green investment.

The *Implementation Plan for the Framework for Circular Economy* and the corresponding Work Programme would be key in achieving low-carbon future for ASEAN. The Work Programme was completed in September 2022, followed by adoption of the Implementation Plan in February 2023. Currently, ongoing socialisation on these initiatives is conducted to relevant sectoral bodies and stakeholders.

Furthermore, the development of the *Strategy for Carbon Neutrality* is underway following the adoption of its Concept Note in February 2023. The Strategy aims to provide a systematic, orderly, and inclusive pathway for ASEAN to become carbon neutral in the years to come. The Strategy will build upon existing initiatives and identify common areas that would accelerate the region's transition towards carbon neutrality and sustainable development.

Following the successful release of the *Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance (Version 1)* in November 2021, ASEAN published the *Taxonomy for Sustainable Finance (Version 2)* in March 2023. Whilst the First Version laid out the broad framework of the taxonomy, the Second Version provides further development on the guiding questions, decision trees and use cases that address all environmental objectives and essential criteria, and allows any AMS to apply the framework to immediately commence its sustainability journey in a consistent and structured manner.

### **Deepening Regional Market Integration and External Economic Relationship**

ASEAN continues to play a central role in shaping the evolving regional economic architecture, reinforcing its commitment to multilateralism, and promoting economic integration. The region remains dedicated to maintaining robust, open, and competitive market, through the upgrading of existing free trade agreements and facilitating essential trade and investment transactions as the driver of economic recovery post-pandemic and beyond.

An important development in this regard is the commencement of the ASEAN-China FTA upgrade negotiations with the adoption of the Rules of Procedures, the Work Plan, and the outline of the negotiation in February 2023. In addition, the Philippines deposited its Instrument of Ratification of the *Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement* with the Secretary-General of ASEAN in April 2023 that signifies the completion of ratification of RCEP by all parties involved.

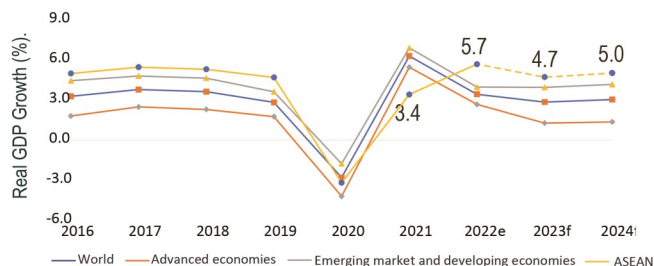
Lastly, on services, the ratification process of *ASEAN Trade in Services Agreement (ATISA)* is currently ongoing, whilst the Work Plan to ensure effective implementation of the Agreement has been accomplished by listing the required procedures, timelines, documents, and other related policies.



# ASEAN GDP



In 2022, ASEAN's GDP reached **USD 3.6 trillion**, accounting for **3.6%** of the global GDP.

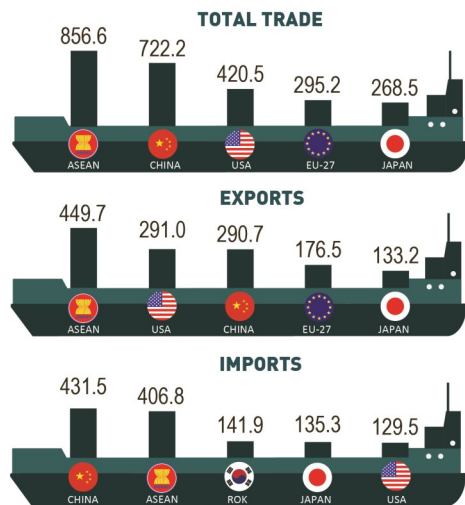


Country	Q1-2022	Q4-2022	Q1-2023	Q1-2022	Q4-2022	Q1-2023	
Indonesia	5.0	5.0	5.0	Singapore	4.0	2.1	5.0
Malaysia	4.8	7.1	5.6	Thailand	2.2	1.4	2.7
Philippines	8.0	7.1	6.4	Viet Nam	5.1	5.9	3.3

Source: ASEAN Secretariat (June 2023), International Monetary Fund (April 2023), Asian Development Bank (April 2023)

ASEAN trade in goods surged **14.9%** to reach **USD 3.8 trillion** in 2022, as it continued its path towards recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Top 5 ASEAN Market in billion USD



Note: Details may not add up to totals due to rounding off. Source: ASEAN Secretariat (June 2023)

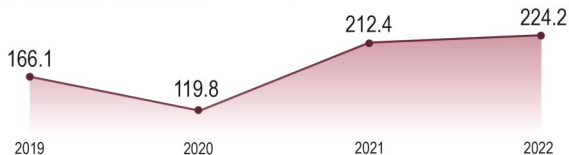
# ASEAN TRADE

## PROGRESS OF AEC: SELECTED KEY INDICATORS



# ASEAN INVESTMENT

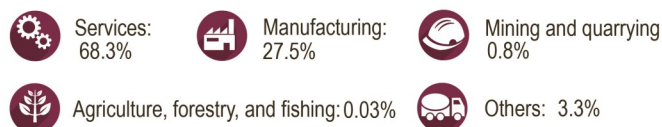
FDI inflows to ASEAN rebounded in 2021 and maintained its upward trajectory, increasing by **5.5%** to reach **USD 224.2 billion** in 2022.



### Top 5 FDI Source to ASEAN, 2022 in billion USD



### FDI by Industry\*



Source: ASEAN Secretariat (June 2023)

\* Share to total ASEAN FDI inflows

In 2022, manufacturing activities expanded in some AMS, while others experienced contraction, as indicated by the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for the manufacturing sector.

### Manufacturing PMI, March-May 2023

	2023			2023			
	Mar	Apr	May	Mar	Apr	May	
Indonesia	51.9	52.7	50.3	Singapore	49.9	49.7	49.5
Malaysia	48.8	48.8	47.8	Thailand	53.1	60.4	58.2
Myanmar	55.5	57.4	53.0	Viet Nam	47.7	46.7	45.3
Philippines	52.5	51.4	52.2				

Note: The indices vary between 0 and 100, with a reading above 50 indicates an expansion of the manufacturing sector compared to the previous month, while below 50 represents a contraction.

Source: Trading Economics (June 2023)

# ASEAN MANUFACTURING



The Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967. The Member States are Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. The ASEAN Secretariat is based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

For inquiries, contact:  
 The ASEAN Secretariat  
 ASEAN Integration Monitoring Directorate (AIMD) and Community Relations Division (CRD)  
 70A, Jalan Sisingamangaraja, Jakarta 12110, Indonesia  
 Phone: (62 21) 724-3372, 726-2991  
 Fax: (62 21) 739-8234, 724-3504  
 E-mail: aimo@asean.org, public@asean.org  
 Website: www.asean.org

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