



U.S.-ASEAN COOPERATION



ASEAN IN BRIEF

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional organization focused on maintaining regional security and promoting regional integration. ASEAN has 10 members: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. The association collaborates closely with 10 dialogue partners: the United States, Australia, Canada, China, the European Union, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, and Russia. ASEAN aims to accelerate the economic growth, cultural development, and social progress of member states, promote regional peace and security as well as respect for justice and rule of law, strengthen food security, and promote trade. Home to 664 million people, ASEAN is the third fastest-growing major Indo-Pacific economy after China and India with almost 60 percent of the population under the age of 35. The region's middle class is expected to more than double in size to 334 million by 2030. The ASEAN Economic Community is the fifth largest economy in the world with a GDP of \$2.8 trillion.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION

The ASEAN region is the largest destination in Asia for U.S. foreign direct investment, with more than \$329 billion in cumulative investment, which is more than U.S. companies have directed to China, India, Japan, and South Korea combined. ASEAN member states taken together are the fourth largest goods export market for the United States after Canada, Mexico, and China, and the United States is the fourth largest trading partner for ASEAN. The U.S. exports more than \$100 billion in goods and services to ASEAN countries annually. Trade with ASEAN supports more than half a million jobs in the United States.

SECURITY COOPERATION

With more than \$3.5 trillion in trade passing through the disputed waters of the South China Sea each year, including more than \$200 billion in U.S. trade, maritime security is a priority for both the United States and ASEAN. The United States has supported regional efforts to increase security and awareness through trainings, exercises, workshops, and consultations. ASEAN and the United States continue to focus on improving Maritime Domain Awareness and collaborating on information sharing best practices, joint and interagency operations, and multinational cooperation. The U.S. military conducts major bilateral or multilateral exercises with all ASEAN states except Myanmar and Laos. In August 2018, the United States and ASEAN conducted their first ever maritime exercise. Since 2005, the U.S. Agency for International Development has provided more than \$682 million in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to the region after natural disasters such as typhoons, earthquakes, and tsunamis.

U.S.-ASEAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS For more than 40 years, the United States has partnered with ASEAN and member states to strengthen economic engagement, security, rule of law, human rights, and people-to-people ties. The United States and ASEAN coordinate on issues ranging from maritime security and terrorism to disaster management, governance, anti-trafficking, and nuclear proliferation. In 2015, the United States and ASEAN elevated their relationship into a strategic partnership, and in 2017 celebrated 40 years as dialogue partners. In 2020, the United States celebrates the fifth anniversary of the U.S.-ASEAN Strategic Partnership. The United States participates in the ASEAN-centered East Asia Summit, the ASEAN Defense Ministers Meeting-Plus, and the ASEAN Regional Forum. ASEAN is the fulcrum of the free and open Indo-Pacific strategy.

U.S.-ASEAN COOPERATION HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2020, the United States continues to be a leader in global health, including by providing more than \$3.5 billion in U.S. government assistance to fight COVID-19 in ASEAN member states.
- The U.S. Department of State created the Health Futures Alumni Network to bring together the more than 2,400 medical and public health alumni of U.S. exchange programs from ASEAN member states and Timor-Leste. This network has already come together to share best practices in fighting COVID-19.
- The United States has worked with several ASEAN member states during their ASEAN chairmanship to conduct the Indo-Pacific Business Forum — 2019 in Bangkok and 2020 in Vietnam. The IPBF fosters millions of dollars in corporate deals and builds stronger connections across the U.S. and ASEAN private sectors.
- The United States, through USAID and ASEAN Secretariat, signed a five-year agreement USAID-ASEAN Regional Development Cooperation Agreement, with \$50 million to support regional and global challenges, economic integration of ASEAN, and rule of law.
- The U.S. International Development Finance Corporation has already invested more than \$1 billion dollars to support projects in ASEAN countries, and is poised to greatly expand its support, working with ASEAN governments and the private sector.

BY THE NUMBERS



1

The United States was the first country to establish a permanent diplomatic mission to ASEAN



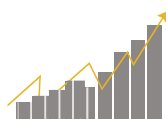
500K

U.S. jobs across 50 states supported by trade with ASEAN



\$3.6B

USAID assistance in the ASEAN region from 2013-2020



\$338B

U.S. foreign direct investment into ASEAN



\$5B

ASEAN visitors add to the U.S. economy annually

CONNECT WITH US