

Japan's Cooperation Projects on the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)

- Japan and ASEAN share the view to promote a rule-based Indo-Pacific region that is free and open, embraces key principles such as ASEAN's unity and centrality, inclusiveness, transparency, respect for international law and complements ASEAN community building process.
- At the 34th ASEAN Summit in 2019, ASEAN Leaders adopted **the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)** which is the guide for ASEAN's engagement in the Asia-Pacific and the Indian Ocean region
- Japan expressed its full support for the AOIP in 2019 and was the first among ASEAN's dialogue partners to do so. In 2020, ASEAN and Japan issued the "**Joint Statement of the 23rd ASEAN-Japan Summit on Cooperation on ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific**" to further reinforce their partnership through enhanced practical cooperation and synergy in the four areas as outlined in the AOIP, namely, maritime cooperation, connectivity, UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030, and economic and other possible areas of cooperation.
- In 2022, Japan submitted a Progress Report on its AOIP cooperation of 73 existing projects and 16 additional projects to the ASEAN-Japan Summit.



The 34th ASEAN Summit in 2019



The 23rd ASEAN-Japan Summit in 2020



The 24th ASEAN-Japan Summit in 2021

Examples of Japan's Cooperation Projects on the AOIP

1. Maritime Cooperation

■ Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) operator training

- Japan provided approximately 1 billion Japanese yen for human resource development for Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) centers of ASEAN Member States.
- Four training programs for VTS operators have been implemented by 2020. **Two additional programs have been resumed since August 2022 after the postponement due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**



■ Training Program for Public International Law Focused on Law of the Sea and Peaceful Settlement of International Dispute

- JICA provided training for government officials to put international law into practice by focusing on the law of the sea and the peaceful settlement of international disputes from the perspective of the rule of law in the international community and elucidating the role played by international law.

■ Reducing marine plastic debris

- Japan provided approximately 1 billion Japanese yen through JAIF for human resource development, awareness-raising and public relations activities of environmental preservation including reduction of marine plastic debris in ASEAN countries. The following projects are on-going.
 1. Production of Documentary Programs on Marine Plastic Waste
 2. Promotion of Plastic Circular Society
 3. **Strengthening Capacity for Marine Debris Reduction in ASEAN region through formulation of National Action Plans for ASEAN Member States and Integrated Land-to-Sea Policy Approach**
 4. **Regional Collaborative Research and Capacity Building for Monitoring and Reduction of Marine Debris from Fisheries in Southeast Asia**
 5. **Strengthening Capacity Development for Local Governments in ASEAN to Tackle Microplastics and Water Pollution through Decentralised Domestic Wastewater Management Approach**



Examples of Japan's Cooperation Projects on the AOIP

2. Connectivity

■ Japan-ASEAN Connectivity Initiative

➤ The Japan-ASEAN Connectivity Initiative was announced at the 2020 ASEAN-Japan Summit. Under the initiative, Japan has been supporting projects to strengthen connectivity of land, sea, and air corridor through infrastructure development.

- ✓ Viet Nam: North-South Expressway Construction Project
- ✓ Cambodia: Sihanoukville Port New Container Terminal Development Project
- ✓ Indonesia: Patimban Port Development Project



➤ Japan has also been supporting human resource development of 1,000 individuals for the three years since 2020.

- ✓ Malaysia: Sustainable Railway Planning, Development and Management
- ✓ Philippines: Enhancement of Customs Operation

■ Collaboration between Japan and the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN)

➤ Japan and ASCN cooperated to publish the ASEAN Smart City Planning Guidebook in 2022 to support stakeholders involved in smart city development in ASEAN. Japan continues to conduct the studies on the ASCN member cities for the realization of smart cities, and will hold the 4th ASEAN-Japan Smart Cities Network High Level Meeting in December 2022 in cooperation with ASCN. In conjunction with these initiatives, the Japan Association for Smart Cities in ASEAN (JASCA), established in 2019, launched a website to encourage the active participation of stakeholders.



Examples of Japan's Cooperation Projects on the AOIP

2. Connectivity (People-to-people connectivity)

■ JENESYS

- JENESYS, which is a people-to-people exchange program aimed at promoting understanding of Japan and building a basis for future friendship and cooperation, offers programs that contribute to a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) and AOIP. Through webinars, site visits, and exchanges of views with Japanese youth and experts, JENESYS expands international connections in various fields.
- With the support of JAIF, approximately 14,400 people from AMS has participated in JENESYS inbound and online exchange since 2015.
- In FY2021, approximately 2,200 people from AMS participated in the JENESYS online exchange with the support of JAIF.



■ WA Project ~Toward Interactive Asia through "Fusion and Harmony"~

- With a fund of approximately 20 billion Japanese yen, WA project of the Japan Foundation started in 2014 and will be conducted to the end of FY2023. Through this project, 2,375 Japanese have been dispatched as NIHONGO Partners mainly to secondary schools in Asia and 2,504 Arts and Cultural Exchange Programs have been carried out by the end of FY 2021.



Examples of Japan's Cooperation Projects on the AOIP

3. SDGs

■ Support for the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED)

- At the ASEAN-Japan Summit Meeting in November 2020, the leaders announced the establishment of ACPHEED which aims to contribute to capacity building on response to public health emergencies as well as preventing future pandemic of emerging diseases in ASEAN. The Centre will have 3 pillars of capabilities (Prevention and Preparedness, Detection and Risk Assessment, Response) and 3 overarching themes (Information sharing and analytics, Capacity building, Innovation coordination/support (including R&D)).
- Japan has fully supported the establishment of the Centre with its contribution of approximately 5.5 billion Japanese yen (50 million US dollars) to JAIF.
- In October 2021 and February 2022, Japan conducted training programs about public health emergencies and emerging diseases to health officers from ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat. Japan also plans to dispatch its experts to the Centre.



■ Sustainable food systems

- The Joint Statement on Sustainable Agricultural Production and Food Systems adopted in July 2021 recognizes the crucial importance of sustainable agricultural production and food systems for farmers in ASEAN Member States (AMS) facing difficulties due to regional particularities on agricultural production. Japan supports AMS based on the Joint Statement which stresses the importance of international collaboration to introduce innovative and sustainable agricultural practices and technologies such as digital tools, machineries and pest control tools under the support of MAFF, JICA and JAIF.
- Following the strategic plan under the Joint Statement, Japan launched the resilient and sustainable agriculture and food system initiative that includes 29 projects for AMS countries on SOM-AMAF+3 meeting.



Examples of Japan's Cooperation Projects on the AOIP

4. Economic and other possible areas of cooperation

■ ASEAN-Japan Economic Resilience Action Plan

- The ASEAN-Japan Economic Resilience Action Plan contains more than 50 projects proposed by both Japan and ASEAN. Projects such as strengthening supply chain resilience, providing financial support for Asia digital transformation, and promoting trade facilitation are making progress under the Action Plan.
- Moreover, Japan and the ASEAN countries adopted "ASEAN-Japan Intellectual Property Rights Action Plan 2022-2023" to develop an appropriated IP system at the 12th Japan-ASEAN Heads of IPOs Meeting in August 2022.
- The 28th ASEAN Economic Ministers' (AEM) - METI Consultations in September 2022 welcomed the proposal on "Strengthening ASEAN-Japan Economic Relationship toward ASEAN-Japan 50th Anniversary in 2023" to create the "Future Design and Action Plan" which will include elements of existing cooperation from the ASEAN-Japan Economic Resilience Action Plan and others, and to create the "ASEAN-Japan Economic Co-Creation Vision" with the business sector.

■ Cooperation through ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC)

- The AJCCBC was established in 2018 with the support of JAIF in order to contribute to human resource development on cybersecurity in ASEAN by conducting a series of exercises such as Cyber Defense Exercise with Recurrence (CYDER), digital forensics, and malware analysis for officials of government agencies and operators of essential infrastructure in ASEAN countries, among others. Courses are currently provided both online and onsite, and over 880 participants took these exercises by 2022, exceeding the target of 700 participants over the period of four years since the establishment of the Centre.

