

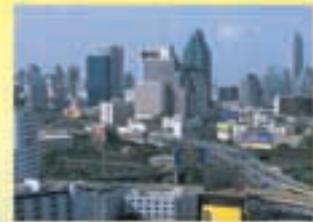
ASEAN-Japan

Acting
Together



and

Advancing
Together



Japan and ASEAN are Further Integrated in their Economic Ties

Japan and ASEAN are one of the most important partners in the fields of trade, investment, and tourism



Singapore

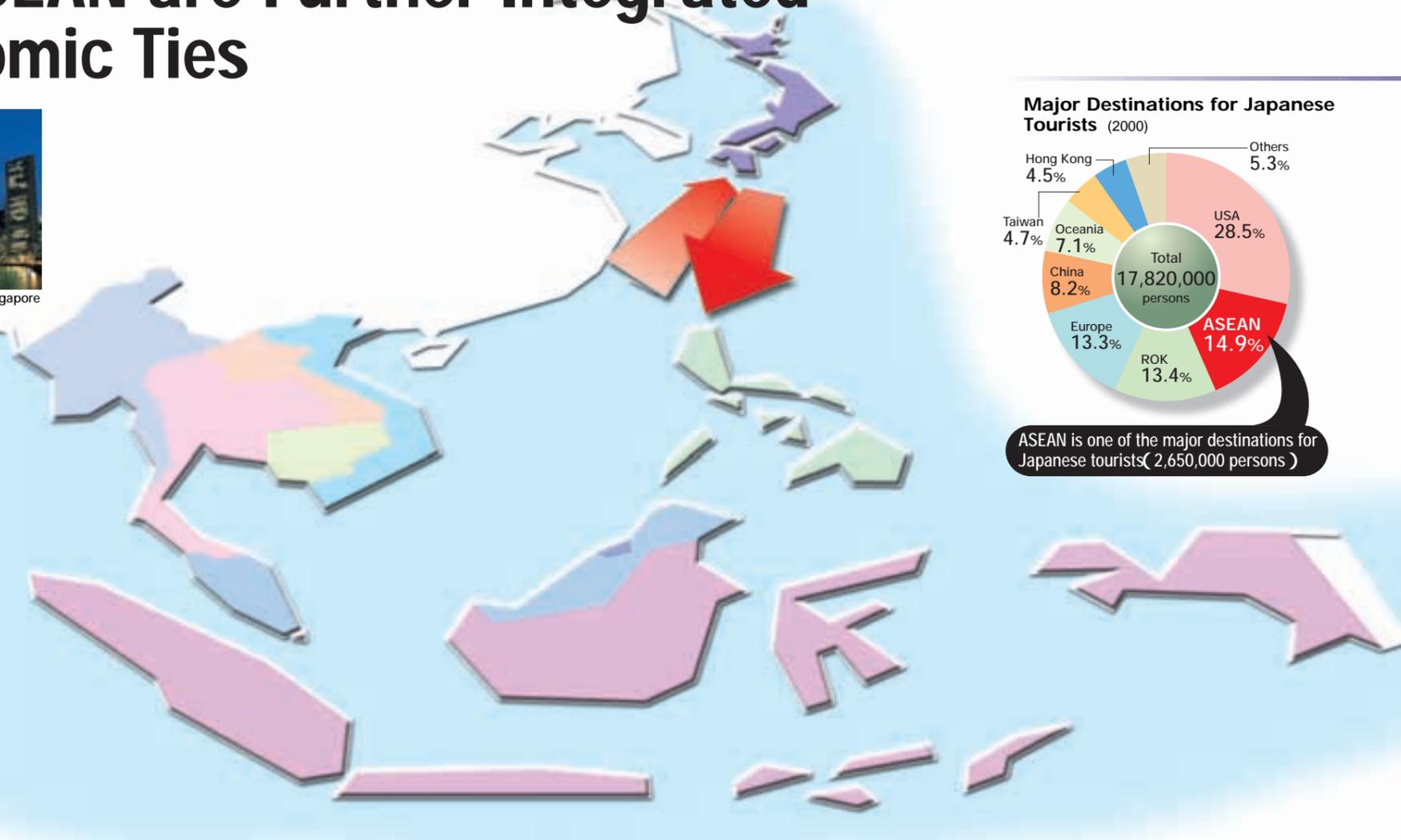
Japan and ASEAN are very important partners in many respects. Japan and ASEAN have been very interdependent in several major economic fields, including trade, investment, and tourism. In trade, ASEAN is the second largest partner for Japan, with 14.2% of Japan's total trade business in 2002. This is higher than the partnerships with EU and China.

Also, Japan is the largest trading partner, together with the U.S., for ASEAN, accounting for 20.2% of ASEAN's total trade in 2001.

In line with this important trade partnership, Japan has heavily invested in ASEAN member countries, making Japan the largest donor. In East Asia, a little less than 60% of the total performance of Japan's investment from 1995 to 2001 went to ASEAN, more than double what it was for China.

For many Japanese, ASEAN is also the most attractive neighbor to visit. In 2000, approximately two-and-a-half million Japanese traveled to ASEAN member countries. Also, Japan is the No. 1 destination of ASEAN tourists.

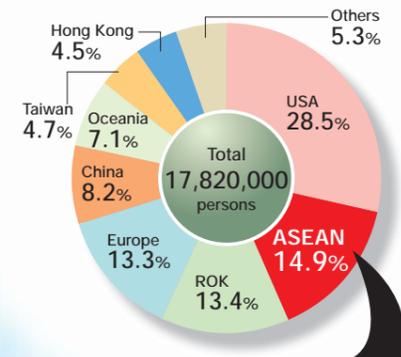
Moreover, it should be noted that approximately 80% of Japan's imported crude oil is shipped through the Straits of Malacca. Japan's energy lifeline is maintained through its partnership with ASEAN.



Note: This is an outline map of the ASEAN region and Japan.

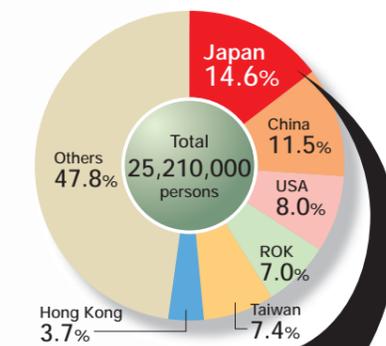
Tourism

Major Destinations for Japanese Tourists (2000)



ASEAN is one of the major destinations for Japanese tourists (2,650,000 persons)

Tourists Visiting ASEAN (2002)



The highest number of tourists is from Japan (3,680,000 persons)

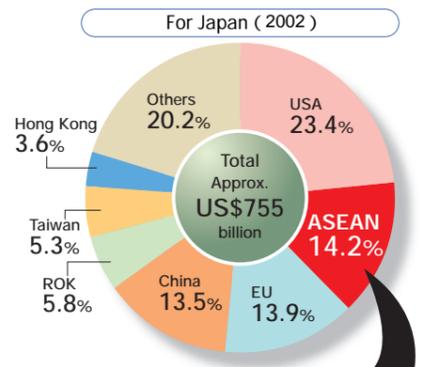
Note: The ASEAN member countries are excluded.



Cambodia

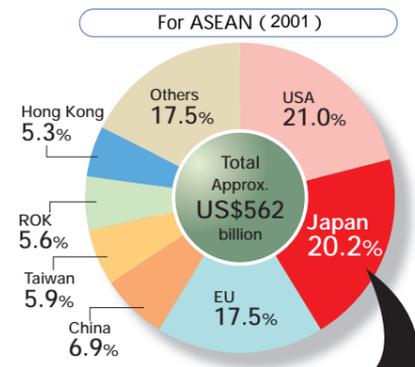
Trade

Japan's and ASEAN's Major Trading Partners



ASEAN is Japan's second largest trading partner (approx. US\$107 billion)

US\$1=125JPY (Y2002 Average)



Japan is one of the largest trading partners for ASEAN (US\$113.3 billion)

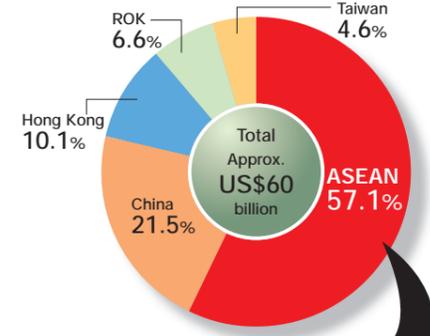
Note: The ASEAN member countries are excluded.



Viet Nam

Investment

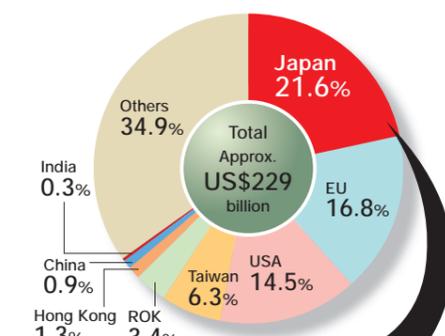
Japan's Direct Investment in East Asia by Country and Area (1995-2001)



Japan's ASEAN investment is mostly in East Asia (Approx. US\$34.4)

US\$1=114JPY

Foreign Direct Investment in ASEAN by Country and Area (1995-2001)



Japan is the largest investor in ASEAN (Approx. US\$49.5 billion)

Note: The ASEAN member countries are excluded

Partnership

With Support from Japan, ASEAN has Pursued Greater Success in Socioeconomic Development

ODA

Japan has given ASEAN development top diplomatic priority, offering financial and technical assistance to the member countries.

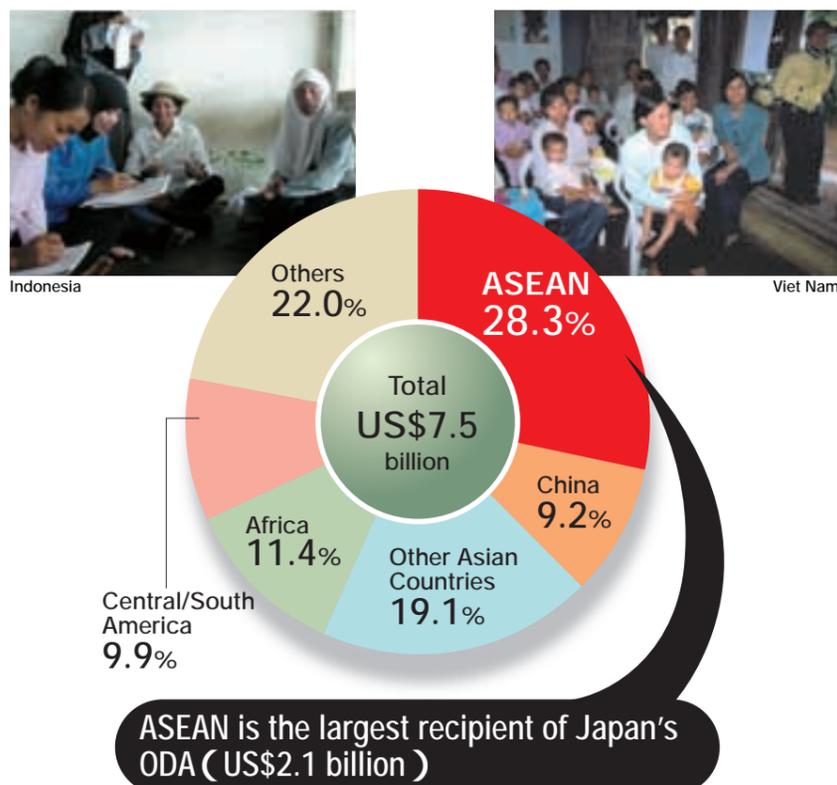
Official Development Assistance (ODA) from Japan is comparatively large in scale and extends to over 150 countries and regions in the world. Beyond its historic and geographic importance, ASEAN is considered as one of the most important areas targeted for Japanese assistance since it has developed a close interdependent relationship in multiple fields, such as politics, economics, and social and cultural exchange with Japan.

Economic cooperation towards ASEAN emphasizes not only building the region's economic infrastructure, but also improving basic human needs and human resources, which, in turn, has contributed to the region's remarkable development.

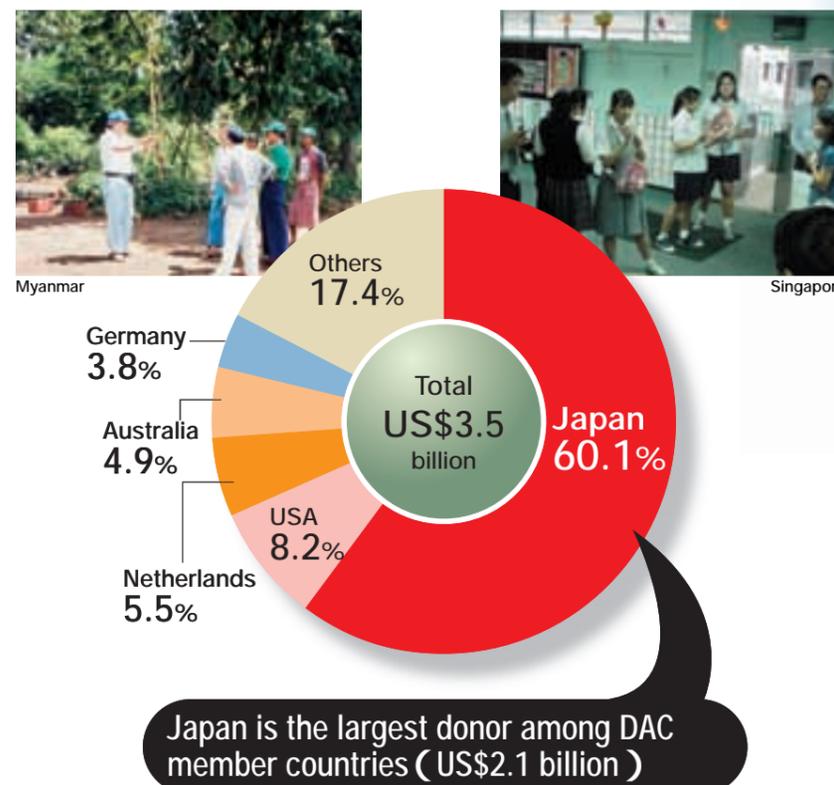
Responding to the Asian Financial Crisis in 1997, Japan placed top diplomatic priority on the revitalization of the Asian economies, announcing an 80 billion US dollar package to help its Asian partners recover quickly from the economic crash.

In 2001, Japan was the largest bilateral ODA donor for ASEAN, accounting for approximately 60% of the total bilateral assistance provided by DAC member countries. In other words, about 28.3% of Japan's bilateral ODA was destined for ASEAN, amounting to US\$2.1 billion.

Japan's ODA (2001)



Bilateral ODA for ASEAN among DAC Member Countries (2001)



Fund

ASEAN Cultural Fund

"Heart-to-Heart Relationship" through cultural exchange programs

ASEAN member countries realized that an effective program of cooperation in culture and information would require a funding scheme to support its activities. At the Seventh Meeting of the Joint Study Group for Cultural Cooperation held in Manila in 1978, then Japanese Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda announced he would contribute five billion yen upon establishment of the Cultural Fund.

Japan-ASEAN Exchange Projects (JAEP)

A variety of projects for upgrading the ASEAN region as a whole

Japan-ASEAN Exchange Projects was established in 1988. The Projects has three purposes, including providing opportunities for Japanese to understand ASEAN and promoting research on the ASEAN region and joint studies between Japan and ASEAN. Japan has provided the JAEP with approximately US\$15.1 million over the past 20 years.

Japan-ASEAN General Exchange Fund (JAGEF)

A fund strengthening administration systems

Japan-ASEAN General Exchange Fund was announced by then Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi at the fifth ASEAN-Japan Summit 1999, for the major purpose of strengthening administration systems of new ASEAN member countries and the ASEAN Secretariat. Japan has provided the JAGEF with approximately US\$12.6 million over the past four years.

Japan-ASEAN Solidarity Fund

A fund for the activities of the ASEAN Foundation

The Japanese government established the Japan-ASEAN solidarity fund in the ASEAN Foundation with US\$20 million in 1999, in order to strengthen the activities of the Foundation. The major purposes of the fund are to promote human resources development and alleviate poverty in the ASEAN region. The total number of projects funded by the fund exceeded sixty as of October 2003.



ASEAN-Japan Centre

A bridge between ASEAN and Japan

The ASEAN-Japan Centre was established in 1981 in Tokyo. The Centre has three main purposes. They are to promote export from ASEAN to Japan, particularly semi-processed and manufactured goods, to accelerate the influx of investment from Japan to ASEAN, including transfer of skills and technologies, and to encourage Japanese tourists to visit the ASEAN region.

At the trade exhibition corner of the centre, exhibitions introducing prospective ASEAN products are held and individual business meetings with buyers take place on site. The general information corner features current editions of reference publications on trade, investment and tourism with newspapers from each ASEAN member country.



Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi Proposes Five Initiatives

The Prime Minister of Japan, Junichiro Koizumi, made his remarks in Singapore in January 2002, saying that he believes Japan-ASEAN relations have reached a new level of maturity and understanding. In the 21st century, Japan and ASEAN should strengthen their cooperation for prosperity and stability, while working on five initiatives.

Five Initiatives for the Future

1 Japan-ASEAN Comprehensive Economic Partnership

In line with the joint declaration of the leaders of Japan and ASEAN on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership in 2002, Japan is now discussing possibilities of EPA with Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Indonesia after signing its first EPA with Singapore. In addition, ASEAN and Japan signed the Framework for Comprehensive Economic Partnership last October.

2 ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003

Based on the proposal made by Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi in November 2002, Japan and ASEAN leaders agreed to designate 2003 as the ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year to promote a variety of mutual activities that would give further impetus to the building of a partnership between ASEAN and Japan (More information on page 8).



3 Cooperation in the Fields of Education and Human Resources Development

At higher levels of education, the exchange of university researchers and students is further promoted among universities in Japan and in the countries of ASEAN. With the promotion of student exchange programs, credit transfers among the universities on both sides will be discussed. At the primary and junior high school levels of education, an "education for all" policy should be taken into further consideration.

4 Japan and ASEAN Security Cooperation

The Japan and ASEAN security cooperation agreement has been dramatically intensified recently. The transnational issues that Japan and the ASEAN partners are now facing include international terrorism, piracy, people smuggling and trafficking, narcotics, energy security, re-emerging infectious diseases, and environmental degradation. Japan and the countries of ASEAN must strengthen cooperation for tackling these issues.

5 Initiative for Development in East Asia (IDEA)

Based on East Asia's development experience to date, an Initiative for Development in East Asia, or IDEA, meeting provides an opportunity to discuss future development models in Southeast Asia and clarify Japan's commitment to the countries of East Asia, thus raising the standard of living for the peoples of the region.



Malaysia



Brunei



Thailand



The Philippines

Cooperation for Prosperity

Challenges in the unified global market are as important for the countries of ASEAN as they are for Japan. We offer assistance to improve the capabilities of each country to compete economically and reinforce the Japan-ASEAN economic partnership.

Cooperation for Stability

In cooperation with the countries of ASEAN, Japan intends to make a more active contribution to ensure regional stability in Southeast Asia, including efforts made at the ASEAN Regional Forum. Japan is eager to consider ways in which Japan and ASEAN, working together, can further enhance our political and security cooperation for the future.

ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003: A variety of events celebrates a growing friendship

Rokkasen carried out concert tour



Working with local musicians, Rokkasen, a unique music group, performed Western and Japanese styles of music on reproductions of and improved models of traditional Japanese instruments in Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Japanese drum performance "Oedo Sukeroku Taiko"

Oedo Sukeroku Taiko, one of the most renowned Japanese drumming groups in the world, performed in Brunei, Laos, and Myanmar. Taiko, which literally means "big drum," has been infused with a thoroughly modern spirit that combines the technique of striking drums with the strength of the entire body, with choreographed movements to produce a dynamic and spectacular performance art.



"Fukuoka Gifts Fair 2003"



The ASEAN-Japan Centre participated in the "Fukuoka Gifts Fair 2003" which was held on September 11-14 at Marine Messe Fukuoka under the program of the "ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003." During the fair, the business meeting booth, decorated with ASEAN gift items of 36 companies from 9 countries was set up along with the special display booth projecting the scene of ASEAN interior lifestyle and a spot sale booth of gift items.



ASEAN Tourism Fair held in Tokyo

The ASEAN-Japan Centre held the ASEAN Tourism Fair in Tokyo. ASEAN is already a major travel destination for many Japanese tourists. The event was designed to provide an opportunity for potential and experienced Japanese tourists to learn more about ASEAN.



An amateur singing contest broadcast live from Singapore



"Nodojiman" is a long-running amateur singing contest, which was broadcast live from Singapore on NHK, Japan's public broadcasting organization, similar to the BBC in the UK. The program has been running for 57 years. The contest was held in Southeast Asia for the first time. Outside Japan, it has been held in Brazil, Peru, Hawaii, Argentina, San Francisco, Beijing, and Vancouver.



Japan-Philippines Joint Opera "Takayama Ukon"

A joint opera between the Tokyo Opera Association from Japan and the University of Santo Tomas from the Philippines was performed in 12 different places in Japan. The opera celebrated the 450th anniversary of the birth of Takayama Ukon, a Christian feudal lord and a prayer for peace.



This year Japan and 10 member countries of ASEAN have been coming closer together. More than 700 programs and events have been conducted to celebrate the ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003. In November 2002, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi announced five initiatives for Japan's policy toward

ASEAN under the banner of "Cooperation for the Future." The ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003 was officially confirmed as part of that package, and both sides have been working hard to make it a success.

The goodwill ambassador for the exchange year and programs and events is a 21-year old Japanese woman, Sanae Sakura. In fact, she is a "virtual" Japanese who was created by means of state-of-the-art computer graphic technology. Her first name, Sanae, is

roughly translated as "abundant sprouts" in English, and her family name, Sakura, means "cherry blossom." The combination of a word related to the staple diet of Asia and one of the most beloved flowers in Japan is perfect for her honorable duty. Sanae is also an anagram of ASEAN.

The exchange program and events have three strands. One is dialogue and seminars among industrialists, academics, experts, and government officials, all of whom are seeking ways to further

strengthen Japan-ASEAN relations. Another is youth exchange programs for developing a network of people-to-people ties transcending borders between Japan and the member countries, thus contributing to human resources development in the countries for the future. The third is cultural and artistic exchange for promoting future understanding and respect.

Japan and individual ASEAN member countries are in charge of a number of programs in certain months of this year.

They start from scratch and work hard to complete their assignments for their own exchange year.

For instance, Japan is a key coordinator for January and a joint coordinator with Thailand for April and December. December will be the busiest month of the year, since it is designated as the Month for Joint ASEAN Activities in Japan. The Japan-ASEAN Commemorative Summit will be also held in Tokyo this month. (<http://www.mofa.go.jp>)

A Brief on the ASEAN-Japan Partnership

1967 Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand established ASEAN.

1977 The first ASEAN-Japan Summit was held in August in Kuala Lumpur. Japan's Prime Minister at the time, Takeo Fukuda, attended the meeting.

While Japan acknowledged ASEAN as an established regional body, Fukuda made a famous speech citing "equal partnership" between Japan and ASEAN and a "heart-to-heart mutual relationship of trust" with ASEAN countries.

1997 Japan's 80 billion US dollar package was announced to help Asian countries recover quickly from the Asian Financial Crisis. The third ASEAN-Japan Summit was held in Manila. The summit has been conducted every year since then.

1999 The fifth ASEAN-Japan Summit was held in December in Manila. Japan's Prime Minister at the time, Keizo Obuchi, positioned ASEAN 10, which was formed in April of the same year, as one of the Japan's most important partners.

He pledged Japan's cooperation in helping ASEAN develop, consolidate infrastructures for economic revitalization, and adopt information technologies.

2000 The sixth ASEAN-Japan Summit was held in November in Singapore. Japan's Prime Minister at the time, Yoshiro Mori, emphasized the importance of the "Japan-ASEAN New Partnership," and proposed cooperation in the field of IT, WTO, and UN Reform.

In order to further strengthen Japan-ASEAN relations, he also announced a new scholarship program for ASEAN senior high school students and expressed his will to implement an IT Development Project for the ASEAN-Japan Centre.

2002 Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi visited the countries of ASEAN in January. These countries included the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, and Singapore, making policy speeches regarding Japan's diplomacy toward ASEAN.

He expressed that Japan and ASEAN, as a sincere and open partnership, should strengthen its cooperation under the basic concept of "acting together and advancing together." He proposed five initiatives for future cooperation.

2003 A Japan-ASEAN Commemorative Summit will be held in Japan on December 11 and 12 in Tokyo. This will be the first ASEAN Summit held outside the ASEAN region.

The year 2003 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the ASEAN Cultural Fund, which was founded on the initiative of then Prime Minister Fukuda, as well as the fortieth anniversary of the signing of the treaty of amity and commerce between Japan and Indonesia, the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Cambodia, and the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Japan and Vietnam, all which are commemorated by the Summit and ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003.

Broad Guidelines for a mature partnership between Japan and ASEAN

The Japan-ASEAN Commemorative Summit will be held in Japan on December 11 and 12 in Tokyo. This will be the first ASEAN Summit held between ASEAN and a non-ASEAN country outside the ASEAN region and the last event of ASEAN-Japan Exchange Year 2003, thus making the Commemorative Summit a historical event.

Japanese Prime Minister Koizumi wants it to be an occasion for emphasizing Japan-ASEAN relations in the 21st century by sharing fundamental principle and values as sincere and open partners, "acting together, advancing together." He believes a Japan-ASEAN partnership should be the core event for regional cooperation activities that bring stability and prosperity to East Asia.

The Commemorative Summit will provide broad guidelines for a mature partnership between Japan and ASEAN in the future. Both sides will agree on plans of action based on the guidelines, while promoting the five initiatives Prime Minister Koizumi proposed.



Brunei



Cambodia



Indonesia



Viet Nam



Laos



Thailand



Malaysia



Singapore



The Philippines



Myanmar

ASEAN-Japan

Acting Together and Advancing Together

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Published by
Regional Policy Division, Asian and Oceanian Affairs Bureau

2-11-1 Shibakoen, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-8519, Japan
TEL -81-3-3580-3311

<http://www.mofa.go.jp>

Photos: ASEAN-Japan Centre
JICA