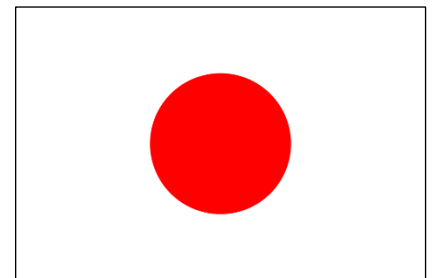

ASEAN-Japan Digital Work Plan 2026 (ADGMIN/ADGSOM+J)

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
January 2026



Basic perspectives on ASEAN-Japan cooperation in 2026

- Joint Vision Statement on ASEAN-Japan Friendship of Cooperation “Trusted Partners”
 - Partners for Co-Creation of Economy and Society of the Future [Digital]
 - Partners for Peace and Stability [Cybersecurity]
- Joint Statement on the 28th ASEAN-Japan Summit on Further Promotion and Implementation of the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)
- ASEAN-Japan Co-Creation Initiative for AI

Initiatives of the ASEAN-Japan Digital Work Plan 2026

1. AI and Digital Policy

- AI
- Internet governance
- Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT)

2. Cybersecurity

- AJCCBC
- ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Policy Meeting
- Promotion of ISP cooperation

3. Digital Infrastructure and Digital Transformation

- Strengthening digital connectivity
- Human resource development, etc. through the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)
- Promotion of innovations

4. Cooperation and Coordination

- Support through the ASEAN-Japan ICT Fund, etc.
- Active participation in ASEAN-related meetings as a dialogue partner
- Implementing bilateral policy dialogues with AMS

Make a strong contribution to the achievement of the ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2030

1. AI and Digital Policy

[1] AI

- Based on the “ASEAN-Japan Digital Ministers’ Joint Statement on Promoting Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy AI,” promote initiatives including the following
 - **Governance:** Organize the correspondence between the Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct and the ASEAN Guide on AI Governance and Ethics and continue cooperation toward enhancing interoperability between these frameworks. In addition, exchange views at meetings of the Hiroshima AI Process Friends Group and share knowledge about the Hiroshima AI Process (e.g., Hiroshima AI Process Friends Group in-person meeting (March 2026)).
 - **AI Development:** Cooperate towards the development of AI respecting the cultures, values, and languages of the AMS, as well as cooperation on AI safety (e.g., cooperation on the development of LLMs in respective national languages and the ASEAN AI Safety Network as well as supporting the WG-AI’s work on AI safety benchmarks and evaluation methodologies, through initiatives such as the ASEAN Programme on AI Governance and Safety Testing).
 - **Human resource development:** While utilizing existing assets, contribute to establishing and developing locally rooted AI ecosystems in AMS through cooperation on the development of human resources for young AI developers within the ASEAN region, etc.
 - **Co-creation of AI solutions:** Share the utilization of AI and best practices and implement the co-creation of AI solutions that can contribute to solving social issues.

[2] Internet governance

- Call for the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach toward the follow-up of the UN Global Digital Compact and the WSIS+20 Review.

[3] Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT)

- Support capacity building in the ASEAN region toward the realization of data governance and resilient digital supply chains across borders.

2. Cybersecurity

[1] AJCCBC (ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre)

- Utilizing newly added content and other materials in 2025, continue to conduct exercises targeting ASEAN government agencies and related organizations. In addition, undertake coordination to ensure the continuation of support after the current ODA is scheduled to conclude in February 2027.

[2] ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Policy Meeting

- With the aim of strengthening cooperation between ASEAN and Japan on cybersecurity, implement cooperative activities such as policy sharing, capacity building, and exercises, while continuously discussing the nature and modalities of such cooperative activities.

[3] Promotion of ISP cooperation

- Further promote ISP cooperation between ASEAN and Japan through workshops that contribute to the promotion of information sharing and the improvement of cybersecurity skills.



[Scene from an exercise at the AJCCBC]

3. Digital Infrastructure and Digital Transformation

[1] Strengthening digital connectivity

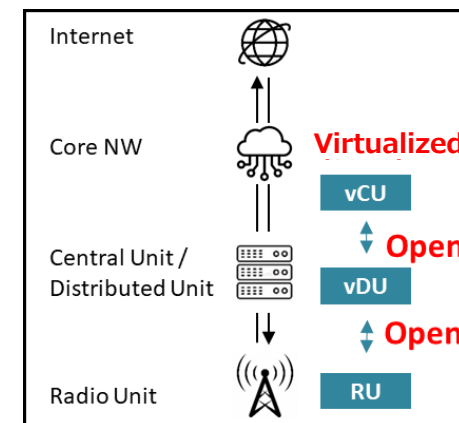
- Through demonstrations projects related to the establishment of 5G networks utilizing Open RAN-compliant 5G radio equipment, carried out in collaboration with local telecommunications carriers, promote DX and the strengthening of supply chain resilience in the ASEAN region.

[2] Human resource development, etc. through the APT

- Provide cross-sectoral support for human resource development and other initiatives aimed at promoting the development of digital infrastructure, through programs utilizing Japan's financial contributions to the APT, targeting APT member countries including AMS.

[3] Promotion of innovation

- Through the holding of the "ASEAN IVO Forum 2026" by the ICT Virtual Organization of ASEAN Institutes and NICT (ASEAN IVO), expand and strengthen research collaboration alliances by sharing ideas to address common social challenges in the ASEAN region and implementing joint research projects, among other activities. (In 2026, proposals from Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar are planned to be adopted, with the aim of raising the overall level of ICT research and development across the ASEAN region.)



【Open RAN】



[NICT-ASEAN research collaboration alliance formation]

4. Cooperation and Coordination

[1] Support through the ASEAN-Japan ICT Fund, etc.

- ASEAN-Japan ICT Fund (Japan will continue its contributions to this fund in 2026)
- Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF)

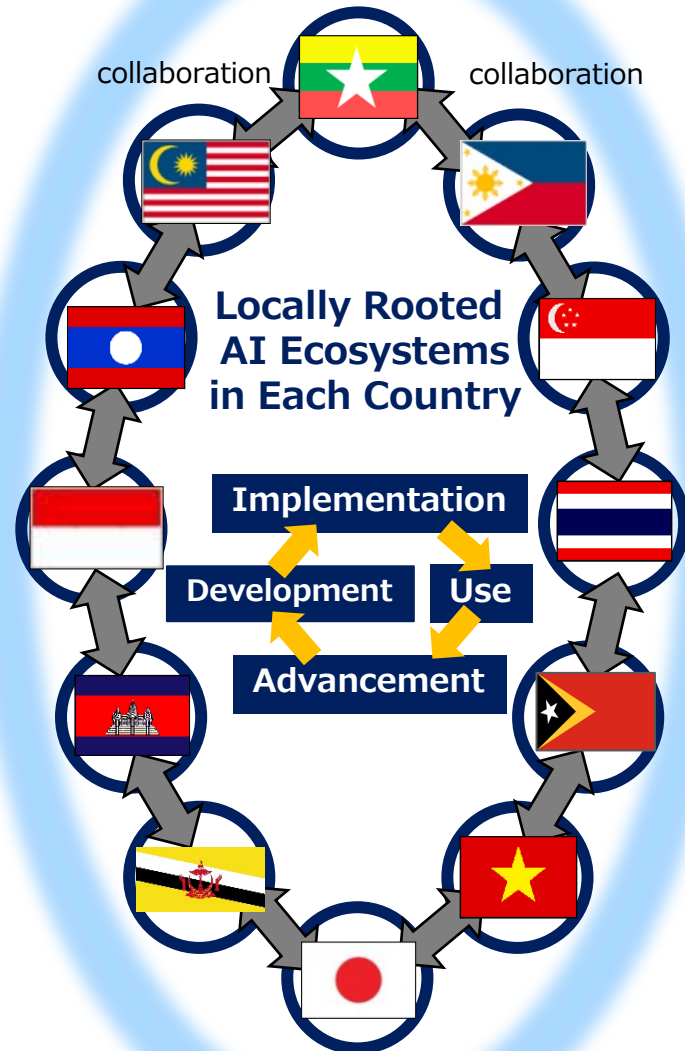
[2] Active participation in ASEAN-related meetings as a dialogue partner, such as ADGMIN, ADGSOM, and ATRC

[3] Implementing bilateral policy dialogues with AMS

Reference

ASEAN-Japan Digital Work Plan 2026 (Individual Initiatives)

Global Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy AI Ecosystem



General Commitments

1. Strengthen the ASEAN–Japan Co-Creation Initiative for AI, and in line with the AOIP, advance **the expansion of the development, deployment and use of safe, secure, and trustworthy AI systems.**

Governance

2. Strengthen the safety, security, and trustworthiness of AI systems based on the Hiroshima Process International Code of Conduct and related frameworks.
3. **Cooperate toward the development of related legal and regulatory frameworks, strengthen interoperability of AI governance, and promote cooperation with AISI.**
4. Explore potential engagement between AMS and the Hiroshima AI Process Friends Group and the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience.

AI Development and Digital Infrastructure

5. **Cooperate on the development of safe, secure, and trustworthy AI models that respect each country's cultures, values, and languages, and promote cooperation on the development of AI-related infrastructure.**
6. Deepen ongoing collaboration with Working Group on AI Governance (WG-AI) on AI governance, AI testing, Support ASEAN initiatives on AI safety benchmarks and evaluation.
7. Cooperate on other relevant initiatives such as the ASEAN AI Safety Network, which focuses on capacity building.

Capacity Building and Human Resource Development

8. Cooperate on capacity building and technology transfer.
9. **Contribute to the establishment and development of locally rooted AI ecosystems in each country through cooperation on AI governance and the development of young AI developers.**

Co-Creation of AI Solutions

10. Co-create AI-based solutions that can contribute to addressing social challenges.

Inclusive and Trustworthy AI

11. Cooperate to ensure the responsible use of AI in a manner that respects human-centred values, privacy, and data governance.
12. Promote transparency and respond to disinformation, misinformation and manipulated information while respecting intellectual property rights.
13. Highlight the efforts of the private sector and encourage the benefits of AI to be fairly shared among all ASEAN countries and population groups.

Digital Solidarity and Economic Development

14. Reaffirm the importance of digital solidarity and promote the expansion of prosperity through the use of digital technologies.
15. Recognise the importance of cybersecurity, data security, data protection, and cyber resilience.
16. Establish and maintain a **safe, secure, and trustworthy AI ecosystem** through co-creation between ASEAN and Japan.

1. Hiroshima AI Process

- ✓ In May 2023, following the G7 Hiroshima Summit, the **Hiroshima AI Process** was launched to discuss international rules for generative AI.
- ✓ Through the G7 Leaders' Statements in October and December of the same year, the **Hiroshima AI Process Comprehensive Policy Framework** was formulated and endorsed.

Hiroshima AI Process Comprehensive Policy Framework

1. OECD's Report toward a G7 Common Understanding on Generative AI	3. Hiroshima Process International Guiding Principles for Organizations Developing Advanced AI Systems
2. Hiroshima Process International Guiding Principles for All AI Actors (see table below)	4. Project-based cooperation such as the promotion of research contributing to countermeasures against disinformation

(Reference) International Guiding Principles

[Risk Management] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Identification, assessment, and mitigation of risks prior to development and release ➢ Identification and mitigation of vulnerabilities, incidents, etc. after development and release 	[Research and Development] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Investment, research, and implementation for security management and risk mitigation ➢ Development, introduction, and standardization of content authentication and provenance mechanisms
[Information Sharing, etc.] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Information sharing on AI performance and limitations ➢ Responsible information sharing and incident reporting related to AI ➢ Formulation, implementation, and disclosure of AI governance and risk management policies 	[Other] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Protection of personal data and intellectual property ➢ Enhancement of literacy and skills for responsible use



G7 Hiroshima Summit



OECD Ministerial Council Meeting

2. Outreach Activities

- ✓ On the occasion of the OECD Ministerial Council Meeting in May 2024, the **Hiroshima AI Process Friends Group**, a voluntary framework of countries that share the spirit of the Hiroshima AI Process, was launched.
- ✓ A total of 60 countries and regions, including nine ASEAN Member States (Indonesia, Cambodia, Singapore, Thailand, the Philippines, Brunei, Viet Nam, Malaysia, and Laos), are participating (as of the end of December 2025).

Cooperation with the AJCCBC from 2026 Onward



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- Since the establishment of the AJCCBC in 2018, it has contributed to enhancing ASEAN's cybersecurity response capabilities through cybersecurity exercises and other activities. In 2026 as well, new exercise content and other initiatives will continue to be provided, contributing to the improvement of resilience across the region.
- Following the conclusion of JAIF support in 2022, operational support for the AJCCBC has been provided since 2023 through JICA technical cooperation. As the current support period will end in February 2027, coordination with relevant ministries and agencies toward the provision of continuous next-phase support will begin in 2026.
- Under the next-phase support, in addition to conventional exercises, training and other activities related to advanced technologies, including AI security, AI development, and AI governance, will also be implemented.

Overview of Next-Phase Support

Project name	Project for Enhancing ASEAN-Japan Capacity Building Programme on Cybersecurity and Related Emerging Digital Technologies including Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Support period	June 2027 – May 2031 (4 years) *Provisional
Implementation overview	1. Practical cyber defense exercises and other cybersecurity-related exercises, training and workshops by third-party organizations, etc. (continuation) 2. Training, seminars, etc. based on advanced digital technologies including AI security, AI development, and AI governance (new) 3. Competitions and other activities for young people (continuation) 4. Holding workshops through industry-government-academia collaboration, implementation of human resource exchanges, and support for the formulation of sustainable strategic and operational plans (new)
Target participants	Government officials within the region, critical infrastructure operators, small and medium-sized enterprises, startups, etc.
Total project cost	Under adjustment

Proposed Future Schedule

2026

January

- ▲ Formulation of next-phase support project (ADGSOM/MIN+J)

June

- ▲ Submission of project (ADGSOM+J)
Project approval (ASEAN CRP)

2027

January

- ▲ Report on project adoption (ADGMIN+J)

February(tentative)

- ▲ Conclusion of agreement documents

June (tentative)

- ▲ Project commencement



- With the aim of strengthening cooperation and initiatives between Japan and ASEAN countries in the field of cybersecurity, the meeting has been held approximately once a year since February 2009.
- It is hosted by the National Center of Incident Readiness and Strategy for Cybersecurity (NCO), the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, and is attended by relevant ministries and agencies of Japan and ASEAN, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat. Through director-general-level policy sharing between Japan and ASEAN on cybersecurity, cooperative activities such as capacity building and exercises are implemented, and the modalities of such activities are discussed and decided.
- At the policy meeting in October 2025, it was agreed to promote the following cooperative activities in 2026.

◆ Plan for Cooperative Activities in 2026 (CA: Collaborative Activities)

Cooperative Activity	Overview
ASEAN-Japan Cyber Exercises	Implementation of online exercises and tabletop exercises
Protection of Critical Infrastructure	Holding workshops on the protection of critical infrastructure
Joint Awareness-Raising	Promotion of initiatives such as awareness-raising video contests and other awareness-raising activities
Capacity Building	Implementation of capacity-building programs for ASEAN through the ASEAN-Japan Cybersecurity Capacity Building Centre (AJCCBC), etc.
Joint Mutual Notification Program	Improvement and promotion of frameworks for sharing information such as cyber threat information
ASEAN-Japan Policy Compendium	Formulation of a compendium organizing the latest status of ASEAN-Japan cybersecurity initiatives
Industry-Academia-Government Collaboration	Further strengthening of public-private and public-academic collaboration between Japan and ASEAN

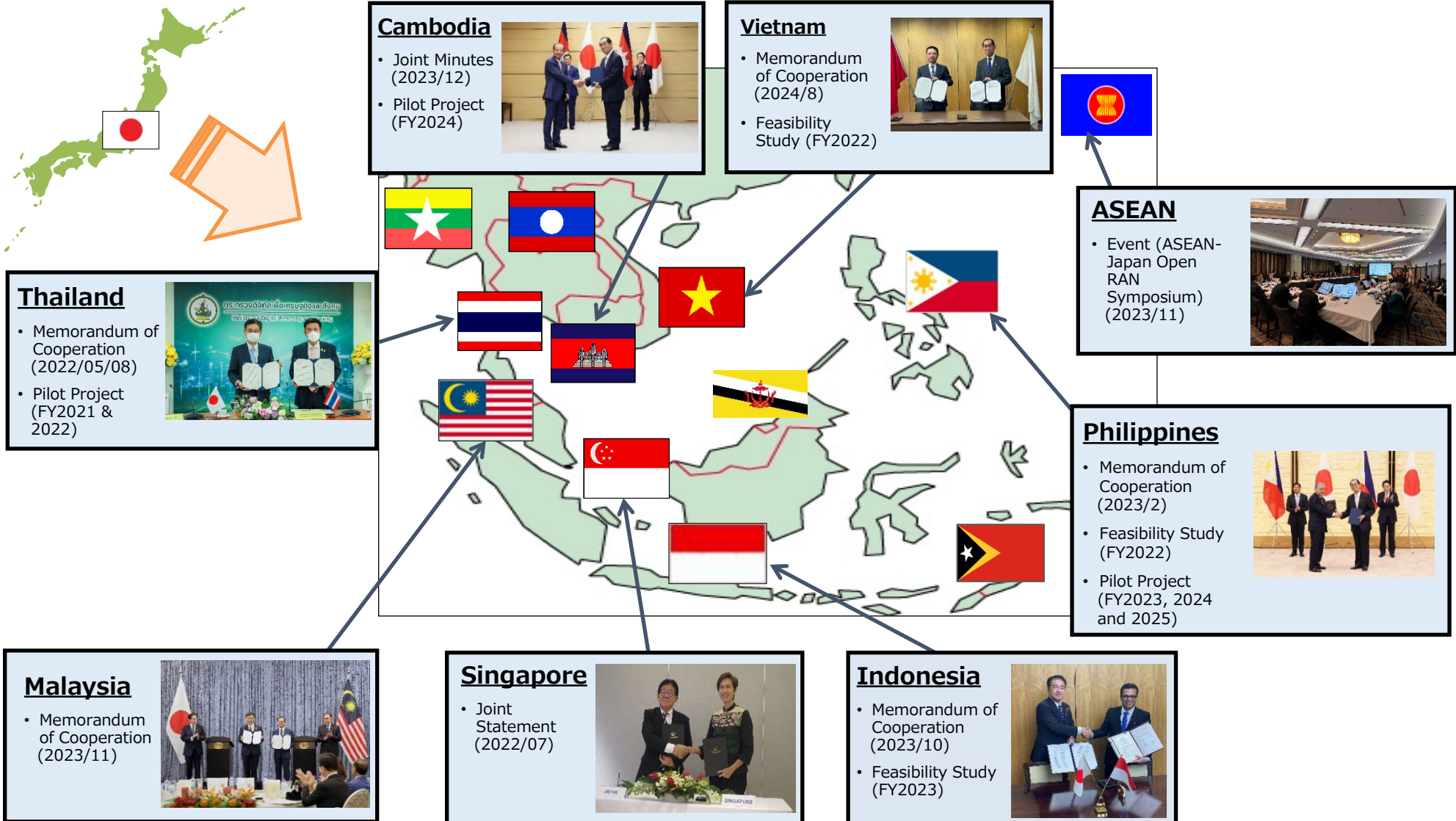


The 18th ASEAN-Japan Policy Meeting
(October 2025, Tokyo)

Status of ASEAN-Japan Cooperation on 5G / Open RAN

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- In recent years, 5G / Open RAN has become one of the most important areas of cooperation for the MIC Japan with ASEAN Member States.



- With the aim of developing ICT human resources in the Asia-Pacific region (including ASEAN), Japan provides extra-budgetary contributions to the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) to support ICT training and international collaborative research/pilot projects implemented by the APT.

ICT Training

- Providing training for the government officials, etc. of member countries
- Widely sharing Japan's knowledge and technologies regarding broadband, cybersecurity, etc.



Training on network planning for bridging the digital divide (Japan)



Lectures on cybersecurity (in Japan)

International Collaborative Research and Projects

- In 2026, the following international joint research projects are scheduled to be conducted in cooperation with two ASEAN countries.
- International joint research on the construction of a distributed monitoring and control system for poultry farm management (Malaysia)
- International joint research on the construction of resilient information and communication networks in island and mountainous areas and on remote perinatal medical care (Philippines)

■ Forming the ASEAN Research Cooperation Alliance

ICT Virtual Organization of ASEAN Institutes and NICT (ASEAN IVO)

A virtual research collaboration organization established in February 2015 jointly with 23 research institutes, universities, and other organizations within the ASEAN region, building on the research collaboration that NICT has cultivated with Southeast Asia. As of December 2025, 107 institutions from 10 ASEAN countries are participating. In order to promote the broad-based development of ICT research and development within the region and to advance the deployment of research results across multiple countries, a forum is held every year to share ideas for solving common social challenges in the region, and collaborative research projects are implemented based on proposals and reviews.

Activities:

- Sharing collaborations for common important issues of the member countries
- Forming joint projects (joint research and demonstration experiments)
- Research exchanges including joint hosting of multilateral workshops
- Cooperating Internationally by dispatching and accepting researchers

Main activities

Holding the ASEAN IVO Forum

- Sharing social challenges within the region* and ICT-based solution ideas
*Food such as agriculture and fisheries, environment and disaster prevention, smart cities, safety and security, health and welfare, etc.
- Formation of joint collaborative projects for research and development and demonstration experiments
- Venues:
Nov. 2026: Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) (planned) Nov. 2025: Singapore
Nov. 2024: Phnom Penh (Cambodia) Nov. 2023: Vientiane (Laos)
Nov. 2022: Bangkok (Thailand) Nov. 2021: Held online
Oct. 2020: Held online Nov. 2019: Manila (Philippines)
Nov. 2018: Jakarta (Indonesia) Nov. 2017: Bandar Seri Begawan (Brunei)
Nov. 2016: Hanoi (Vietnam) Nov. 2015: Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

Implementation of ASEAN IVO joint projects

- R&D and demonstration experiments
- Holding scientific conferences, including workshops
- Mutual dispatch and acceptance of researchers
- Number of projects: 52 in total.
FY2025: 5 projects, FY2024: 5 projects, FY2023: 6 projects,
FY2022: 5 projects, FY2021: 4 projects, FY2020: 4 projects,
FY2019: 4 projects, FY2018: 6 projects, FY2017: 5 projects,
FY2016: 8 projects
- **Number of Phase II projects: Total of 3 projects**
FY2025: 3 projects (trial)



Formation of an ASEAN collaborative research alliance under the leadership of NICT

Background

- The ASEAN-Japan ICT Fund was established in the ASEAN Secretariat from an initiative of the MIC in 2009. The MIC has been making annual contributions, which in total have reached 2.1 million US dollars.
- Provide support, with a focus on projects contributing to the development of the ICT environments in the ASEAN region.

Projects in the Recent Years

ASEAN-Japan Open RAN Symposium	Approved: 2023	Proponent: Japan
This is an opportunity for the 50th Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation to share policy issues related to the deployment of 5G networks in ASEAN Member States and discuss further international cooperation and applications of open RAN.		
Cross-Border Data Distribution Project for Realizing Automated Driving in ASEAN	Approved: 2023	Proponent: Indonesia
Conduct surveys on the data required for automated driving, the implementation status in each country, and related regulations such as data protection and cybersecurity, identify gaps, hold discussions through workshops, and prepare a report reflecting the opinions of experts and others.		
Advanced Spectrum Monitoring Project on Mobile Broadband Technology	Approved: 2023	Proponent: Indonesia
Along with sharing best practices to ASEAN member countries to advance mobile broadband spectrum monitoring, workshops were held to build capacity and promote understanding of advanced mobile broadband spectrum monitoring.		
Capacity Building for Regional CERT Cooperation and Cybersecurity Standards in ASEAN	Approved: 2024	Proponent: Japan
A workshop was held to support the launch of the ASEAN Regional CERT (Computer Emergency Response Team), which was established in ASEAN, by discussing collaboration measures among CERTs.		

MIC Japan will continue to contribute to the Fund in 2026 and actively commit to the development of the ICT environments in the ASEAN region.