

# ASEAN-AUSTRALIA: COLLABORATING ON QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Partnerships for  
**INFRASTRUCTURE**  
AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE





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## ASEAN-AUSTRALIA: COLLABORATING ON QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Partnerships for Infrastructure (P4I) is an Australian Government initiative partnering with Southeast Asia to foster inclusive growth through sustainable infrastructure.

Since 2021, P4I has worked together with ASEAN bodies including the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Centre for Energy, the Lead Implementing Body on Sustainable Infrastructure, the ASEAN Energy Regulators Network, and the Heads of ASEAN Power Utilities/Authorities, as well as individually with ASEAN Member States (AMS) to support their implementation of ASEAN commitments at the country level.

### Delivering Results

# 17

Australian organisations and five ASEAN counterpart organisations supported to engage in direct technical and policy exchanges to advance priority infrastructure issues in the region.

# 250

ASEAN infrastructure professionals on average annually have built deeper technical and policy understanding in collaboration with Australian infrastructure professionals.

### P4I has supported policy and planning reform outcomes, including:

- Working with the **ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)** and AMS to accelerate the **clean energy transition** across the region through knowledge sharing, capacity building and technical assistance, including in support of the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation 2016 – 2025 and ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality.
- P4I supported ACE to develop the region's flagship annual energy report: the **8th ASEAN Energy Outlook (AEO8)**. The report provides a roadmap for ASEAN's energy transition, which will require a predicted USD190 billion in regional energy investment annually by 2035 to align with climate goals. AEO8 is considered by policy makers as an important evolution on previous reports by including a Carbon Neutrality Scenario to 2050 and strengthening disaster resilience, gender equality and social inclusion.
- P4I is expanding its work with governments and port authorities on maritime decarbonisation strategies. This includes support to the **ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC)** to improve **regional maritime connectivity** in line with the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025, with a focus on port digitalisation and automation, public private partnerships, port decarbonisation, and effective and resilient maritime connectivity.

- P4I co-hosted a **Strategic Multistakeholder Forum on Just and Inclusive Energy Transition in ASEAN**, alongside ACE, Oxfam, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), at ASEAN's flagship annual international conference the **ASEAN Energy Business Forum (AEBF)**. This event was the first time that the AEBF had hosted a session in this critical component of the energy transition drawing upon diverse experts from the region to highlight key initiatives and progress in youth and community-led initiatives, inclusive climate finance, and resilience.
- P4I organised the first **ASEAN–Australia Women's Leadership and Gender Mainstreaming in Infrastructure Workshop**, in collaboration with ASEAN's Lead Implementing Body on Sustainable Infrastructure (LIB-SI), ASEC and the ASEAN Committee on Women. The workshop convened over 90 infrastructure leaders from Australia and Southeast Asia in dialogue on the role of women's leadership and gender mainstreaming to drive ASEAN's sustainable infrastructure and connectivity objectives.

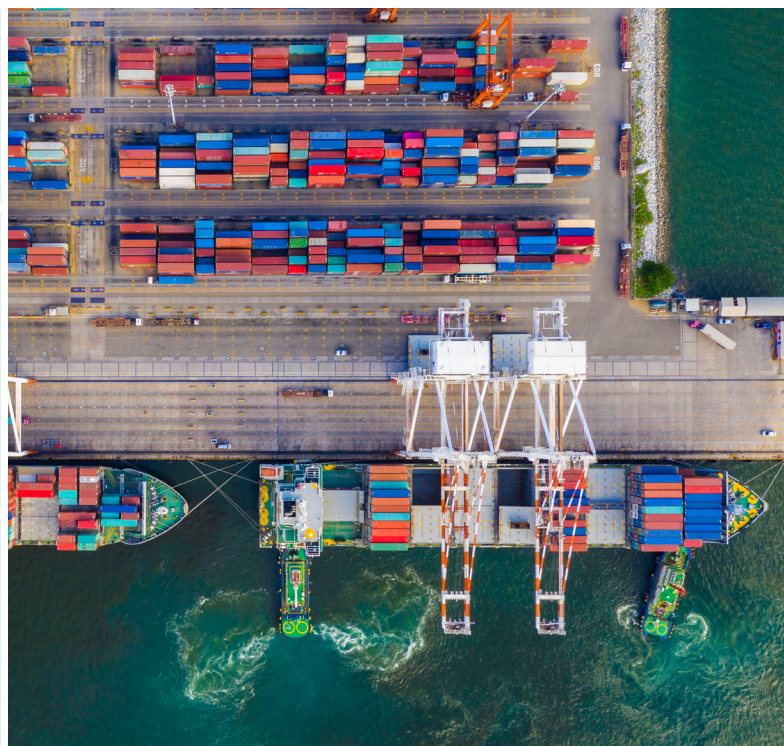
## Continuing commitment to ASEAN's infrastructure priorities

Australia is committed to deepening the relationship with ASEAN bodies and supporting ASEAN as the key regional platform for peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, capacity building, and advocacy on strengthening inclusive and resilient infrastructure decision making.

P4I will continue to build upon these proven areas of sector engagement, particularly across maritime transport and connectivity and inclusive infrastructure, while remaining attuned to emerging priorities.

P4I's activities will continue to align with priorities as laid out in ASEAN's key guiding frameworks and strategies including the ASEAN Community Vision to 2045 and ASEAN Strategy for Carbon Neutrality, and upcoming frameworks to be launched in 2025 including the 2045 ASEAN Connectivity Strategic Plan and ASEAN Plan of Action on Energy Cooperation (APEC) 2026 – 2030.

In 2025, P4I will bolster Australia's responsiveness to ASEAN Chair year priorities by providing targeted support and alignment to Malaysia as 2025 ASEAN Chair, building upon a comprehensive portfolio of bilateral work with Malaysia across maritime transport and the energy transition.



## Partnership highlight: Enhancing Container Circulation in ASEAN

Since 2021, P4I has worked with ASEC to support regional transport connectivity and improvements within the port sector.

In November 2024, the 30th ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting endorsed the P4I-supported ASEAN Port Digitalisation and Automation Best Practice Guidelines, which aim to improve productivity, planning and the integration of climate resilience and inclusiveness in the region's port sector. Alongside this, P4I supported the ASEAN Port Sector Public Private Partnerships Guidelines which were also endorsed at the meeting. These guidelines are based on Australian, ASEAN and global best practice to help attract quality investment in the region's port infrastructure.

This work followed P4I's support to ASEC and Thailand to deliver a study on container circulation in the region, a Priority Economic Deliverable for Cambodia's ASEAN Chairmanship in 2022. On 16 October 2022, the 28th ASEAN Transport Ministers Meeting adopted the Implementation Framework on Enhancing Container Processing and Circulation in the ASEAN Member States, including its Action Plan, based on the study's findings. The Action Plan delivers increased resilience of regional container shipping, maritime transport logistics and multimodal transport, which in turn, would bolster intra-ASEAN and international trade flows in the region.



## Partnerships for Infrastructure (P4I)

Partnerships for Infrastructure (P4I) is one of Australia's flagship infrastructure development initiatives in Southeast Asia. P4I partners with Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to attract quality investment, address infrastructure gaps and drive inclusion and climate-resilient development.

P4I does this by providing infrastructure advisory services, facilitating technical knowledge exchanges, building partners' technical capacity and supporting government-to-government and other partnerships between Australian and Southeast Asian organisations.

Delivered through a single team, P4I is led by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in collaboration with Ernst and Young, Adam Smith International, The Asia Foundation and Ninti One.

