

ASEAN – Pacific Alliance Work Plan 2021-2025

This ASEAN – Pacific Alliance (PA) Work Plan (2021-2025) aims to encourage closer engagement between ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance, to implement relevant action lines in the 2016 ASEAN–Pacific Alliance Framework for Cooperation, including through exchange of communication, as well as to follow-up on decisions by the ASEAN-Pacific Alliance Ministerial Meeting.

Economic Cooperation

1. Encourage the organisation of trade and investment promotion activities in ASEAN and PA countries.
2. Promote cooperation in the digital economy, cybersecurity, e-commerce, and support for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) development, including through relevant initiatives in key areas such as human capital development, consumer and personal data protection in the digital environment, technical assistance, innovation collaboration and business incubator models.
3. Encourage the exchange of information on the process of becoming an APEC observer.
4. Encourage collaboration on promoting women's economic participation, economic rights, and empowerment, including private sector engagement, to promote women entrepreneurship and gender equality.
5. Explore cooperation on youth employability and workforce competency by exchanging best practices and organizations of live or virtual seminars.

Education and People-to-People Contacts

6. Promote cooperation on digital education, flexible learning, sharing of digital resources and content, including exchanging knowledge and lifelong learning experience.
7. Explore cooperation to develop mechanisms to evaluate and monitor the potential effects of online learning on the evolution of gender gaps.
8. Encourage people-to-people contacts, particularly by exchanging best practices towards the re-activation of the tourism sector post-pandemic, focusing on sustainable tourism development.
9. Encourage cultural exchanges, which may be conducted online, in the performing arts, exhibitions, design, entrepreneurs, multimedia documents including

films, and other cultural products that may be of interest to both ASEAN and the Pacific Alliance.

10. Promote cooperation on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), the ASEAN TVET Council and on human resource development towards the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) to meet the global labour market's demands.

Science, Technology, and Innovation as well as Smart Cities and Connectivity

11. Promote the exchange of experiences and best practices on the progress and implementation of the Pacific Alliance Roadmap for the Regional Digital Market and the ASEAN Digital Masterplan (ADM) 2025 as well as ASEAN Digital Integration Framework (DIF) and its Action Plan (DIFAP) 2019-2025 and in order to address challenges and seize opportunities in the digital economy and the Fourth Industrial Revolution for MSMEs development.

12. Foster science and technology scholarships, including environment-related areas, to enhance talent mobility opportunities.

13. Explore collaboration on promoting women and girls' participation in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

14. Explore joint events to share experiences related to innovation, energy and food policies, as well as sustainable urbanisation and economic development.

15. Encourage collaboration on the use of Science, Technology, and Innovation to help accelerate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the region.

16. Explore collaboration on smart cities and connectivity, including sharing information, exchanging best practices and capacity building activities through initiatives such as the ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN) and the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025.

Environment and Sustainable Development

17. Encourage exchange of information and best practices on sustainable development in ASEAN and PA member states, including the possibility of organising seminars and workshops related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and disaster management with a focus on actions towards the achievement and reporting of the SDGs.

18. Encourage exchange of information and best practices in topics such as the sustainable management of plastic waste and marine litter, sustainable fisheries and combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, circular economy,

sustainable forest management, as well as conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

19. Encourage the organisation of workshops on SDGs with the participation of relevant stakeholders as appropriate, and with a focus on gender equality, circular economy, sustainable consumption and production, addressing deforestation (life on land), climate action and disasters.

20. Promote scientific research collaboration, as well as intersectoral workshops for capacity building, knowledge, and best practices exchange on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, forest management, coastal and marine ecosystems, climate change, marine litter, plastic waste management, transboundary movement of hazardous waste, including mining waste.

21. Enhance the mainstreaming of biodiversity into different development sectors, and climate action and smart and sustainable cities, including through cross-pillar, cross-sectoral workshops, exchange of knowledge and best practices, and capacity building.

Cooperation on post-pandemic recovery due to COVID-19

22. Encourage collaboration on post-pandemic inclusive recovery, such as by exchanging information on COVID-19 prevention and response measures, including the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework among other initiatives.

23. Explore the exchange of information and experiences regarding policy measures that put women and girls at the centre of efforts to recover from COVID-19, recognizing that the effects of the pandemic could hinder the progress that has been made on gender equality, including women and girls' rights.