Australian Government

INVESTED FOR THE FUTURE



Australia is closely linked to Southeast Asia and we are committed to deepening our economic cooperation even further.

Since the 2023 launch of *Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040*, we have made significant progress.

Two-way trade and investment continued to increase in 2025, more finance is flowing to support investment into the region and partnership opportunities are emerging across Australia and Southeast Asia.

This progress is no accident – it's a return on our investments.

Through our trusted partnerships and efforts under *Invested*, we are navigating the fuel and fertiliser crisis together, while continuing to foster the conditions for growth.

Australia is a partner Southeast Asia can rely on and when exceptional events occur, we can depend on each other. Together, we are taking tangible actions towards a more peaceful, stable and prosperous region.

'Our resilience, our security, our prosperity and our destiny lie here, in Southeast Asia.'

— The Hon Anthony Albanese MP, Prime Minister of Australia

In **2025**

Two-way trade with Southeast Asia increased to a record **A$197.5 billion**

Two-way investment with Southeast Asia increased to **A$296.2 billion**

Raising **awareness**

Australia's Special Envoy for Southeast Asia, Nicholas Moore AO, and our Business Champions continue to raise awareness of the opportunities in this dynamic region.

This includes leading business and investment missions.

The Australian Government is supporting business to build the contacts, knowledge and confidence they need to succeed in Southeast Asia.

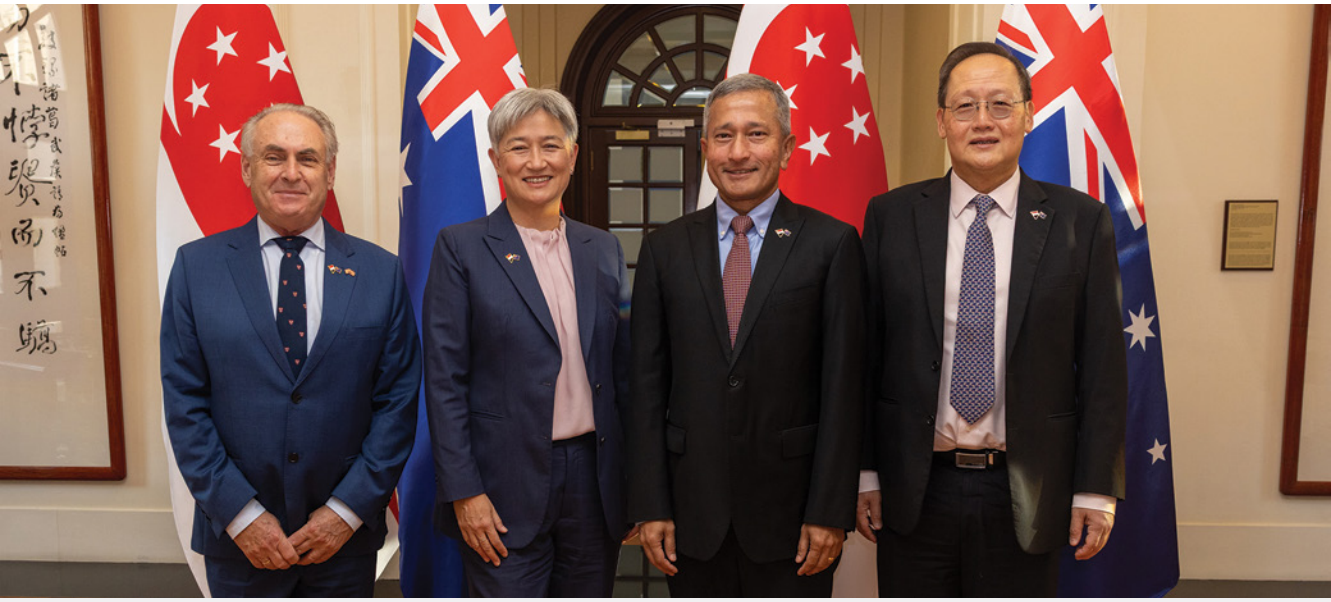


Strengthening climate resilience in agriculture

Following participation in a Southeast Asia Business Exchange mission to Thailand, Australian company Earth Systems connected with Thai businesses and government officials, including biomass developer Enable Earth.

The mission opened doors, built local relationships and led to a partnership agreement and multimillion-dollar export sale of its CharMaker System – technology that converts biomass, such as crop residues and wood waste, into biochar, a charcoal-like material that can improve soil health, support carbon storage and be used in higher-value carbon products, such as carbon fibre.

Earth Systems has now built and commissioned a biochar production facility in northern Thailand, helping to develop a biochar industry, attract investment and build local capability in cleaner, more sustainable food production.



'We are implementing Invested because we understand that shared prosperity underpins peace and stability.'

— Senator the Hon Penny Wong, Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs

Removing **blockages**

Review of our Free Trade Agreements with Southeast Asia

The Australian Government's Southeast Asia Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Modernisation Review Report aims to ensure our FTAs remain fit for purpose.

It details actions government will take that aim to ensure our FTAs continue to meet the evolving needs of businesses and take advantage of the opportunities that Southeast Asia's fast-growing economies, expanding middle class and integrated supply chains have to offer. By working with our partners, we can ensure our FTAs continue to deliver for our collective future.



'Southeast Asia is projected to become the world's fourth largest economy by 2040.

We are determined to leverage the enormous opportunities for Australian businesses, creating and sustaining jobs in Australia and Southeast Asia.'

— Senator the Hon Don Farrell, Australian Minister for Trade and Tourism

Building **capability**

Landing Pads

Southeast Asia's digital economy is growing rapidly and offers many prospects for Australia's tech firms – but each market is unique.

Through Landing Pads in Jakarta, Ho Chi Minh City and Singapore, Australian tech scale-ups are getting tailored advice and in-market experiences that equip them to enter and expand in the region.

Advancing business sustainability through tech

Founded in 2019 by sisters Naomi Vowels and Frances Atkins, Australian start-up Givvable helps organisations assess suppliers against environmental, ethical sourcing, social impact, governance, community engagement, diversity, equity and inclusion measures.

Through Landing Pads, Naomi and Frances deepened their understanding of Southeast Asian markets, connected with prospective clients and partners, and received targeted industry introductions.

These connections helped Givvable build credibility and expand into Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

Today, Givvable works with major clients across banking, telecommunications, healthcare, consumer goods and procurement platforms, while continuing to grow in the region.



RAISE AWARENESS

Almost
A$4 billion
in trade outcomes
by Australian businesses working with Austrade in Southeast Asia since 2024

Business Champions
for Southeast Asia
are leading missions and connecting businesses with opportunities

32 Missions

650+ Participants

to **10** Southeast Asian countries

REMOVE BLOCKAGES

Reviewing
Free Trade Agreements
with Southeast Asia

Investor Front Door
pilot to simplify investment into Australia

BUILD CAPABILITY

ASEAN-Australia Centre

6 Emerging Leaders Programs expanding over **130 young professionals'** and diplomats' skills and networks

2 short courses in **STEM and resources** to over **90** participants

21 grants worth
A$4.3 million
including economic development projects

Landing Pads
supporting over
240 Australian companies
across **19 programs**
so far and achieving over
A$35 million
in commercial outcomes

DEEPEN INVESTMENT

A$100 million
***Invested* 2040 window**
to connect capital to the region

In 2025, investment from Southeast Asia increased by
A$9.3 billion

Export Finance Australia
in **Southeast Asia in** 2025–26 provided
A$857 million
in finance

62%
increase on 2024–25

A$4.5 billion
in new committed Australian investment supported under ***Invested***

Find out more at **dfat.gov.au/invested** or contact Deal Teams at **austrade.gov.au/asea/seaidt-contact**

Deepening **investment**

Australia is deepening our investment in Southeast Asia through *Invested*.

Deal Teams across the region bring together the diplomatic expertise of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the commercial nous of Austrade and the financing tools of Export Finance Australia (EFA) to work with Australian business.

This includes connecting them with finance options through the A$2 billion Southeast Asia Investment Financing Facility (SEAIFF) or EFA's Commercial Account.

A$4.5 billion
in new committed Australian investment has been supported under *Invested*

including
A$330 million
under the SEAIFF

Deal Teams are delivering faster and more advanced results than projected, and to keep pace with the increased demand on their services, **the Australian Government is expanding the initiative**. This will ensure we can match Australian investment with the opportunities the region has on offer.

Transactions made under the SEAIFF

A$77 million
for Singapore's Financing Asia's Transition Partnership **(FAST-P)**

bolstered by an additional
A$100 million
through EFA's Commercial Account financing

FAST-P is already making a difference, funding:

Hydropower projects in Indonesia

Solar and battery storage projects across Southeast Asia, including in the Philippines

Bioenergy projects across the region

A$77 million
to Plenary for a new Public-Private Partnership regional infrastructure fund

To support projects in:

Healthcare

Education

Transport

A$175 million
into IFM Investors' Asia Pacific Debt Fund

To support projects in:

Renewable energy

Logistics

Telecommunications

IFM established an **office in Singapore** and is already investing in agribusiness projects

Outbound **investment**

Investing in regional education

In Malaysia, Australia's Monash University is building on its nearly three decades of providing high-quality education through a new A$1 billion campus. Assisted by the commercial advocacy of the Australian High Commission and our Deal Team in Kuala Lumpur, along with support from then-Business Champion for Malaysia Tony Lombardo, Monash has partnered with The Exchange TRX to deliver the new campus. This will respond to demand for a Monash education in Malaysia and the wider region.

The new campus is the latest Australian investment commitment into a growing transnational education sector across Southeast Asia since the launch of *Invested*, following the new Deakin-Lancaster University and Western Sydney University campuses in Indonesia, with 14 Australian branch campuses now in the region. A new, state-of-the-art RMIT University campus in Hanoi has also recently secured Vietnam's approval of an investment licence.



Backing the region's energy transition

Australia is a strong supporter of the region's clean energy transition, and is financing renewable energy projects that will support Thailand to deliver on its net-zero target.

Through our Bangkok Deal Team, EFA provided two loans totalling over A$191 million in finance to Gulf Energy, one of Thailand's leading infrastructure and energy companies. This finance is supporting the development of new solar and battery storage projects and associated energy infrastructure as Thailand expands its electricity system and progresses its energy transition.

This builds on a Memorandum of Understanding signed between EFA and Thai EXIM in 2024 to deepen cooperation, including the development of strategic co-financing arrangements, as well as three business missions under *Invested* that explored opportunities in Thailand's green economy sector.

Investing in regional food security

Food security is a regional priority, and Australia is investing in Brunei's food export and economic diversification goals. Supported by our Brunei Deal Team, Australian biotech company AgriGen and Brunei-based Adinin Group signed an agreement to establish the Brunei Integrated Analytical Laboratory.

The lab will offer faster turnaround times and a broader range of testing services, giving Bruneian food producers greater certainty and control. The project is also expected to create opportunities for Bruneian graduates in the related fields of biology, microbiology, chemistry and halal science.

Inbound **investment**

Investment from Southeast Asia creates jobs in Australia, drives innovation and strengthens Australia's economic ties with the region. It helps diversify our economy, build more resilient supply chains and unlock new opportunities for businesses on both sides.

We continue to make it easier to do business in Australia, including through enhanced visa access and the current pilot of the Investor Front Door.

Singapore tech supporting Australian critical minerals

With increasing global demand for metals, Singapore startup Atomionics is helping the Australian mining sector transform how critical minerals are discovered.

Using Gravio, the world's most advanced portable gravimeter, together with drones and artificial intelligence, the technology rapidly captures and analyses geophysical data, providing detailed insights into what is beneath the earth's surface, from resource deposits and fault lines to volcanic activity and other geological features.

The technology also has applications across emerging industries that support the clean energy transition, reinforcing Australia's commitment to net-zero.



Investing in Australia’s clean energy ambitions

Philippines-based ACEN has a strong track record of supporting Australia’s clean energy future, with one of its projects expected to unlock one of the largest private investments in Tasmania’s history.

ACEN Australia’s A$3 billion, 900MW Robbins Island Wind project is expected to generate enough power for up to 500,000 homes, create up to 400 construction jobs, and contribute to Australia’s ambition to become a renewable energy superpower.



Blended **finance**

Australia is working with local businesses to scale solutions to shared regional challenges by attracting investment into businesses that drive economic growth, create jobs and deliver development outcomes. Australian Development Investments (ADI) helps unlock opportunities that might otherwise struggle to attract capital, crowding in private investors alongside government funding.

Building on ADI's success, **Australia will establish a new A$100 million *Invested* 2040 window** to connect Australian capital with high-growth businesses in Southeast Asia. The new window will channel more Australian private capital into the region, strengthen business links between Australia and Southeast Asia, and support companies that are creating jobs and driving economic growth.

To date, ADI has committed over

A$80 million

and mobilised over

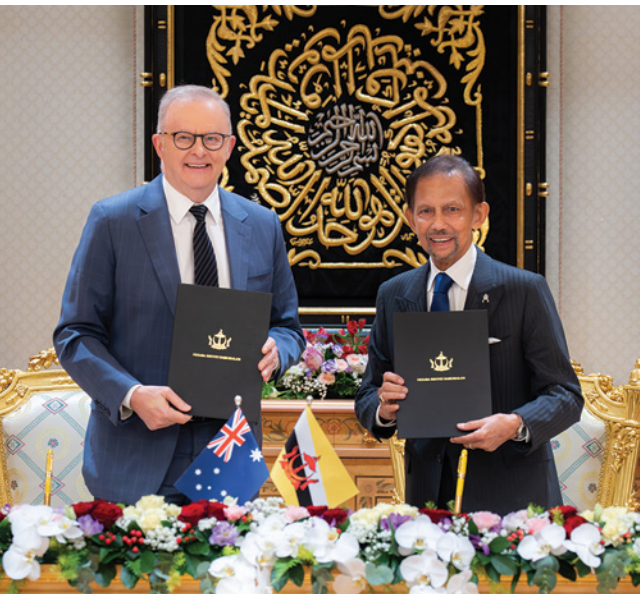
A$200 million

in private capital, including from Australian investors



'When the region succeeds, Australia succeeds. That approach underpins our Invested 2040 strategy.'

— The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP, Australian Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade



Southeast Asian fuel and fertiliser growing Australian food exports for the region

The strong relationships we have with the region and deepening economic ties that we have fostered under *Invested* facilitated Australia's access to fuel and fertiliser shipments from Southeast Asian partners in the early phase of the fuel and food crisis.

In Brunei, our Deal Team's work with the government and commercial sector helped secure additional fertiliser and diesel supply. This allowed Australian farmers in turn to export vital agricultural produce to the region, promoting Southeast Asia's food security.