

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEMBER FACT SHEET



Malaysia: 2023 Commitments (\$ million)^a

| Product Type | Sovereign | Nonsovereign | Total |
|---|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Technical Assistance ^b | 1.14 | 0.04 | 1.18 |
| Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program ^c | – | 5.02 | 5.02 |
| Total | 1.14 | 5.06 | 6.20 |

– = nil.

Notes:

Commitment is the financing approved by ADB's Board of Directors or Management for which the legal agreement has been signed by the borrower, recipient, or the investee company and ADB. It comprises the amount indicated in the investment agreement, which—depending on the exchange rate at the time of signing—may or may not be equal to the approved amount.

^a Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.

^b Financing for technical assistance projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific developing member countries where breakdown is available.

^c Short-term ADB-financed commitments from private sector programs with maturity of less than 365 days.

Malaysia's commitment to ambitious climate change strategies, which is aligned with national goals and enhanced through international cooperation, is bolstering the country's robust post-COVID-19 growth.

MALAYSIA

From 2020 to 2023, Malaysia's economy experienced significant shifts due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. In 2020, gross domestic product (GDP) dropped by –5.53%, heavily impacted by the pandemic. Recovery started in 2021 with 3.09% growth and 2022 witnessed a surge to 8.7% growth, indicating strong recovery. Despite challenging external conditions, Malaysia managed to sustain a GDP growth rate of 3.7% in 2023; on easing inflation, job market strength, and consumer spending; following the robust 8.7% expansion in 2022.

Malaysia has complemented its strong post-COVID-19 economic growth with a firm commitment to climate action. Key policies such as the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021–2025 (12MP) and the Green Technology Master Plan have laid the groundwork for sustainable development. In the second half of 2023, Malaysia introduced the second phase of its Energy Transition Mechanism, a major regulatory shift in energy policy that steers the country away from fossil fuels and toward more renewable and sustainable energy sources.

As of 31 December 2023, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has committed 168 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totaling \$2 billion to Malaysia.

Cumulative sovereign and nonsovereign loan disbursements to Malaysia amount to \$1.41 billion. These were financed by regular and concessional ordinary capital resources.

Malaysia: Cumulative Commitments^{a, b, c}

| Sector | No. | Total Amount (\$ million) ^d | |
|---|--------------|--|---------------|
| | | Sovereign | Nonsovereign |
| Project and Technical Assistance | 171 | 2,013.29 | 10.75 |
| Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development | 64 | 676.10 | – |
| Education | 8 | 259.87 | – |
| Energy | 21 | 324.06 | 0.32 |
| Finance | 5 | 15.65 | 10.29 |
| Health | 8 | 183.13 | – |
| Industry and Trade | 8 | 55.64 | – |
| Information and Communication Technology | – | – | 0.14 |
| Multisector | 5 | 1.75 | – |
| Public Sector Management | 10 | 2.55 | – |
| Transport | 19 | 255.77 | – |
| Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services | 23 | 238.78 | – |
| Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program^e | 1,306 | – | 155.42 |
| Finance | 875 | – | 105.93 |
| Industry and Trade | 431 | – | 49.50 |
| Total | 1,477 | 2,013.29 | 166.17 |

– = nil.

^a Includes loans, technical assistance, and private sector programs.

^b Using primary sector in the reporting of commitments.

^c From 2020, financing for technical assistance projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific developing member countries where breakdown is available.

^d Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.

^e Short-term ADB-financed commitments from private sector programs with maturity of less than 365 days.



Over the past decade, ADB's collaboration with Malaysia has evolved. It now focuses on regional economic cooperation, private sector growth, and sustainable cities under the 12MP. Malaysia's commitment to climate change, in line with the ADB's goals of climate finance and low-carbon development, has fostered collaboration in green infrastructure. This aligns with the 12MP objectives of stimulating economic growth, job creation, and climate resilience. A [technical assistance](#) worth \$3.5 million, provided on a cost recovery model, is supporting quality infrastructure investments for transitioning 14 cities into green, livable spaces. Each green city action plan prepared under the project will include provisions for enhancing domestic resource mobilization to better enable cities to fund essential infrastructure projects and make further progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.

Malaysia prioritizes regional cooperation and integration; ADB supports this through the [Association of Southeast Asian Nations \(ASEAN\)](#), the [Subregional Frameworks of the Brunei Darussalam Indonesia Malaysia Philippines – East ASEAN Growth Area \(BIMP-EAGA\)](#), and the [Indonesia Malaysia Thailand–Growth Triangle \(IMT-GT\)](#). ADB helps boost regional trade, diversify value chains, and enhance tourism recovery. As regional advisor to these subregional frameworks, ADB also focuses on investing in human capital, addressing inequality, and widening economic opportunities in each subregion. Malaysia also benefits from ADB support through its active participation in the B-I-G Capacity Building Program¹ and other bank-wide initiatives. The repositioning and expanded capacity of the [ASEAN Infrastructure Fund](#) and its [ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility](#), of which both Malaysia and ADB are members, is also creating opportunities to develop additional climate-resilient green infrastructure in the region.

Operational challenges. Given Malaysia's upper middle-income status, ADB's collaboration with the country focuses on knowledge generation and private sector development. Malaysia's strong and stable economy, with its well-developed financial markets that provide robust access to financing, means that Malaysia does not need to borrow from ADB. Debt to GDP borrowing limits have also been reached, further constraining possible borrowing from ADB. Thus, the challenge for ADB is how to best support the country's priorities through private sector loans to help invigorate small and medium-sized enterprises, which are crucial for economic development.

Since November 2022 and continuing in 2023, the government has been emphasizing inclusivity and social improvement, fostering fair economic opportunities, bolstering human capital, modernizing infrastructure, enhancing public services, broadening social safety nets, advancing higher education, and nurturing enterprise growth.

¹ The BIMP-EAGA, IMT-GT, and Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Capacity Building Program, or B-I-G Program, is a regional capacity development initiative for government officials to enhance capacities in developing policies, programs, and projects that support physical, institutional, and people-to-people connectivity in Southeast Asia and the People's Republic of China (PRC). The B-I-G Program provides opportunities for knowledge and experience sharing and networking among the three subregional programs, given their unique roles as building blocks for Asian integration. It is funded by ADB and the governments of the PRC and the Republic of Korea.

Malaysia: Share of Procurement Contracts for Loan, Grant, and Technical Assistance Projects

| Item | Goods, Works, and Related Services | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| | Amount (\$ million) | % of ADB Total |
| 2022 | 22.23 | 0.14 |
| 2023 | – | – |
| Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2023) | 1,373.71 | 0.53 |
| Item | Consulting Services | |
| | Amount (\$ million) | % of ADB Total |
| 2022 | 17.81 | 3.22 |
| 2023 | 1.86 | 0.35 |
| Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2023) | 118.87 | 0.74 |
| Item | Total Procurement | |
| | Amount (\$ million) | % of ADB Total |
| 2022 | 40.04 | 0.24 |
| 2023 | 1.86 | 0.01 |
| Cumulative (as of 31 Dec 2023) | 1,492.58 | 0.54 |

– = nil.

Top 5 Contractors/Suppliers from Malaysia Involved in Goods, Works, and Related Services Contracts under ADB Loan and Grant Projects, 1 January 2019–31 December 2023

| Contractor/Supplier | Sector | Contract Amount (\$ million) |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|
| HG Power Transmission Sdn. Bhd. | ENE | 16.53 |
| Pestech Sdn. Bhd. | ENE | 13.97 |
| Peritone Health Sdn. Bhd. | HLT | 5.70 |
| Leader Cable Industry Bhd. | ENE | 3.21 |
| Chip Ngai Engineering Works Sdn. Bhd. | WUS | 1.84 |
| Others | | 0.76 |
| Total | | 42.01 |

ENE = energy, HLT = health, WUS = water and other urban infrastructure and services.

Top 5 Consultants from Malaysia Involved in Consulting Services Contracts under ADB Loan, Grant, and Technical Assistance Projects, 1 January 2019–31 December 2023

| Consultant | Sector | Contract Amount (\$ million) |
|---|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Minconsult Sdn. Bhd. | EDU, TRA, WUS | 31.61 |
| Mediconsult Sdn. Bhd. | HLT | 1.78 |
| Universiti Malaya, Social Wellbeing Research Centre | HLT | 0.30 |
| Cybiat Asia Sdn. Bhd. | PSM, WUS | 0.06 |
| Ernst & Young Consulting Sdn. Bhd. | FIN | 0.04 |
| Individual Consultants | | 4.81 |
| Total | | 38.61 |

EDU = education, FIN = finance, HLT = health, PSM = public sector management, TRA = transport, WUS = water and other urban infrastructure and services.

KNOWLEDGE WORK

Malaysia is actively engaged in regional knowledge and capacity development programs led by ADB. These initiatives focus on topics such as tax administration, statistical analysis, big data management, resource mobilization, and tourism revival. The country also contributes to broader ADB efforts to strengthen institutional capacities for policy formulation and financial management in the region. ADB provides urban development knowledge support at the municipal level through the formulation of green city action plans. At the IMT-GT and BIMP-EAGA summits in 2023, leaders endorsed ADB's subregional studies on corridor development and special economic zones. ADB has also assisted in the review of the [BIMP-EAGA Vision 2025](#) and the drafting of the implementation blueprint for the [IMT-GT Vision 2036](#).

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Financing partnerships enable ADB's financing partner governments or their agencies, multilateral financing institutions, and private organizations to participate in financing ADB projects. The additional funds provided may be in the form of loans and grants, technical assistance, and nonsovereign cofinancing.

Cumulative cofinancing commitments in Malaysia:

- Sovereign cofinancing: \$2.28 million for 5 technical assistance projects since 1981
- Nonsovereign cofinancing: \$173.42 million for 2 investment projects since 2015

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

ADB's partnership with Malaysia is guided by the [Twelfth Malaysia Plan 2021–2025](#), which aims to boost the economy, reduce disparities, and foster sustainable development. ADB's support focuses on formulating green city action plans and stimulating investment in sustainable urban projects, emphasizing both green and blue initiatives. To enhance access to ADB knowledge support, ADB is simplifying procedures for cost recovery technical assistance thereby enabling more ministries and agencies to benefit from its expertise. Key pillars of the ADB–Malaysia collaboration include enhancing domestic resource mobilization, supporting private sector growth, and promoting technological innovation. The partnership will also continue to leverage regional cooperation opportunities, underlining ADB's commitment to Malaysia's holistic and sustainable progress.

Malaysia: Ordinary Capital Resources Nonsovereign Commitments by Product

| | 2023 | 2019–2023 |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|
| Number of Transactions Signed (OCR) | 0 | 0 |
| Number of Transactions Signed (Programs) | 46 | 878 |
| | Amount (\$ million) | |
| Loans | – | – |
| Equity Investments | – | – |
| Guarantees | – | – |
| Debt Security | – | – |
| Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program and Microfinance Program | 5.02 | 106.50 |
| Total | 5.02 | 106.50 |

– = nil, OCR = ordinary capital resources.

Malaysia: Independent Evaluation Ratings for Sovereign and Nonsovereign Operations, 2014–2023

| | Total Number of Validated and Evaluated Projects and Programs | Evaluation Ratings | | |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | Highly successful and successful | Less than successful | Unsuccessful |
| Sovereign Operations | – | – | – | – |
| Nonsovereign Operations | 1 | – | 1 | – |

– = nil, IED = Independent Evaluation Department.

Note: The numbers indicate nonsovereign operations in the country that have been validated or evaluated by the IED and their overall performance ratings. The coverage consists of all validated or evaluated extended annual review reports circulated by ADB within the 10-year period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2023. See [evaluations](#) related to Malaysia.

Source: IED success rate database.

Malaysia: Projects Cofinanced, 1 January 2019–31 December 2023

| Cofinancing | No. of Projects | Amount (\$ million) |
|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Nonsovereign | 2 | 124.50 |

ADB AT A GLANCE

ADB is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. Established in 1966, it has 68 members—49 from the region and 19 outside. ADB headquarters is in Manila, Philippines and has 43 offices around the world, with 3,894 staff from 65 members as of 31 December 2023.

ADB maximizes the development impact of its assistance to its developing member countries by providing financing and tailored knowledge solutions through policy dialogue and advisory services, among others.

As Asia and the Pacific's climate bank, ADB reached its highest-ever annual financing for climate action in 2023: \$9.8 billion, including \$1 billion in nonsovereign financing.

ADB's evolution is ongoing. Strategy 2030 is being updated; and a new operating model was launched midyear to increase capacity as the region's climate bank, spur private sector development, provide a wider range of integrated development solutions, and modernize how ADB works. Major capital management reforms have also unlocked up to \$100 billion in new funding capacity over the next decade. These initiatives strengthen ADB's ability to help DMCs address urgent and accelerating development challenges and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

ADB operations. In 2023, ADB committed \$23.6 billion in loans, grants, equity investments, guarantees, private sector programs, and technical assistance to both the public and private sectors of its borrowing members. ADB bolstered its total support with cofinancing of \$16.4 billion.

As of 31 December 2023, ADB's cumulative commitments in 45 countries stood at \$378.8 billion covering 4,324 loans, \$13.4 billion in 602 grants, and \$5.8 billion in technical assistance grants, including regional technical assistance grants.

In addition to loans, grants, and technical assistance, ADB uses equity investments, guarantees, and private sector programs to help its developing member countries.

Total commitments in nonsovereign loans, equity investments, and guarantees from ADB's own funds in 2023 amounted to \$1.7 billion for 40 transactions in economic and social infrastructure, finance sector, and agribusiness.

In 2023, ADB mobilized \$3.3 billion of long-term project cofinancing and \$3.1 billion of cofinancing through its Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program and Microfinance Program. Total outstanding balances and undisbursed commitments of nonsovereign transactions funded by ADB's own resources stood at \$11.8 billion as of 31 December 2023.

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Total sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 2023

- \$16.39 billion for 172 projects, of which:
 - » \$15.85 billion, 90 investment projects,
 - » \$103.66 million, 80 technical assistance projects,
 - » \$442.91 million transaction advisory services for 2 projects.*

Cumulative sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 1970–2023

- \$168.27 billion for 3,421 projects, of which:
 - » \$163.66 billion, 1,238 investment projects,
 - » \$3.03 billion, 2,172 technical assistance projects,
 - » \$1.58 billion transaction advisory services for 11 projects.**

* Adjusted to exclude \$36.71 million A Loans mobilized under transaction advisory services reported under nonsovereign operations financing, and \$150.1 million cofinancing reported in nonsovereign projects cofinancing.

** Adjusted to exclude \$41.44 million A Loans mobilized under transaction advisory services reported under nonsovereign operations financing, and \$150.1 million cofinancing reported in nonsovereign projects cofinancing.

PROCUREMENT

ADB's procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for goods, works, and related services under loan and grant operations:

- \$16.33 billion in 2022
- \$13.98 billion in 2023
- \$261.05 billion covering 231,117 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

ADB's procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for consulting services under loan, grant, and technical assistance operations:

- \$553.94 million in 2022
- \$530.31 million in 2023
- \$16.04 billion covering 78,888 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966

MORE ABOUT MALAYSIA AND ADB

Shareholding and Voting Power

Number of shares held: 289,050 (2.717% of total shares)
Votes: 328,164 (2.468% of total membership, 3.789% of total regional membership)

*Overall capital subscription: \$3.88 billion

*Paid-in capital subscription: \$193.95 million

*United States dollar figures are valued at rate as of 31 December 2023.

Contributions to Special Funds Resources

Malaysia contributes to the Asian Development Fund (ADF) and the Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF). The ADF provides grants to ADB's low-income developing member countries. The TASF provides technical assistance grants to developing member countries to help prepare projects and undertake technical or policy studies. Malaysia has also contributed to the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADB) Special Fund.

**Contributions to the ADF (committed): \$35.88 million

**Contributions to the TASF (committed): \$4.18 million

Contributions to the ADBI (committed): \$500,000

** Valued at exchange rates per relevant Board of Governors' Resolutions or date of commitment as applicable.

ADB Governor: Anwar bin Ibrahim

ADB Alternate Governor: Johan Mahmood Merican

ADB Director: Supak Chaiyawan (Thailand)

ADB Alternate Director: Nurussa'adah Muharram (Brunei Darussalam)

ADB Director's Advisors: Azmin Bin Ishak (Malaysia) and Jessica Lim (Singapore)

Annual Meeting

Kuala Lumpur, 7th Annual Meeting, 25–27 April 1974

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Useful ADB websites

Asian Development Bank
www.adb.org

Annual Report
www.adb.org/documents/series/adb-annual-reports

Asian Development Outlook
www.adb.org/publications/series/asian-development-outlook

ADB Data Library
data.adb.org

Notes: (i) Figures are estimated by ADB unless otherwise stated. "\$" refers to United States dollars. (ii) Data are updated as of 31 December 2023 unless otherwise indicated.