Malaysia's annual gross domestic product growth rate averaged 4.4% from 2000 until 2022. Following the below-average growth of 3.1% in 2021, the economy rebounded to 8.7% in 2022. A new administration, following the general election in November 2022, intends to pursue rapid economic recovery, emphasizing digitalization and the service sector.

Malaysia is an upper middle-income country with a per capita income of $11,400 in 2021—relatively unchanged since surpassing $10,000 in 2011. The 2021 figure is below the $13,000 threshold to be considered a high-income country. Generally, Malaysians enjoy a good standard of living. The Government of Malaysia signaled its intention to continue its progress in improving inclusion and addressing social challenges by creating equitable economic opportunities, developing human capital, and enhancing infrastructure and public services delivery. Other priorities include improving the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises and supporting poor and vulnerable people while expanding social protection for all, with special interventions in higher education and enterprise development.

ADB cooperation since 2011 has expanded on several fronts under successive Malaysian development plans. Currently, collaboration with Malaysia focuses on regional economic cooperation, private sector development, and developing sustainable cities under the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021–2025.

The ADB–Malaysia partnership focuses on regional cooperation and integration, capacity building, private sector development, and knowledge solutions.

### Malaysia: 2022 Commitments ($ million)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Type</th>
<th>Sovereign</th>
<th>Nonsovereign</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assistance*</td>
<td>1.26</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>1.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program*</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>26.58</td>
<td>26.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.26</td>
<td>26.69</td>
<td>27.94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = nil, DMC = developing member country, TA = technical assistance.

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.
- Grants and TA include ADB-administered cofinancing.
- Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.
- Financing for TA projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific DMCs where breakdown is available.
- Short-term ADB-financed commitments from private sector programs with maturity of less than 365 days.

### Malaysia: Cumulative Commitments a, b, c, d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Total Amount ($ million)*</th>
<th>% of Total Amount*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project and Technical Assistance</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>2,026.19</td>
<td>93.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Rural Development</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>676.46</td>
<td>31.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>259.87</td>
<td>11.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>324.78</td>
<td>14.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26.30</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>183.43</td>
<td>8.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry and Trade</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>55.71</td>
<td>2.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and Communication Technology</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>0.21</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisector</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.75</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Sector Management</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2.25</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>256.39</td>
<td>11.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water and Other Urban Infrastructure and Services</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>239.05</td>
<td>10.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program*</td>
<td>1,260</td>
<td>150.40</td>
<td>6.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>100.91</td>
<td>4.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry and Trade</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>49.50</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,434</td>
<td>2,176.59</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* = nil, DMC = developing member country, TA = technical assistance.

Notes:
- Grants and TA include ADB-administered cofinancing.
- Includes loans, TA, and private sector programs.
- Using primary sector in the reporting of commitments.
- From 2020, financing for TA projects with regional coverage is distributed to their specific DMCs where breakdown is available.
- Numbers may not sum precisely because of rounding.
- Short-term ADB-financed commitments from private sector programs with maturity of less than 365 days.

Malaysia is an upper middle-income country with a per capita income of $11,400 in 2021—relatively unchanged since surpassing $10,000 in 2011. The 2021 figure is below the $13,000 threshold to be considered a high-income country. Generally, Australians enjoy a good standard of living. The Government of Malaysia signaled its intention to continue its progress in improving inclusion and addressing social challenges by creating equitable economic opportunities, developing human capital, and enhancing infrastructure and public services delivery. Other priorities include improving the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises and supporting poor and vulnerable people while expanding social protection for all, with special interventions in higher education and enterprise development.

ADB cooperation since 2011 has expanded on several fronts under successive Malaysian development plans. Currently, collaboration with Malaysia focuses on regional economic cooperation, private sector development, and developing sustainable cities under the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021–2025.

ADB supports Malaysia in fostering closer ties with neighboring countries and expanding the country’s role in regional forums. ADB assistance contributed to advancing regional cooperation and integration through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Brunei Darussalam–Indonesia–Malaysia–the Philippines–East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), and the Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT).
Priorities in these cooperation initiatives include cross-border infrastructure projects, trade facilitation, economic corridor and border development, blue and green energy cooperation, sustainable urban development, and tourism promotion. The government contributed to the Asian Development Fund and is the largest shareholder of the ASEAN Infrastructure Fund (AIF), supporting the ASEAN Catalytic Green Finance Facility. Malaysia is the host country for the AIF and was twice elected as chair of the AIF Board of Directors.

To date, ADB has committed 167 public sector loans, grants, and technical assistance totaling $2 billion to Malaysia. Cumulative loan disbursements to Malaysia amount to $1.41 billion. These were financed by regular and concessional ordinary capital resources.

Nonsovereign operations. Total outstanding balances and undisbursed commitments of ADB’s nonsovereign transactions in Malaysia as of 31 December 2022 was $6.56 million representing 0.05% of ADB’s total private sector portfolio.

Operational challenges. As the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) retreats, the ongoing challenge is sustaining the promising economic recovery against global headwinds such as inflationary pressures, economic uncertainties, and climate change. It is vital for Malaysia’s economy to remain open, given that tourism accounts for around 13% of the economy and migrant workers represent more than 30% of the workforce. ADB will selectively support Malaysia’s development as set out in the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021–2025 in regional economic integration and sustainable urban development. Based on a robust knowledge partnership, ADB intends to foster knowledge solutions for cities across the country by promoting private sector participation and domestic resource mobilization.

KNOWLEDGE WORK

Malaysia actively participates in regional capacity building initiatives administered by ADB. Recent topics have been on the application of international best practices in tax administration, statistical analysis, managing big data, domestic resource mobilization, public–private partnerships, and tourism recovery. In addition, Malaysia also participates in ADB-wide initiatives toward enhancing institutional capacity in policy and finance.

The knowledge partnership is underpinned by collaboration on enhancing urban sustainability at the local government level through the development of green city action plans. As the regional adviser to BIMP-EAGA and a development partner to IMT-GT, ADB studies on corridor development and special economic zones were endorsed at the IMT-GT Summit, and BIMP-EAGA Ministerial meetings in 2022. ADB further supported the midterm review of the BIMP-EAGA Vision, 2025 and the preparation of the successor Implementation Blueprint for IMT-GT’s 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: $150.4 million for 1 investment project since 2015

**FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

ADB is participating in the midterm review of selected areas of the Twelfth Malaysia Plan 2021–2025, with a view toward consolidating the economy, narrowing existing disparities, and promoting sustainable development. ADB will accelerate its assistance in developing green city action plans and in efforts to catalyze financing for green and blue sustainable urban development in Malaysia. As opportunities for cost recovery technical assistance expand, procedures will be streamlined to allow for greater access by ministries and line agencies to leverage ADB’s knowledge solutions. Technical assistance for improving domestic resource mobilization, promoting private sector development, and advancing technologies and innovation are additional anchors for the ADB–Malaysia partnership, while continuously leveraging on regional cooperation initiatives.

**Malaysia: Ordinary Capital Resources Nonsovereign Commitments by Product**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2018–2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Transactions Signed (OCR)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Transactions Signed (Programs)</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount ($ million)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity Investments</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guarantees</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Security</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program and Microfinance Program</td>
<td>26.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26.58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

– = nil, OCR = ordinary capital resources.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sovereign Operations</th>
<th>Highly successful</th>
<th>Less than successful</th>
<th>Unsuccessful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonsovereign Operations</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

– = 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 2012 to 30 June 2022. See evaluations related to Malaysia.

Source: IED success rate database.

**Malaysia: Projects Cofinanced, 1 January 2018–31 December 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cofinancing</th>
<th>No. of Projects</th>
<th>Amount ($ million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nonsovereign</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>131.89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. It has 68 members—of which 49 are from Asia and the Pacific and 19 outside. ADB headquarters is in Manila, Philippines and has 43 offices around the world, with 3,775 staff from 66 members as of 31 December 2022.

ADB maximizes the development impact of its assistance to its members by providing financing and tailored knowledge solutions through policy dialogue and advisory services, among others. It mobilizes financial resources through cofinancing from official, commercial, and export credit sources.

ADB met strong demand for its assistance in 2022. It unlocked greater resources for its members through the private sector and partnerships. ADB provided financing for climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives, education quality and access, affordable health care, and more sustainable and climate-resilient food systems. In 2022, 97% of ADB operations contributed to gender equality. ADB fostered greater regional collaboration on issues such as health threats and tax cooperation. ADB also responded to demand for tailored knowledge solutions from its members.

ADB operations. In 2022, ADB committed $20.5 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 $11.4 billion.

As of 31 December 2022, ADB’s cumulative commitments in 45 countries stood at $358.4 billion covering 4,189 loans, $12.6 billion in 566 grants, and $5.5 billion in technical assistance grants, including regional technical assistance grants. In addition to loans, grants, and technical assistance, ADB uses guarantees, equity investments, 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 2022 amounted to $11.1 billion for 37 transactions in economic and social infrastructure, finance sector, and agribusiness.

In 2022, ADB mobilized $1.7 billion of long-term project cofinancing and $5.3 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 $12.8 billion as of 31 December 2022.

FINANCING PARTNERSHIPS

Total sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 2022

- $11.39 billion for 165 projects, of which:
  - $11.2 billion, 75 investment projects,
  - $126.49 million, 87 technical assistance projects,
  - $60 million transaction advisory services mandates for 3 projects.

Cumulative sovereign and nonsovereign cofinancing commitments, 1970–2022

- $151.87 billion for 3,292 projects, of which:
  - $147.81 billion, 1,163 investment projects,
  - $2.92 billion, 2,120 technical assistance projects,
  - $1.13 billion transaction advisory services mandates for 9 projects.

PROCUREMENT

ADB’s Procurement Contracts, 2022

Goods, Works, and Related Services
ADB’s procurement contracts in Asia and the Pacific for goods, works, and related services under loan and grant operations:

- $15.23 billion in 2021
- $16.19 billion in 2022
- $247.06 billion covering 228,149 contracts, cumulative procurement since 1966.

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

- $706.65 million in 2021
- $535.61 million in 2022
- $15.45 billion covering 74,995 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: $3.85 billion
*Paid-in capital subscription: $192.39 million

*United States dollar figures are valued at rate as of 31 December 2022.

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.

**Contributions to the ADF (committed): $35.88 million
**Contributions to the TASF (committed): $4.18 million
**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: Nurussaadah Hj. Muharram (Brunei)
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/asia-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 2022 unless otherwise indicated.