FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT INTO ASEAN IN 2010

Foreign direct investment (FDI) is defined in the methodological notes at the end of this publication. At present, ASEAN Secretariat is not in a position to provide a picture of outward ASEAN FDI (direct investment capital flows from ASEAN Members to foreign countries). Furthermore, the statistics presented below are not yet fully harmonised and the reader is invited to have a careful look at the methodological notes at the end of this publication in order to avoid misinterpretation.

HIGHLIGHTS

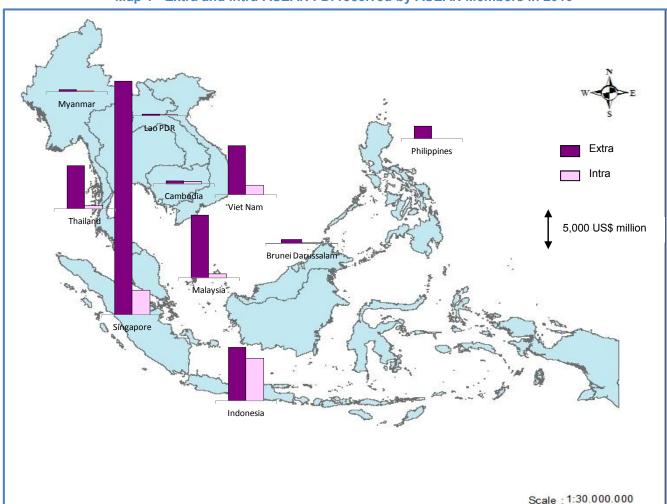
In 2010, foreign direct investment (FDI) into ASEAN recovered from the world economic crisis and regained its 2007 level (US\$ 76 thousand million). The share of Intra-ASEAN in this total was 16%, witnessing ASEAN efforts of integration.

ASEAN Dialogue Partners accounted for the bulk (73%) of US\$ 64 thousand million of the Extra-ASEAN FDI capital flows. Among them, with US\$ 17 thousand million, the EU appeared as the major investor in ASEAN, followed by USA and Japan, both over US\$ 8 thousand million.

As usual, Singapore was, by far, the most important host country of Extra-ASEAN FDI. As it was also the most important provider of Intra-ASEAN FDI, it confirmed its role of financial center for the region, in the field of FDI. too.

2010 Extra-ASEAN FDI were mainly oriented towards manufacturing, financial intermediation and other activities (mainly services), while investment in real estate dominated Intra-ASEAN FDI flows.

For the last ten years except 2008, in regard with its size and economic development level, ASEAN as a group has been more attractive than other countries or zones. If we turn to individual countries, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Viet Nam and, of course, Singapore show higher and growing relative attractiveness.



Map 1 - Extra and Intra-ASEAN FDI received by ASEAN Members in 2010

1 INTRA- VIS-A-VIS EXTRA-ASEAN FDI

For ASEAN as a group of countries, we can define Extra-ASEAN FDI as foreign direct investment to ASEAN member countries made by countries not belonging to ASEAN and Intra-ASEAN FDI as foreign direct investment to ASEAN countries made by other ASEAN member countries. This publication will examine these two types of FDI successively, but an interesting picture is offered by their respective share in the total FDI received by ASEAN Member States (AMS).

The share of intra-ASEAN FDI in the total FDI received by ASEAN Members was 16 percent in 2010. If we exclude two peaks observed in 2002 (22%) and 2008 (20%), the share of Intra-ASEAN seems more or less growing from 2000, when it was only3%. This growth can be linked to the efforts towards integration made by ASEAN Members. The peaks in the percentage can be explained by important troughs in Extra-ASEAN FDI flows due to global economic conditions (following 11 September 2001 attack and 2008 global financial crisis), while Intra-ASEAN flows were still high.

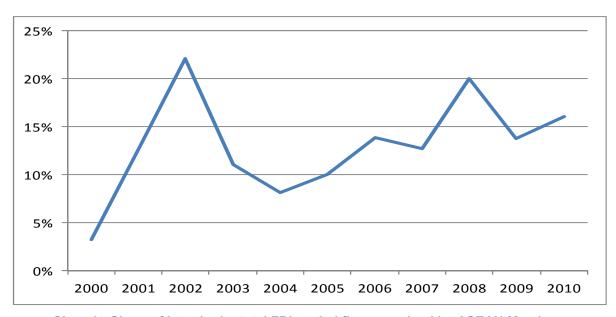


Chart 1 - Share of Intra in the total FDI capital flows received by ASEAN Members

2 EXTRA-ASEAN FDI

Trend in 2010 and Major Host Countries

Chart 2 shows regular increase of FDI flows from outside to ASEAN as well as a sudden decline in 2008 and 2009 at the time of the global economic crisis. In 2010, the total extra-ASEAN FDI flows nearly recovered from this crisis (US\$ 64 thousand millions in 2010 against US\$ 66 thousand millions in 2007).

Singapore has been by far the most important host country of extra-ASEAN FDI throughout the period. However, as Singapore hosts many financial intermediaries and holding companies, some of the extra-ASEAN FDI may pass through Singapore to other countries, with some transformed into Intra-ASEAN FDI.

Negative FDI have prevented a significant graph for a longer time series. Indeed, large negative figures have been recorded for Indonesia from 2000 to 2003. These are due to settlement of loans previously made by the foreign investors to their direct investment enterprises in Indonesia which were, in these years, more important than new investment in form of equity capital.

The share of Viet Nam in total Extra-ASEAN flows began to increase in 2007 and in 2010, Viet Nam extra-ASEAN FDI had approximately reached the level of Thailand, Indonesia or Malaysia.

The respective contributions of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar to Extra-ASEAN FDI remained marginal in 2010 (less than US\$ 1,000 million).

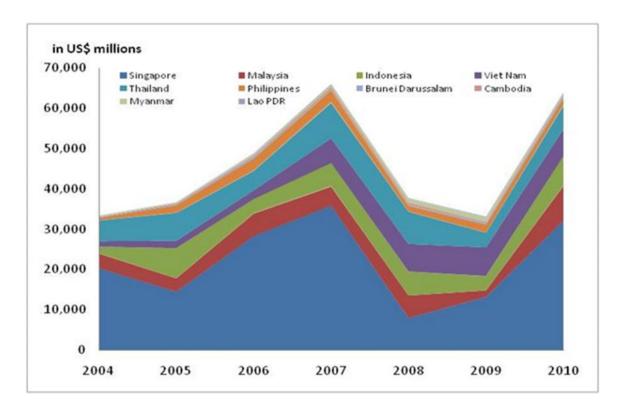


Chart 2 - FDI Flows from Extra-ASEAN

Table 1 - FDI flows from Extra-ASEAN (US\$ millions)

| Host Country | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Brunei Darussalam | 539 | 516 | 1,014 | 3,086 | 192 | 269 | 424 | 198 | 238 | 367 | 540 |
| Cambodia | 149 | 112 | 137 | 64 | 99 | 252 | 328 | 596 | 574 | 365 | 434 |
| Indonesia | -4,317 | -2,757 | -1,152 | -980 | 1,690 | 7,453 | 3,560 | 5,820 | 5,920 | 3,497 | 7,400 |
| Lao PDR | 20 | 21 | 22 | 17 | 9 | 21 | 177 | 223 | 180 | 261 | 197 |
| Malaysia | 3,530 | 474 | 3,203 | 2,222 | 3,644 | 3,343 | 5,611 | 4,758 | 5,603 | 1,651 | 8,630 |
| Myanmar | 134 | 125 | 166 | 267 | 242 | 198 | 357 | 621 | 872 | 896 | 279 |
| Philippines | 2,114 | -4 | 1,455 | 316 | 617 | 1,841 | 2,964 | 2,910 | 1,404 | 1,968 | 1,721 |
| Singapore | 16,564 | 14,668 | 5,637 | 11,284 | 20,318 | 14,474 | 28,301 | 35,864 | 7,929 | 13,171 | 32,143 |
| Thailand | 2,961 | 3,350 | 1,927 | 4,175 | 5,173 | 6,947 | 4,833 | 8,841 | 8,031 | 3,650 | 5,886 |
| Viet Nam | 1,086 | 1,059 | 1,000 | 1,350 | 1,367 | 1,856 | 2,218 | 6,193 | 6,874 | 7,171 | 6,699 |
| ASEAN TOTAL | 22,779 | 17,563 | 13,409 | 21,800 | 33,352 | 36,654 | 48,772 | 66,025 | 37,626 | 32,995 | 63,929 |

Major Investors in 2010

In the recent years, ASEAN Dialogue Partners have always made the majority of FDI into ASEAN (73 % in 2010). The worst value of their share (53%) was observed in 2008, year of a financial crisis which seems to have affected ASEAN Dialogue Partners more than other ASEAN partners, excluding China, Canada and Russia.

In all years, European Union has been the most important direct investor in ASEAN among extra-ASEAN investors (36% of total inward Extra-ASEAN FDI in 2010). In 2010, other important investors were USA and Japan, both with a share of around 13 %. In the same year, investment by Republic of Korea (US\$ 3,770 million) overtook the amount invested by China.

| Source Country | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 p/ |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| Australia | 212 | 467 | 1,491 | 787 | 776 | 1,765 |
| Canada | 741 | 252 | 391 | 661 | 504 | 1,641 |
| China | 608 | 1,035 | 1,741 | 1,874 | 4,158 | 2,861 |
| EU | 11,290 | 13,387 | 18,611 | 7,010 | 9,132 | 17,025 |
| India | 418 | -282 | 1,453 | 547 | 811 | 2,584 |
| Japan | 6,645 | 10,413 | 8,844 | 4,129 | 3,763 | 8,386 |
| New Zealand | 512 | -209 | 99 | -82 | 263 | 93 |
| ROK | 515 | 1,256 | 2,714 | 1,596 | 1,347 | 3,770 |
| Russia | n.a | 1 | 31 | 81 | 157 | 61 |
| USA | 3,216 | 3,041 | 8,340 | 3,518 | 4,087 | 8,578 |
| Total DPs | 24,156 | 29,361 | 43,715 | 20,121 | 24,997 | 46,765 |
| Rest of the World | 12,498 | 19,411 | 22,309 | 17,505 | 7,998 | 17,164 |
| Extra-ASEAN Total | 36,654 | 48,772 | 66,025 | 37,626 | 32,995 | 63,929 |
| Share of DPs in ASEAN Total | 65.9 % | 60.2 % | 66.2 % | 53.5 % | 75.8 % | 73.2 % |

Table 2 - FDI flows from Dialogue Partners to ASEAN (US\$ millions)

Chart 3 shows that, with inflows nearly doubling between 2009 and 2010, the respective shares of main Dialogue Partners have not changed much except that of China which fell from 12.6% to 4.5%.

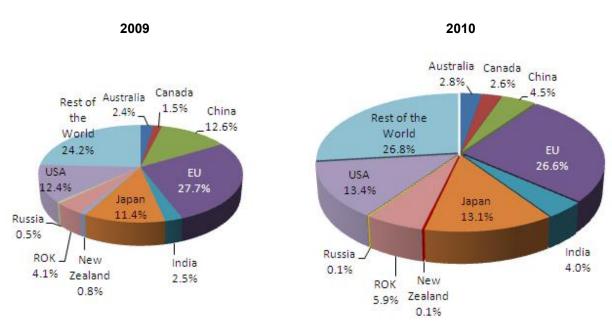


Chart 3 - FDI from Selected Dialogue Partners, 2009 and 2010

Breakdown by economic activity in 2010

As ASEAN favours the development of some priority sectors of activity, the breakdown by activity of FDI capital flows can partly show the success of ASEAN policies.

Unfortunately, there was not much detail is available as regards the breakdown by activity of Extra-ASEAN FDI flows. This is mainly due to inconsistencies between the breakdowns supplied by ASEAN Members.. Notably, no detail is available for activities such as healthcare, transportation or information and telecommunication services.

It should be noted that the activity presented below is that of the ASEAN FDI enterprises which has received FDI during the corresponding period. (The activity of the foreign investor can be different.)

In 2010, the economic activity receiving the biggest amount of Extra-ASEAN FDI was manufacturing. The second in the rank was other activities, which mainly include services other than financial intermediation and real estate. However, the recovery of the financial intermediation sector of activity is quite obvious in Table 3.

2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010p/ Activity 156 131 454 263 -38 92 Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry 2,274 2,935 4,135 3,486 4,426 3,953 Mining and Quarrying 13.659 11.763 20.387 13.765 17.633 17.656 Manufacturing 470 17 185 305 416 519 Construction 5,224 5,713 15,143 12,682 4,755 15,083 Financial Intermediation (incl. Insurance) 850 2,181 6,805 3,992 3,668 9,329 Real Estate 12,215 15,170 19,687 9,597 1,405 15,986 Other Activities 1,123 1,925 1,563 883 597 1,299 Unspecified 36.666 48.771 66.016 37.627 32.966 63.867 **TOTAL**

Table 3 - Extra-ASEAN FDI Flows to ASEAN by economic activity (US\$ millions)

Actually, the large pie portion for manufacturing in 2009 is due to a decrease of investment in diverse services rather than to a larger investment in manufacturing this year. The total amounts of FDI in the manufacturing sector are quite similar in 2009 and 2010 (around US\$ 17,600 million).

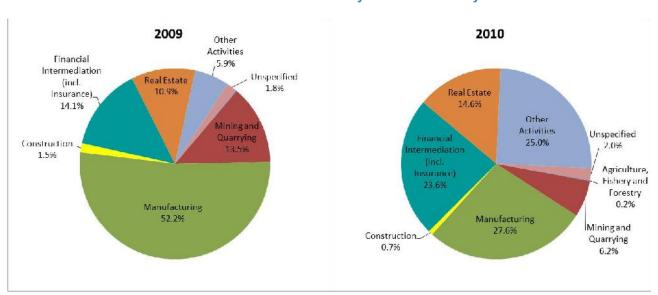


Chart 4 - Extra-ASEAN FDI by economic activity

Table 4 - Extra-ASEAN FDI Flows by Host Country and Activity, 2010

| Host Country | Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry | Mining and Quarrying | Manufacturing | Construction | Financial Intermediation (incl. Insurance) | Real Estate | Other Activities | Unspecified | TOTAL |
|----------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|---|----------------|---------------------|-------------|--------|
| Brunei Darussalam | - | 486 | 23 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 1 | 30 | - | 540 |
| Cambodia | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | 434 | 434 |
| Indonesia | 83 | 1,711 | 3,250 | -26 | -988 | 4 | 3,368 | - | 7,400 |
| Lao PDR | 4 | 9 | 33 | - | - | - | 141 | - | 188 |
| Malaysia | -9 | 814 | 4,960 | -22 | 1,967 | 104 | 817 | - | 8,630 |
| Myanmar | 0 | 278 | 0 | - | - | - | - | - | 279 |
| Philippines | 2 | 278 | -10 | -3 | 35 | 167 | 335 | 865 | 1,669 |
| Singapore | 2 | 146 | 4,578 | 68 | 12,403 | 6,624 | 8,322 | - | 32,143 |
| Thailand | 4 | 236 | 2,750 | -227 | 1,635 | 542 | 946 | - | 5,886 |
| Viet Nam | 8 | 0 | 2,078 | 681 | 31 | 1,887 | 2,014 | - | 6,699 |
| ASEAN TOTAL | 258 | 3,803 | 17,655 | 477 | 15,083 | 9,329 | 15,965 | 1,299 | 63,867 |

The table above shows that, in 2010, some ASEAN Member States have received FDI in a limited number of activities, as if foreign investors were identifying a specialization in them:

- Myanmar got investment in the mining and quarrying sector only.
- Investment in Lao PDR appeared as concentrated in the service sector.
- Investment in Brunei Darussalam was more diversified, but the primary sector (mining and quarrying) received the majority of the investment.
- Malaysia and Thailand had appeal for investors in manufacturing.
- Indonesia and Vietnam showed a rather balance between manufacturing and non financial services.
- For the Philippines, the balance was rather between mining and quarrying and non financial services.
- Majority of investments into Singapore were in the financial sector and other service activities.

3 INTRA-ASEAN EDI

Trend in 2010 and Main Host Countries

Intra-ASEAN FDI flows have multiplied 16 times in the last 10 years. In the same period, it should be reminded that Extra-ASEAN FDI have only grown by less than three-fold.

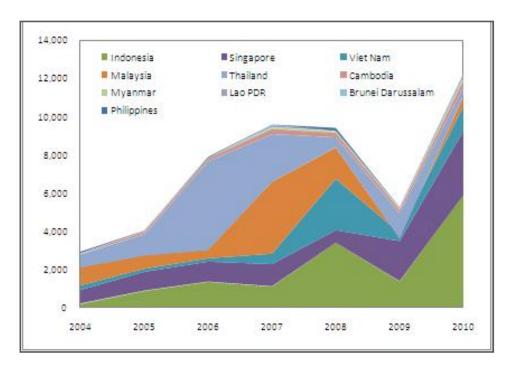
Chart 5 shows a different picture from its counterpart Extra-ASEAN FDI time series in Chart 2:

- the gap following the global financial crisis of 2008 lasted only one year (2009), as if ASEAN investors had been hit later;
- The domination by one AMS is not as strong as it is for Extra-ASEAN: Thailand hadreceived the largest investment for the periods 2000 to 2006 except in 2004, when it was led by Malaysia (as well as in 2007). In recent years, Indonesia has taken the lead, contributing or receiving (?) nearly half of the Intra-ASEAN FDI in 2010.
- Singapore also recorded increasing Intra-ASEAN FDI flows in 2009 and 2010.

Table 5 - Intra-ASEAN FDI Flows (US\$ millions)

| Host Country | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|----------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Brunei Darussalam | 11 | 11 | 21 | 37 | 20 | 19 | 10 | 62 | 1 | 3 | 90 |
| Cambodia | 0 | 37 | 9 | 20 | 32 | 129 | 156 | 271 | 241 | 174 | 349 |
| Indonesia | -233 | -221 | 1,297 | 383 | 204 | 883 | 1,354 | 1,108 | 3,398 | 1,380 | 5,904 |
| Lao PDR | 14 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 11 | 100 | 48 | 57 | 135 |
| Malaysia | 258 | 80 | 0 | 251 | 980 | 721 | 462 | 3,780 | 1,646 | -270 | 526 |
| Myanmar | 74 | 67 | 25 | 24 | 9 | 38 | 71 | 94 | 103 | 68 | 172 |
| Philippines | 125 | 199 | 87 | 175 | 71 | 13 | -43 | 6 | 140 | -5 | -8 |
| Singapore | -79 | 420 | 765 | 657 | 707 | 984 | 1,048 | 1,168 | 660 | 2,108 | 3,377 |
| Thailand | 389 | 1,711 | 1,408 | 1,060 | 689 | 1,101 | 4,627 | 2,489 | 508 | 1,326 | 434 |
| Viet Nam | 202 | 241 | 200 | 100 | 243 | 165 | 182 | 546 | 2,705 | 429 | 1,301 |
| ASEAN TOTAL | 762 | 2,548 | 3,815 | 2,712 | 2,963 | 4,060 | 7,876 | 9,626 | 9,449 | 5,271 | 12,279 |
| Share of CLMVs | 38% | 14% | 6% | 5% | 10% | 8% | 5% | 11% | 33% | 14% | 16% |

Chart 5 - Intra-ASEAN FDI Flows by Host Countries



Major Investors in 2010

In 2010, as in 2005, Singapore was the most important provider of Intra-ASEAN FDI. Malaysia was still the second investor in 2010, but Indonesia was catching up.

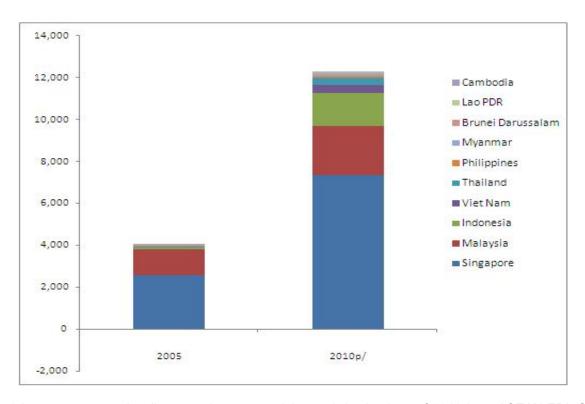
It should be reminded that Singapore hosts a number of investment holding companies which receive high capital flows of FDI¹ which do not necessarily stay in Singapore (pass-through capital) and may be partly reinvested in other AMS.

¹ See, for example, *Foreign equity investment in Singapore 2009*, Department of Statistics, Ministry of Trade & Industry, Republic of Singapore

Table 6 - Intra-ASEAN FDI Flows by Source Country, 2000-2010 (US\$ millions)

| Source Country | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|----------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Brunei Darussalam | 33 | 38 | 18 | -14 | 19 | 27 | -37 | -4 | 87 | 23 | 51 |
| Cambodia | 2 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 16 | 15 | 37 |
| Indonesia | 110 | 325 | 322 | 262 | 288 | 131 | 626 | 263 | 846 | 965 | 1,560 |
| Lao PDR | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 42 | 10 | -72 | 0 | 40 |
| Malaysia | 87 | 214 | 1,054 | 627 | 713 | 1,224 | 888 | 1,038 | 3,530 | 2,056 | 2,332 |
| Myanmar | 6 | 3 | 13 | 8 | 7 | 13 | 39 | 70 | 57 | 71 | 65 |
| Philippines | 92 | 34 | 23 | -13 | 156 | 74 | 150 | 162 | -307 | 15 | 111 |
| Singapore | 641 | 1,997 | 2,045 | 1,684 | 1,593 | 2,577 | 5,915 | 7,132 | 4,443 | 2,546 | 7,363 |
| Thailand | -225 | -68 | 275 | 147 | 176 | 6 | 249 | 801 | 704 | -108 | 331 |
| Viet Nam | 6 | 2 | 64 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 152 | 146 | -314 | 389 |
| ASEAN TOTAL | 762 | 2,548 | 3,815 | 2,711 | 2,963 | 4,060 | 7,876 | 9,626 | 9,449 | 5,271 | 12,279 |

Chart 6 - Intra-ASEAN FDI Flows by Source Country (US\$ million)



Map 2 is an attempt to visualize most important origins and destinations of 2010 Intra-ASEAN FDI. Only flows above US\$ 100 million have been reported in the map. For a better readability, Malaysia's flows have been put on Malaysian Borneo.

This map (let's label the map) (as well as the following table) shows the dominant role played by Singapore as a direct investor as well as its Indonesian counterpart as receiver of FDI. It also displays the triangle of most important actors: Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia, the flows being on both directions for each pair of countries.

Malaysia also appears as highly diversifying its Intra-ASEAN FDI.

Map 2 Intra-ASEAN most important flows of FDI in 2010

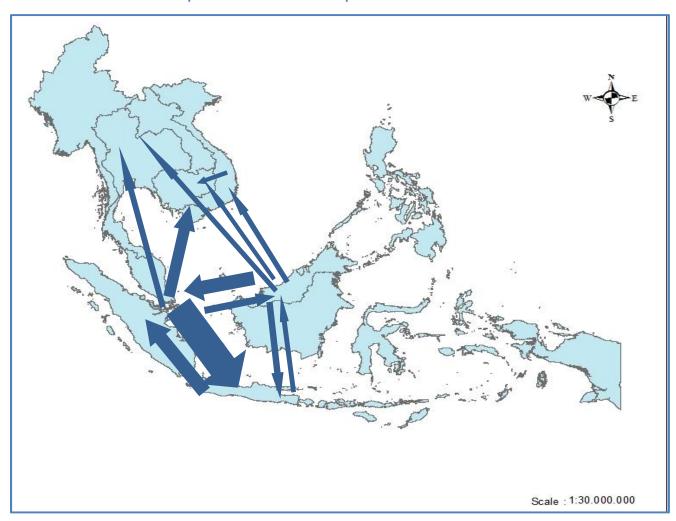


Table 7 - Intra-ASEAN FDI Flows by Source and Host Country, 2010 (US\$ millions)

| Source Country Host Country | Brunei Darussalam | Cambodia | Indonesia | Lao PDR | Malaysia | Myanmar | Philippines | Singapore | Thailand | Viet Nam | Total |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|-------------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Brunei Darussalam | | 0 | 1 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 90 |
| Cambodia | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 110 | 0 | 0 | 28 | 12 | 199 | 349 |
| Indonesia | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 341 | 0 | 2 | 5,479 | 82 | 1 | 5,904 |
| Lao PDR | 0 | 27 | 0 | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 90 | 17 | 135 |
| Malaysia | 31 | -15 | 110 | 0 | | 0 | 7 | 457 | -141 | 76 | 526 |
| Myanmar | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | | 0 | 1 | 162 | 0 | 172 |
| Philippines | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | -6 | 0 | | -5 | 2 | 0 | -8 |
| Singapore | 7 | 18 | 1,442 | 0 | 1,607 | 65 | 58 | | 86 | 95 | 3,377 |
| Thailand | 0 | 6 | -4 | 6 | 105 | 0 | 39 | 280 | | 0 | 434 |
| Viet Nam | 13 | 0 | 1 | 34 | 131 | 0 | 4 | 1,078 | 39 | ال | 1,301 |
| TOTAL | 51 | 37 | 1,560 | 40 | 2,332 | 65 | 111 | 7,363 | 331 | 389 | 12,279 |

Breakdown by Activity in 2010

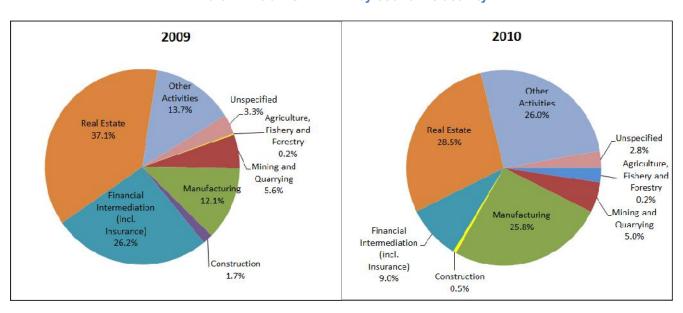
The breakdown of Intra-ASEAN FDI flows by activity displays a different scenario than that of Extra-ASEAN FDI. But the same high variability of the breakdown of FDI by activity may be observed..

Table 8 - Intra-ASEAN FDI flows by economic activity, 2005-2010 (US\$ millions)

| Sectors | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010p/ |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry | 29 | 64 | 2,101 | 256 | 10 | 295 |
| Mining and Quarrying | 37 | -70 | 718 | 766 | 297 | 620 |
| Manufacturing | 1,542 | 1,556 | 2,210 | 3,284 | 643 | 3,181 |
| Construction | 46 | 169 | 415 | 833 | 90 | 61 |
| Financial Intermediation (incl. Insurance) | 723 | 2,816 | 2,389 | 2,209 | 1,391 | 1,107 |
| Real Estate | 503 | 961 | 819 | 1,524 | 1,968 | 3,518 |
| Other Activities | 1,000 | 2,224 | 711 | 336 | 727 | 3,209 |
| Unspecified | 168 | 156 | 271 | 241 | 174 | 349 |
| ASEAN TOTAL | 4,048 | 7,876 | 9,634 | 9,450 | 5,300 | 12,341 |

Real estate, which is quite important for Intra-ASEAN FDI, may include purchases of private properties by individuals residing in another AMS. Such investment does not provide the same development opportunities as investment in production activities.

Chart 7 - Intra-ASEAN FDI by economic activity



4 ASEAN MEMBER STATES PERFORMANCE IN INWARD FDI

The inward FDI performance index² shows the relative success of a country in attracting FDI. This index has been built by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

A value close to 1 means that the country has an average attractiveness of FDI in comparison with its economic size. A value less then 1 indicates that a country receives less FDI than its relative economic size, while a value greater than 1 shows that the country receives more.

In the following table, inward FDI performance indexes have been compiled including Intra-ASEAN FDI for ASEAN Members and excluding them for ASEAN as a group.

Table 9 - Inward FDI performance index of AMS, 2004-2010

| Country | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Brunei Darussalam | 1.5 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 1.7 | 2.5 |
| Cambodia | 1.4 | 2.8 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 2.5 | 3.5 |
| Indonesia | 0.4 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.9 |
| Lao PDR | 0.4 | 0.4 | 1.8 | 2.2 | 1.5 | 2.8 | 2.5 |
| Malaysia | 2.1 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 1.9 |
| Myanmar | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 1.3 | 1.5 | 0.5 |
| Philippines | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.5 |
| Singapore | 10.6 | 5.7 | 6.8 | 5.9 | 1.6 | 4.1 | 7.9 |
| Thailand | 2.1 | 2.1 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 1.0 |
| Viet Nam | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.7 |
| ASEAN | 2.3 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 1.7 |

Table 9 shows that, apart from 2008, ASEAN as a group has been quite attractive for FDI (index over 1). Among ASEAN Members, Singapore has been a very attractive investment destination, throughout the period. Lao PDR, Cambodia and Viet Nam have become more and more attractive, particularly Viet Nam which has reached an index of 3.7 in 2010. The index of Brunei Darussalam shows a variability which reflects a size effect: new investment quickly distorts a series of FDI which can be limited to reinvested earnings in current years.

IND_i = Inward FDI performance index of country i

FDI_i = FDI inflows in country i

FDI_w = World FDI inflows (source UNCTAD)

GDP_i = GDP in country i

GDP_w = World GDP (source IMF WEO database)

² Definition of the *inward FDI performance index*: $IND_i = \frac{FDI_i / FDI_w}{GDP_i / GDP_w}$ where:

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Definition of a Foreign Direct Investment

"Direct investment is a category of cross-border investment associated with a resident in one economy having control or a significant degree of influence on the management of an enterprise that is resident in another economy". (Source: IMF Balance of Payment and International Investment Position Manual 6th edition)

The direct investor is assumed to have control if it owns more than 50 percent of the voting power in the direct investment enterprise. By international convention, a significant degree of influence is acquired if the direct investor owns from 10 to 50 percent of the voting power. Under 10%, the cross-border investment is classified as a portfolio investment.

Portfolio investors are primarily concerned about the safety of their investment, its return and/or the likelihood of its appreciation. Direct investors look for other types of benefit in addition to the investment income that their capital may return, for instance access to new markets, or lower production costs.

Through FDI, investors improve the competitive position of the investing (home) economy. FDI also improves the competitive position of the recipient (host) economy, because it is less liquid, tradable and volatile than portfolio investment, creates employment, and often comes with transfers of technology which improve other domestic firms' efficiency and product quality.

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has developed further the definition of foreign direct investment as well as several indicators in order to analyse this type of investment.

Data sources:

Brunei Darussalam: Department of Economic Planning and Development

Cambodia: National Bank of Cambodia

Indonesia: Bank Indonesia Lao PDR: Bank of Lao PDR

Malaysia: Department of Statistics Malaysia

Myanmar: Directorate of Investment and Company Administration

Philippines: Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Singapore: Department of Statistics

Thailand: Bank of Thailand Viet Nam: State Bank of Viet Nam

Data Quality

FDI data still shows lack of comparability. The international concept, above reminded, is not fully applied. For instance:

- The 10 percent threshold which breaks foreign investment into FDI and portfolio investment is not applied in Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam. But other types of thresholds are met when collecting data (in terms of amounts in Cambodia, Thailand, in terms of number of companies surveyed in Indonesia).
- Flows with fellow companies (companies which have the same foreign direct investor)
- FDI is made of three components: equity capital, debt instruments and reinvested earnings. Lao PDR can only provide a total, excluding reinvested earnings. Reinvested earnings are not available for Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam. They regard only the banking sector in Cambodia. They cannot be broken down by partner country or activity for the Philippines.
- Estimates for underreporting in surveys are rarely compiled.
- Data periodicity varies from year, semester to quarter.

There are still minor inconsistencies in the data sets, notably the totals by country are not equal to total by economic activity. ASEANstats, in collaboration with its focal points in ASEAN Members, is working on these inconsistencies and hopes to present the next edition with fully harmonised and consistent data series.

Further Information:

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