MALAYSIAN INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

ASIAN THINK TANK NETWORK FORUM 2026

REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR STRONGER ASEAN GROWTH

Malaysia's Perspective on Investment and Supply Chain Resiliency

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Deepening Investment Cooperation

Moving from Competition to Collaboration

1 Global Shift

Redefining Investor Priorities

The global foreign direct investment (FDI) landscape has fundamentally shifted.

Modern investors no longer prioritise locations based solely on cheap labour; instead, they demand supply chain stability, access to green power, and robust, mature business ecosystems.

2 Regional Integration

Operating as One ASEAN

Under the RIPAP 2025–2030 framework, the ASEAN operates most effectively when positioned as a single, unified investment destination.

This integrated approach replaces a fragmented landscape of eleven competing markets with a cohesive regional value proposition.

3 Strategic Response

Malaysia's Incentive Framework

To align with this collaborative vision and focus on real economic outcomes, Malaysia has introduced a New Incentive Framework (NIF).

This strategic framework rewards investments that generate high-quality jobs, facilitate meaningful technology transfer and create strong linkages with local businesses, driving sustainable, region-wide economic development.

MIDA Purview

Strengthening Regional Value Chains

Building Connected and Resilient Supply Chains

STRATEGIC POSITIONING

Anchor & Collaborative Partner

Malaysia strategically positions itself within the broader ASEAN manufacturing ecosystem to strengthen regional value chains.

Foreign multinational firms are encouraged to establish main production plants or advanced R&D hubs within Malaysia, while sourcing essential parts, materials and intermediate components from neighbouring ASEAN nations.

CAPABILITY UPGRADING

Supporting Local Suppliers

This interconnected regional approach is further strengthened by active initiatives designed to support local suppliers.

These programmes directly connect multinational investors with regional SMEs to systematically upgrade local technical capabilities and supply chain integration.

CASE STUDY

Johor-Singapore SEZ

A premier cross-border success model demonstrating synergistic collaboration is the Johor-Singapore Special Economic Zone (JS-SEZ).

This specialised zone clearly illustrates how neighbouring countries can effectively pool complementary strengths and resources to successfully attract and secure major, complex global investment projects that might be unattainable individually.

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Thank you