

Southeast Asia's May 2026 Financial Pulse: ASEAN Summit, IPO Buzz, and Eco

Global Financial News · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. The Philippines is set to host the 48th ASEAN Summit in May 2026. What is a primary focus for this summit, amidst global geopolitical tensions?

- A) Discussing advancements in space exploration technology
- B) Addressing urgent issues on oil supply, food security, and migrant workers**
- C) Planning the next phase of the ASEAN digital economy framework
- D) Establishing new cultural exchange programs between member states

2. The "China Conference: Southeast Asia 2026" will be held in Jakarta, coinciding with a significant diplomatic milestone. What is this milestone?

- A) 70 years of diplomatic partnership between China and Indonesia
- B) 75 years of diplomatic partnership between China and Indonesia**
- C) 80 years of diplomatic partnership between China and Indonesia
- D) 65 years of diplomatic partnership between China and Indonesia

3. Which of the following financial events is scheduled to take place from May 15-17, 2026, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia?

- A) ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network Seminar
- B) ATxEnterprise 2026
- C) Bursa Malaysia Investor Relations (IR) Awards 2026
- D) Southeast Asia Convention**

4. Bank Indonesia maintained its benchmark seven-day reverse repo rate at 4.75% in its April 2026 meeting. What was the primary consideration for this decision, given the global economic climate?

- A) To stimulate domestic consumption
- B) To encourage foreign direct investment
- C) To stabilize the rupiah amidst conflict-fueled volatility**
- D) To curb escalating inflation

5. The 'Asia Economic Summit (AES) 2026' is scheduled for June 17, 2026, in Jakarta. What is the projected economic impact of AI on ASEAN's GDP that is a central theme of the summit?

- A) US\$100 billion
- B) US\$500 billion
- C) US\$1 trillion**
- D) US\$2 trillion

6. The 3rd ASEAN+3 Finance Think-tank Network (AFTN) Seminar is slated for May 28, 2026, in Tokyo. What is the overarching theme of this seminar?

A) Sustainable Finance and Green Investments

B) Financial Integration and Stability in the Age of Geo-fragmentation

C) Digital Transformation in Banking

D) The Future of Supply Chain Finance

7. Analysts anticipate a revival in Southeast Asia's IPO market in 2026. What key factor is driving this optimism?

A) A decrease in global interest rates

B) Increased venture capital funding

C) A shift towards profitability among tech companies

D) Government incentives for listing companies

8. In May 2026, which event is scheduled to take place, focusing on broadcast technology, telecommunications infrastructure, satellite communications, and enterprise solutions in Asia?

A) FinanceAsia Achievement Awards

B) Money20/20 Asia 2026

C) GITEX AI ASIA 2026

D) ATxEnterprise 2026

9. The Indonesian central bank has maintained its benchmark interest rate. What specific rate has been held steady since September 2025, as of April 2026?

A) 4.50%

B) 4.75%

C) 5.00%

D) 5.25%

10. Thailand's economic growth forecast for 2026 has been revised downwards. What is the revised forecast by the Bank of Thailand if the Middle East war ends in the second half of 2026?

A) 1.9%

B) 1.5%

C) 1.3%

D) 1.0%

11. The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Strategic Plan for 2026-2030 identifies several megatrends shaping the region. Which of the following is NOT listed as a critical megatrend?

- A) Geopolitical tensions
- B) Shifting trade flows
- C) Technological transformation
- D) Global population decline**

12. In the context of upcoming IPOs in Southeast Asia for 2026, which sector, along with Fintech, is expected to see significant activity and potential listings, particularly in Singapore?

- A) Renewable Energy
- B) Real Estate Investment Trusts (Reits)**
- C) Biotechnology
- D) Automotive Manufacturing