

ASEAN Digital Diplomacy: Navigating Cross-Border Tech, Trade, and Evolving

Digital Diplomacy · Answer Key · 18 Questions

1. Which landmark agreement, finalized in negotiations in May 2026, aims to harmonize digital trade rules and accelerate ASEAN's transformation into a leading digital economy?

- A) ASEAN Digital Integration Framework (DIF)
- B) ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA)**
- C) ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020
- D) Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap

2. What is a primary goal of the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA) concerning micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs)?

- A) To restrict their cross-border operations
- B) To encourage their expansion across borders and integration into regional value chains**
- C) To promote localized operations only
- D) To limit their access to digital markets

3. Which two Southeast Asian nations recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoU) to enhance cooperation in cybersecurity, digital inclusion, e-governance, and emerging technologies?

- A) Thailand and Singapore
- B) Malaysia and Indonesia
- C) Philippines and Vietnam**
- D) Indonesia and Malaysia

4. In 2023, what percentage of venture capital deals in ASEAN were related to the digital economy, exceeding the global average?

- A) 50%
- B) 71%**
- C) 60%
- D) 30%

5. Which initiative, launched in 2020, aims to facilitate the growth of regional e-commerce and digital economy through an annual event open to businesses in the region?

- A) ASEAN Smart Cities Network (ASCN)
- B) ASEAN Online Sale Day (AOSD)**
- C) ASEAN Digital Masterplan 2025
- D) ASEAN Framework on Personal Data Protection

6. What is the projected value of ASEAN's digital economy by 2030, according to current growth trends and potential DEFA impact?

- A) US\$1 trillion
- B) US\$2 trillion**
- C) US\$500 billion
- D) US\$1.5 trillion

7. Which framework agreement, adopted in 2016, aims to strengthen the protection of personal data within ASEAN member states?

- A) ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA)
- B) ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce
- C) ASEAN Framework on Personal Data Protection (PDP)**
- D) ASEAN Digital Integration Framework and its Action Plan (DIFAP)

8. As of early 2024, which two ASEAN countries are identified as prime beneficiaries of the growing data center investment due to their location advantage and available land/power?

- A) Singapore and Thailand
- B) Malaysia and Indonesia**
- C) Vietnam and the Philippines
- D) Brunei and Cambodia

9. Which agreement, initiated in September 2023, is considered the world's first region-wide digital economy agreement aimed at harmonizing digital trade rules?

- A) ASEAN Agreement on Electronic Commerce
- B) ASEAN Digital Integration Framework (DIF)
- C) ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA)**
- D) Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC)

10. Which two Southeast Asian nations have linked their real-time payment systems (PayNow and PromptPay), being the first in the world to do so?

- A) Malaysia and Indonesia
- B) Philippines and Vietnam
- C) Singapore and Thailand**
- D) Vietnam and Thailand

11. What is the projected market size for Vietnam's e-commerce sector by 2030, positioning it as the second-largest in Southeast Asia?

- A) US\$25 billion
- B) US\$63 billion**
- C) US\$100 billion
- D) US\$40 billion

12. Which ASEAN initiative, launched in 2021, aims to accelerate digital initiatives and deepen regional integration and connectivity during the second half of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Blueprint?

- A) ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA)
- B) ASEAN Digital Connectivity Framework
- C) Bandar Seri Begawan Roadmap: An ASEAN Digital Transformation Agenda**
- D) ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020

13. Which countries are collaborating on a Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership (DCCP) with initiatives like Cross-Border Privacy Rules Socialization?

- A) China and ASEAN
- B) Japan and ASEAN
- C) USA and ASEAN**
- D) European Union and ASEAN

14. The ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA) negotiations began in which year?

- A) 2021
- B) 2022
- C) 2023**
- D) 2024

15. Which of the following is a key focus area for the digital transformation agreement signed between the Philippines and Vietnam?

- A) Renewable energy infrastructure
- B) Agricultural technology exchange
- C) Digital inclusion, e-government, and emerging technologies**
- D) Maritime security and resource management

16. What is the projected growth of ASEAN's digital economy by 2030 if DEFA is effectively implemented, according to some projections?

- A) It is expected to remain around US\$1 trillion.
- B) It is expected to double to US\$2 trillion.**
- C) It is expected to grow to US\$5 trillion.
- D) It is expected to decrease by 10%.

17. Which Southeast Asian country is chairing the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA) negotiations, with an expected conclusion this year (2025)?

- A) Indonesia
- B) Singapore
- C) Malaysia
- D) Thailand**

18. In the context of digital diplomacy in ASEAN, which platforms does ASEAN primarily utilize as a state actor to conduct its digital diplomacy efforts?

A) Only Twitter and Facebook

B) Official website and social media accounts (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram)

C) Only official government blogs

D) YouTube and LinkedIn exclusively