4. ABIS

The ASEAN Business and Investment Summit is Southeast Asia's premier annual forum that brings together heads of state, presidents, prime ministers as well as ASEAN business and thought leaders and its global partners. It is a unique platform to hear how the key issues facing the region are being addressed and to discuss how to ensure the opportunities in ASEAN's vibrant economies are reaped sustainably and inclusively.

The coronavirus continues to impact lives and livelihoods across Southeast Asia. Organised by the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit 2021 takes place against a backdrop where a pandemic has caused the world to stop, rethink business models and social contracts and reconsider the future of work and education. Carrying the theme of Building Our Sustainable Digital Future', this year's Summit will focus on how the region can build back better and recover stronger, together.

"Brunei Darussalam is delighted to be hosting the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit 2021 and showcasing its leadership and Chairmanship of ASEAN to the world" said Haslina Taib, chair of the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit 2021. The Summit has been described as a pivotal event where the public and private sectors can come together and identify ways to promote inclusive sustainable growth in a digital age. In the lead up to the important Summit, two ASEAN business roundtables were held online to enable a deeper dive into topics, focusing specifically on 'Fintech and Financial Literacy' in August and "Skills for a Digital Age' in September. According to the event's programme, the Summit itself will feature several important keynote addresses, presentations as well as a series of panel discussions. One such panel discussion will set the scene by focusing on ASEAN's priorities in the new normal, addressing questions pertaining to the social, economic and geo-political Issues facing Southeast Asia, how ASEAN can balance economic recovery with sustainable growth, as well as the investment and trading environment for the region. A subsequent session will look at the shape of things to come, where a panel will discuss how to prepare for the future of work, education, health, travel and life in a post-COVID ASEAN. It will also put the spotlight on new business models and supply chain shifts, as well as key issues to watch out for.

Another panel discussion highlighted advancing ASEAN's digital economy, zeroing in on how ASEAN can develop a digital eco-system for sustainable and inclusive growth, how Southeast Asian businesses can accelerate their digital transformation, as well as what the challenges are in connecting ASEAN digitally. An additional panel session will discuss ASEAN's circular economy, with a focus on how
Southeast Asia can grow sustainably, while also exploring what needs to be done to incentivise business, big and small, to transition and commit to net-Zero. Following the Summit, November 10 would see the ASEAN Business Awards 2021 take place, with the aim to recognise outstanding key enterprises that have contributed significantly to the ASEAN region. A kick-off event was held on July 7 to launch the ASEAN Business And Investment Summit 2021 and ASEAN Business Awards 2021.

Speaking to media, ASEAN-BAC Chair and Legislative Council member Yang Berhormat Siti Rozaimeriyanty binti Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman said, "We will let Brunei businesses hear from world leaders who will talk live in Brunei Darussalam and expose our small and Medium enterprises (SMEs) to these world leaders and corporate figures to encourage local entrepreneurs to see what is beyond Brunei Darussalam. There are a lot of opportunities for our SMEs."
PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF ASEAN
THE ASEAN BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT SUMMIT 2021

Brunei Darussalam | Online | 25 OCTOBER, 2021

Opening Keynote Address by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu’izzaddin Wadudallah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar ‘Ali Saifuddien Sa’adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Chair of ASEAN 2021

Building Our Sustainable Digital Future

Participation is Free. Register at www.aseanabcbrunei.com.bn/abis/about

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Scan the QR Code to register and to see the full programme

Among the leaders anticipated to speak at the summit

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