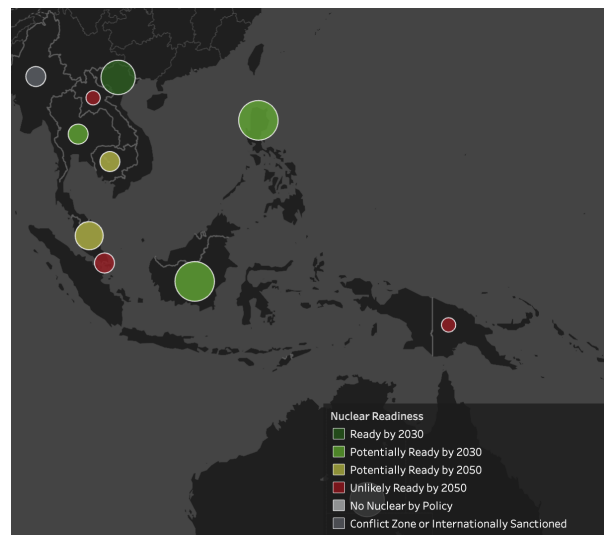


[Update] Who in ASEAN is Ready for Nuclear Power?

Demand for electricity across the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will triple by 2050. Nuclear power is a potential source of clean power to drive industrialization and growing incomes, especially with new [smaller, safer, and more flexible designs](#) expected to come to the market over the next decade. The Energy for Growth Hub and Third Way's [interactive map](#) projects electricity demand and assesses nuclear readiness of these countries. Since our [2021 assessment](#):

1. Three countries have made real progress

- Indonesia (Score: Potentially Ready by 2030)** [signed an agreement](#) with the US Government to participate in the Foundational Infrastructure for Responsible Use of Small Modular Reactor Technology (FIRST) program. Indonesia selected US-based NuScale as a partner, with the goal of constructing a 462 MW facility. Indonesia may even be upgraded to "Ready by 2030" later this year.
- The Philippines (Potentially Ready by 2030)** was downgraded last year from "ready" to "potentially ready" due to a lack of activity. However, since the publication of our map in October 2022, the new President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has [publicly stated](#) a desire to revive the mothballed Bataan plant originally constructed in 1985. The Philippines has also signed on to the United States' [FIRST program](#), and the country started up a new research reactor in 2022.
- Thailand (Potentially Ready by 2030)** signed an agreement to join the [FIRST program](#). Thailand's [2012 Power Development Plan](#) lays out a timeline through 2030, including the development of up to 4 GW of power in the mid 2020s, although it is likely this will be delayed.



2. Vietnam is ready now, but hasn't made recent progress

- Vietnam (Ready by 2030)** previously agreed to build plants with Japan and Russia. Officials put these plans on hold in favor of gas and coal, but they could be [revived](#). Recently, the country's industry and trade minister [discussed](#) the need for nuclear power to replace coal.

3. Cambodia, Malaysia, and Myanmar could be ready by 2050 (yellow)

Malaysia operates a research reactor, and all three countries have taken preliminary steps that signal interest in developing nuclear power. None have made significant recent progress.

For more detailed information, see our full [checklist](#).