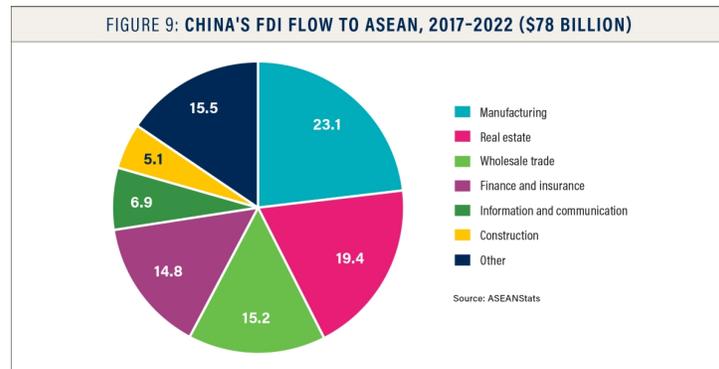

China maintains top trade partner status with ASEAN for 16th year



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China has remained the largest trading partner of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

(ASEAN) for the 16th consecutive year, highlighting the deepening economic ties between the two

sides, Vice Minister of Commerce Yan Dong announced on Monday.

From January to July 2025, trade between China and ASEAN reached \$597 billion, representing an 8.2 percent year-on-year increase and accounting for 16.7 percent of China's total foreign trade during the same period.

Cumulative two-way investment had surpassed \$450 billion by the end of July, while Chinese companies have also been actively engaged in regional infrastructure development, achieving a cumulative turnover of \$480 billion in ASEAN countries.

Yan made the announcement at a press briefing on the upcoming 22nd China-ASEAN Expo, scheduled to be held in Nanning, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, from September 17 to 21.

The event will showcase opportunities for enhanced trade, investment, and cooperation in key sectors including infrastructure, digital economy, and sustainable development.

Officials said the continued growth underscores the strategic importance of China-ASEAN economic partnership in fostering regional stability and prosperity.