



BRUNEI SECURITY ANALYSIS REPORT

AI-Assisted Open Source Intelligence Assessment

Analysis Period: March 13, 2026 - March 20, 2026

This report was produced using automated open-source intelligence analysis. The assessment is grounded in publicly available reporting and should be cross-referenced with primary sources. RSS feed articles are listed in the annex for reference.

Executive Summary

This automated analysis could not be generated due to a technical issue with the AI service.

Key Developments

- Unable to generate a security analysis for Brunei at this time.
- Please try again later or select an alternative analysis method.

Outlook

Please check back later for an updated analysis.

ANNEX: COLLECTED ARTICLES BY SOURCE

Source: The Scoop

- [Gear up for the Brunei Fitness Festival 2026!](#) (2026-03-18 20:49)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – A new chapter in Brunei’s wellness scene is about to unfold as the Brunei Fitness Festival 2026, powered by Innersejuk, makes its highly anticipated debut. Taking place from July 29 to August 2 at BRIDEX Hall, the five-day festival will run daily from 10am to 10pm, promising a high-energy, all-in-one experience set to draw more than 50,000 visitors and up to 200 local and international brands. Positioned as more than just an exhibition, the festival brings together fitness, lifestyle, and entrepreneurship in one immersive platform — where beginners, enthusiasts, and professional athletes converge to compete, connect, and grow. At the heart of the action is a Sports & Fitness Exhibition, showcasing the latest in performance, innovation and training. For those ready to push their limits, the AIS Hybrid Race will challenge participants in a test of grit, strength and endurance. Mass workout sessions, including PoundFit and aerobic sessions, are set to electrify the crowd, transforming the venue into an hub of movement and energy. In a first for the region, the festival will also feature a dedicated SME Pavilion, shining a spotlight on micro and emerging businesses and giving them an opportunity to showcase their products [...] This story 'Gear up for the Brunei Fitness Festival 2026!' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [Brunei set to ratify ASEAN Climate Change Centre agreement](#) (2026-03-18 15:17)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – Brunei is ready to ratify the agreement establishing the ASEAN Climate Change Centre, with an official announcement expected in due course, the Second Minister of Finance and Economy said Wednesday. Speaking at the seventh day of the Legislative Council, Dato Dr Hj Mohd Amin Liew Abdullah said the centre is currently at the ratification stage among ASEAN member states, including Brunei. “The process has taken longer as it is subject to the domestic legal procedures of each member state,” the minister explained. “As the host country, Brunei Darussalam must undertake additional steps to ensure all legal prerequisites are met and that it has the capacity to fulfil its commitments.” The agreement will enter into force once at least six ASEAN member states have signed. The centre will be formally established 60 days after those six signatures are submitted to the ASEAN Secretariat. Dato Dr Hj Mohd Amin clarified that while Brunei will host the facility, the centre will operate under ASEAN jurisdiction and be owned exclusively by the regional bloc. Once established, an executive director and several Bruneian officers will be appointed to develop programmes and key performance indicators based on insights from across the region. [...] This story 'Brunei set to ratify ASEAN Climate Change Centre agreement' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [MoRA tables \\$280M budget to bolster religious education, infrastructure](#) (2026-03-18 04:41)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – The Ministry of Religious Affairs has proposed a budget of B\$280.3 million for FY 2026/27, with funding channelled towards new infrastructure and religious education. During Wednesday’s Legislative Council session, the Minister of Religious Affairs, Pehin Dato Ustaz Hj Awg Badaruddin PDP Hj Awg Othman, explained that the vast majority of the funding—approximately B\$237 million—is dedicated to emoluments to support the ministry’s workforce. The remainder of the budget includes B\$18.6 million earmarked for development expenditure and B\$4.2 million for recurring operational expenses. Breakdown of allocations The largest portion of the budget, totaling B\$205 million or 73% of the overall allocation, is directed toward the Department of Islamic Studies. This funding primarily manages religious and Arabic schools, covering salaries for teachers and officers, while also supporting higher education at Seri Begawan Teachers’ College and the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Tahfiz Al-Quran. Beyond education, the ministry has allocated B\$35.9 million (13%) to the Department of Mosque Affairs and the Islamic Propagation Centre to fund religious events and programmes for youth and new converts. A further B\$29 million (10%) will support services including the Haj Affairs Department, the Zakat, Waqaf and Baitulmal Affairs Department, and the Brunei Islamic [...] This story 'MoRA tables \$280M budget to bolster religious education, infrastructure' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [MoH proposes B\\$646M budget to boost sustainable healthcare](#) (2026-03-17 15:21)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – The Ministry of Health (MoH) has proposed a B\$646 million budget for FY 2026/27, aimed at driving efficiency while maintaining high standards of safe and accessible care. During Tuesday’s Legislative Council session, Health Minister Dato Dr Hj Md Isham Hj Jaafar provided a snapshot of Brunei’s medical landscape, highlighting rising cost pressures and the ongoing digitalisation of the healthcare system Improving health outcomes Brunei currently allocates 2.2% of its GDP to healthcare—roughly half the regional average of 4% to 4.5%, Dato Dr Hj Md Isham said. Despite this, life expectancy rose from 77.7 years in 2019 to 79.1 years in 2024, moving closer to the Brunei Vision 2035 target of 82 years. However, the minister noted that specialised care remains a significant cost driver, with B\$159 million spent on overseas medical treatments, as well as services provided by local institutions such as the JPMC Specialist Centre and the GJPMC Cardiac Centre. To curb long-term costs, B\$4 million has been earmarked for Health Promotion and Non-Communicable Disease Prevention Programme. Early screening initiatives are already yielding positive results: Heart disease: Cardiovascular screenings rose by 85%, with 2,801 people screened between 2019 and 2025. Breast cancer: Screenings reached 13,061 women [...] This story 'MoH proposes B\$646M budget to boost sustainable healthcare' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [\\$88M to drive food production, exports](#) (2026-03-16 15:59)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – The Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT) has proposed a budget of B\$88.76 million for FY 2026/27. Speaking at the Legislative Council, Dato Dr Hj Abd

Manaf Hj Metussin said the allocation will focus on three pillars: growing the food industry, boosting tourism, and conserving Brunei's forests. Egg production drives export growth In 2025, food exports hit approximately B\$13 million, with the agriculture and agri-food sector seeing a 52% jump in value compared to the previous year. Animal feed and chicken eggs were the top commodities, making up nearly all agricultural export value. Notably, local farms shipped B\$3.3 million worth of eggs to Singapore, while the fisheries sector exported B\$5.68 million in goods, led by tuna, shrimp, and selungsong fish. Modernising infrastructure A portion of the budget is dedicated to building “plug-and-play” infrastructure. MPRT wants to ensure all farming and fishing zones have reliable electricity, water, and drainage to lower the barrier to entry for new entrepreneurs. “This infrastructure is a key catalyst to help entrepreneurs start and expand their businesses, strengthening the nation's food security,” said Dato Dr Hj Abd Manaf. By upgrading laboratories and enforcing international safety standards, MPRT is also working to improve [...] This story '\$88M to drive food production, exports' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [New tourism markets targeted ahead of Visit Brunei 2027](#) (2026-03-16 15:41)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – Brunei is targeting new tourism markets in 2026—including North America, southwest Asia, and western Europe—as part of a strategic push to boost international arrivals, the Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT) announced Monday. Speaking at the Legislative Council, Dato Dr Hj Abd Manaf Hj Metussin said the sultanate is expanding its global footprint through international expos in hubs like Dubai, Sydney, Seoul, and Shanghai to cultivate new collaborations. Breaking new markets through digital marketing To support this, the Tourism Development Department will appoint overseas representatives to navigate “geo-locked” digital platforms like China's Douyin, South Korea's Naver, and WeChat. It is also finalising a comprehensive marketing strategy to bridge the gap between regional visitors and travelers from further afield like Europe and North America. These efforts serve as a runway for Visit Brunei Year 2027, which coincides with His Majesty the Sultan's Diamond Jubilee. A pre-launch phase will begin in Q2 2026 to ensure the nation's infrastructure is ready for more tourist arrivals. On the development front, the minister highlighted a 20-year cooperation agreement between the Forestry Department and Borneo Eco Resort to transform Berakas Forest Recreational Park into a world-class ecotourism destination. Cruise ships boost [...] This story 'New tourism markets targeted ahead of Visit Brunei 2027' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [\\$6.3 billion budget bill targets fiscal stability](#) (2026-03-15 15:53)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – The government has tabled a BND6.3 billion supply bill for the 2026/2027 financial year, aiming to balance between fiscal prudence with Brunei's long-term development needs. Addressing the Legislative Council on Saturday, the Second Minister of Finance and Economy, Dato Dr Hj Mohd Amin Liew Abdullah, confirmed that the government expects to carry its fiscal deficit into the upcoming year. While the deficit was originally forecast to reach BND3.1 billion by the end of FY 2025/26, the government has yet to release updated

figures. With war in the Persian Gulf disrupting global energy markets, Dato Amin stressed that maintaining macroeconomic stability is now critical. “Global economic uncertainties—influenced by geopolitical tensions, shifting trade structures, modest global growth prospects and climate change—require the government to act strategically,” he said. He warned that an over-reliance on oil and gas is unsustainable, noting that while Brunei remains an open economy, that very openness leaves it “vulnerable to external factors such as trade tensions and import cost pressures” . Tracking economic growth Reviewing the nation’ s economic performance, Dato Amin reported that Brunei’ s economy grew by 0.7% in 2025. This was driven by a 3.1% uptick in the oil and gas sector, which offset [...] This story ' \$6.3 billion budget bill targets fiscal stability' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [Government unveils strategic priorities in \\$480M infrastructure push](#) (2026-03-15 15:41)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – The government has earmarked \$480 million from the FY 2026/27 budget to drive critical infrastructure and socio-economic projects over the coming year. These funds are part of the broader 12th National Development Plan (RKN12), a \$4 billion roadmap comprising 305 projects through 2029, designed to support Brunei’ s long-term economic goals. Following the budget readout at the Legislative Council on Saturday, we take a closer look at the government’ s strategic priorities for the year ahead. Priority 1: Fiscal stability and governance With a \$22 million allocation, the first priority focuses on strengthening fiscal stability and financial governance. Key projects under this pillar include the development of Bru-HIMS 2.0 and a new national centre for vehicle inspection and automobile standards. Funding will also support several essential studies and master plans, including: Aerial imaging and 3D mapping for geospatial surveying. Coastal protection and sanitation/sewerage master plans. Non-revenue water management to secure the national water supply. Environmental and tourism initiatives are also featured under this bracket, with a focus on forest conservation, carbon trading, and upgrades to Kampong Ayer and the Pulau Selirong Forest Recreation Park. Priority 2: Economic transformation and innovation The second priority — empowering the economy through [...] This story 'Government unveils strategic priorities in \$480M infrastructure push' appeared first on The Scoop.

- [Sultan urges safeguards as Iran war jolts energy markets](#) (2026-03-13 11:40)

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah has called for stronger action to address global economic uncertainty, while urging members of the Legislative Council to focus on key national priorities. The monarch opened the 22nd session of the Legislative Council in his first public appearance since undergoing knee replacement surgery in January. In his titah, His Majesty said Brunei must remain alert to international developments and the impact of global geopolitical tensions on the economy, particularly as fluctuations in energy commodity prices could affect the country’ s main source of revenue. Oil prices have surged past \$100 per barrel as the US and Israel wage war against Iran, sending energy markets into a tailspin over fears of a prolonged conflict. The sultan stressed that Brunei is not immune to these global pressures and called on members of the Legislative Council to work together in

addressing any uncertainties that may arise. Economic diversification remains key priority To bolster the government’ s fiscal health, the monarch urged a sustained push into new sectors and strategic investments that accelerate economic diversification. “The need to develop new areas is no longer a choice but a necessity,” he said, adding that progress must also [...] This story 'Sultan urges safeguards as Iran war jolts energy markets' appeared first on The Scoop.