

Q1 2022



QUARTERLY REPORT

CEEC Corporate Partners: 

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MESSAGE FROM CEEC CHAIRMAN



Dear our Esteemed Members, Colleagues and Friends,

I'm pleased to present to you our newest Quarterly Report, where you can find a quick look at the situation in Vietnam and our activities.

First, I would like to use this opportunity and express our full solidarity with the country of Ukraine, its people, and the Ukrainian business community. The European Business Organisation Worldwide Network's ASEAN Chapter has issued a statement regarding the war in Ukraine, which we full support. The statement can be found on our channels and in this report.

Secondly, finally, after 2 year, Vietnam fully reopened to international tourists on March 15, 2022. The decision to open the door to international tourism is of great significance, meeting the expectations of the entire tourism industry in Vietnam and contributing to accelerating the program of economic recovery and development.

Moreover, CEEC successfully conducted the first online Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022, with the participation of our current Board members, Members and the Trade Counsellors of CEEC countries. During the meeting the summary and outlook of the chamber activities, the budget were shared and approved by the members. Additionally the new and standing for re-lection candidates to the Board were elected.

CEEC Board members also participated at the EuroCham AGM 2022, where we looked back an active and successful year of EuroCham and discussed the strategies for 2022.

Last but not least, during the last quarter, we've organized two webinars in cooperation with other Business Associations and Partners and co-hosted webinars on different topics which, we believe, brought you some useful information. More information can be found in this report.

I hope you will enjoy reading our report, and if you have any further questions, do not hesitate and email us at office@ceecvn.org. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marko Moric', written in a cursive style.


MARKO MORIC
Chairman of the Board

STATEMENT ON THE WAR IN UKRAINE

The European Business Organisation Worldwide Network's ASEAN Chapter has issued a statement regarding the war in Ukraine.

The Central and Eastern European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam would like to express our full solidarity with the country of Ukraine, its people, and the Ukrainian business community.

Please see the statement below and kindly visit the European Business Association in Ukraine (EBA)'s website for more information on how you can support them: <https://eba.com.ua/en/yak-biznes-mozhe-dopomogty-krayini-v-chas-vijny/>.



Statement on the war in Ukraine

On behalf of the European Business Organisation Worldwide Network's ASEAN Chapter, which encompasses nine European chambers of commerce, we express our solidarity with the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian business community during these tragic times taking place in their country.

We hope a diplomatic solution can be found immediately to alleviate the suffering and all losses of human life.


Our thoughts are with our colleagues at the European Business Association in Ukraine (EBA) (<https://eba.com.ua/en/>) in particular. We wish them all strength and hope that they will stay safe.

It is truly remarkable that the EBA, together with its member companies, continues to work and actively support the country during this fierce war. Please visit their website for more information on how you can support them. (<https://eba.com.ua/en/yak-biznes-mozhe-dopomogty-krayini-v-chas-vijny/>)

We are also heartened to see a remarkable outpouring of support for Ukraine from businesses large and small across the ASEAN region. Businesses and their headquarters are mobilizing their expertise, capabilities, and resources to help Ukraine's more than 1 million refugees, as well as Ukrainians who remain under threat in their homes and are now facing an uncertain future.

We hope that an acceptable resolution will be found immediately for the sake of worldwide economic wellbeing, jobs safety, security and prosperity.

In the past during times of crisis, our chambers of commerce have served as an essential connection between business leaders, government agencies, non-profits, and humanitarian groups. At this time, we will once again remain at the full disposal of our member companies who are in need of a clear understanding of the implications of relevant sanctions being applied by their countries.



CEEC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) 2022



On Thursday, March 3rd 2022, CEEC successfully organized the first online Annual General Meeting, with the participation of our current Board members, Members and the Trade Counsellors of CEEC countries.

Considering the rise of Covid-19 cases in Vietnam, especially in Hanoi, our Board members made a decision to organize the Annual General Meeting in online format only.

During the meeting, our Board members took turns to present CEEC's activities in the year 2021, and also the upcoming plans for 2022.

In addition, three of our Board members have been re-elected, and we're extremely happy to welcome the new Board member – Tsvyatko Kabahchiyski.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the guest speaker – CEEC Singapore's President Peter Sasi. We look forward to having more chances to work with our "sister" Chamber and colleagues in Singapore.

Special thanks to Ms Nikoletta Oláh and Ms Ildikó Major – Trade Counsellor of Hungary, Mr Tsvetan Aleksov – Trade Counsellor of Bulgaria and Mr Alexander Nowakowski – Trade Counsellor of Poland for joining our Annual General Meeting 2022.

Last but not least, thank you CEEC's members for staying with us for another year and we hope to be able to bring more value to you all, expecting the situation is gradually back to normal.

CEEC BOARD MEMBERS 2022



- [Marko Moric](#) (Croatian) –Chairman
- [Csaba Bundik](#) (Hungarian) – Vice-Chairman in Hanoi
- [Vlad Savin](#) (Romanian) – Vice-Chairman in HCMC
- [Nguyen Hai Minh](#) (Vietnamese) – Treasurer
- [Christoph Schill](#) (Austrian) – Board member
- [Florian Beranek](#) (Austrian) – Board member
- [Lukasz Kozlowski](#) (Polish) – Board member
- [Ben Mandjak](#) (Hungarian) – Board member
- [Tsvyatko Kabahchiyski](#) (Bulgarian) – Board member

Thank you to all of our members who joined the CEEC Annual General Meeting 2022 and voted for the Board members. We hope for another year of fruitful connections!

CEEC AT EUROCHAM AGM 2022



CEEC Board members participated at the EuroCham AGM 2022, where we looked back an active and successful year of EuroCham and discussed the strategies for 2022.

On behalf of the Central and Eastern European Chamber of Commerce (CEEC) and the CEE business community, our Vice-Chairman - Mr. Vlad Savin reiterated the goals of CEEC in 2022.

After 2 years of the pandemic, we are planning to restart the community networking and support our members in bringing back their business.

Regular workshops and round table discussions with our Trade Counsellors will be organized to figure out ways to support members in their cross-border initiatives between the CEE and



Vietnam, green business initiatives and FDI focused seminars - as key knowledge pillars relevant for our community.

In addition, as CEE countries are the gateway for outbound investments from Vietnam into Europe for trade and direct investments alike, EVFTA promotion and support at a practical level is also a key focus.



CEEC TEAM MET IN HO CHI MINH CITY



After 2 years of Covid widespread, heavy lockdown and border closure, our team was finally able to have the meeting with the Board members and staff in Ho Chi Minh City.

We went through the key points for CEEC development in 2022 including goals & strategies, events planning and so on. Aiming to offer our members valuable benefits this year, we are also looking for expanding the Chamber and tightening the relationship between members.

Later that day, we had a chance to meet with Mrs. Magdalena Krakowiak before she leaves the country. She is one of the founding members of CEEC since the beginning, and also the former Vice-Chairwoman of the Chamber.



VIETNAM OPENED ITS BORDERS FOR TOURISTS

On March 15th, 2022

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed that the [e-visa system](#), available to citizens of 80 countries, is now in operation again as the country fully reopened to international tourists from March 15, 2022.

The online visa application/approval process by Việt Nam's Immigration Department was halted in early March 2020 when the country sealed the border to most foreign arrivals, in response to the COVID pandemic.

The list of countries where citizens are eligible to apply for e-visa (30 day stay valid) are: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China (including Hong Kong SAR and Macau SAR passport holders, not applicable to Chinese e-passport holders), Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russia, Salomons Islands, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor Leste, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, and Western Samoa.

Visa exemption policies for citizens from 13 countries were restored as before the pandemic, specifically for Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the UK, Russia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Belarus. Nationals from these countries can stay in Vietnam for 15 days from the date of entry, regardless of visa type or purpose of entry.

Việt Nam has also resumed visa exemptions for foreign nationals in accordance with international conventions of which Vietnam is a member, and visa exemption on a reciprocal basis with countries including Singapore and Thailand, and other visa exemption agreements with Southeast Asian nations, the spokesperson noted.

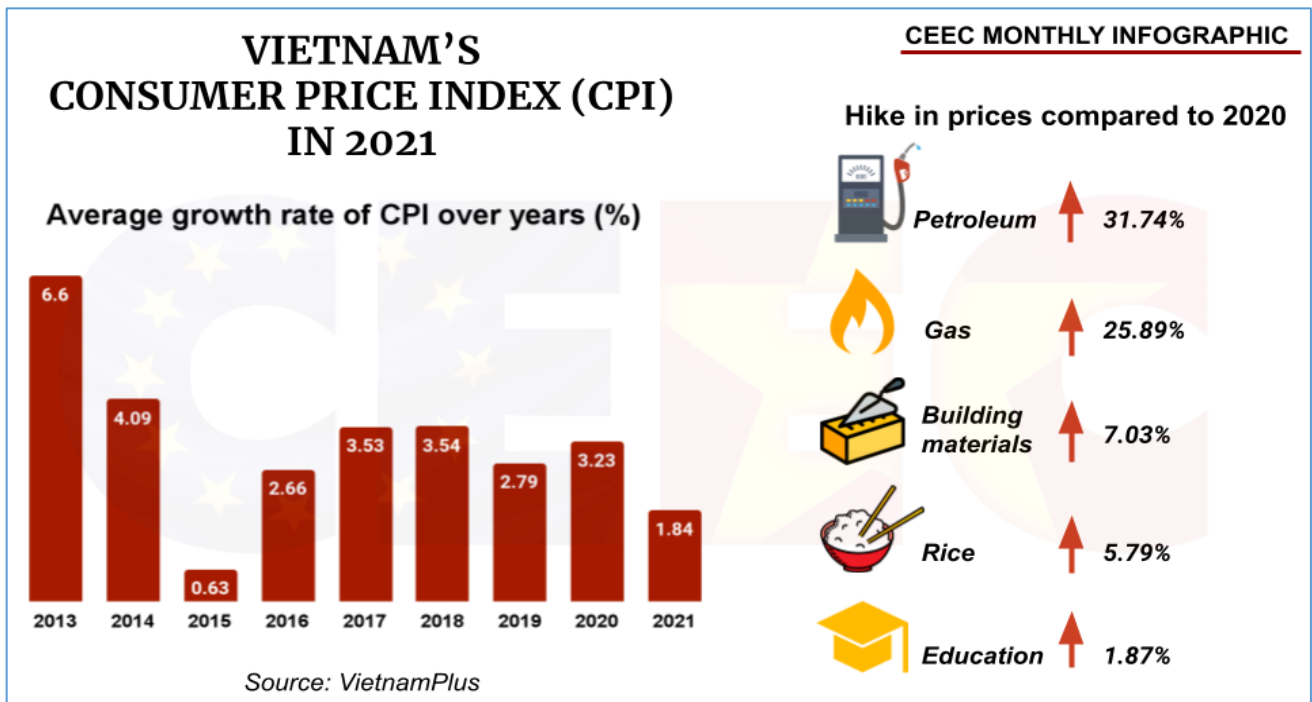
According to the new COVID-19 guidelines for foreign entries from the Ministry of Health (Dispatch No 1265), travellers entering Việt Nam by air need to provide proof of negative COVID-19 test results (within 72 hours of departure if using RT-PCR/RT-LAMP diagnostics, or within 24 hours if using rapid antigen diagnostics).

Travellers entering by road, railroad, or sea, can get a COVID-19 test prior to entry similar to travellers by air, if their duration of stay in Vietnam is short. If the stay is longer, they need to be tested at the border gates.

If the test results are negative, entrants are allowed to travel freely with public health measures in mind. Entrants must fill in health declaration prior to immigration, self-monitor their health, and install and use Vietnam's COVID-19 app (PC-COVID).

The Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism on March 15 released the guidelines for welcoming back international tourists in the new normal, in which tourists would need medical insurance that covers COVID-19 treatment with a minimum liability of US\$10,000.

CEEC MONTHLY INFOGRAPHIC
Vietnam's consumer price index (CPI) in 2021

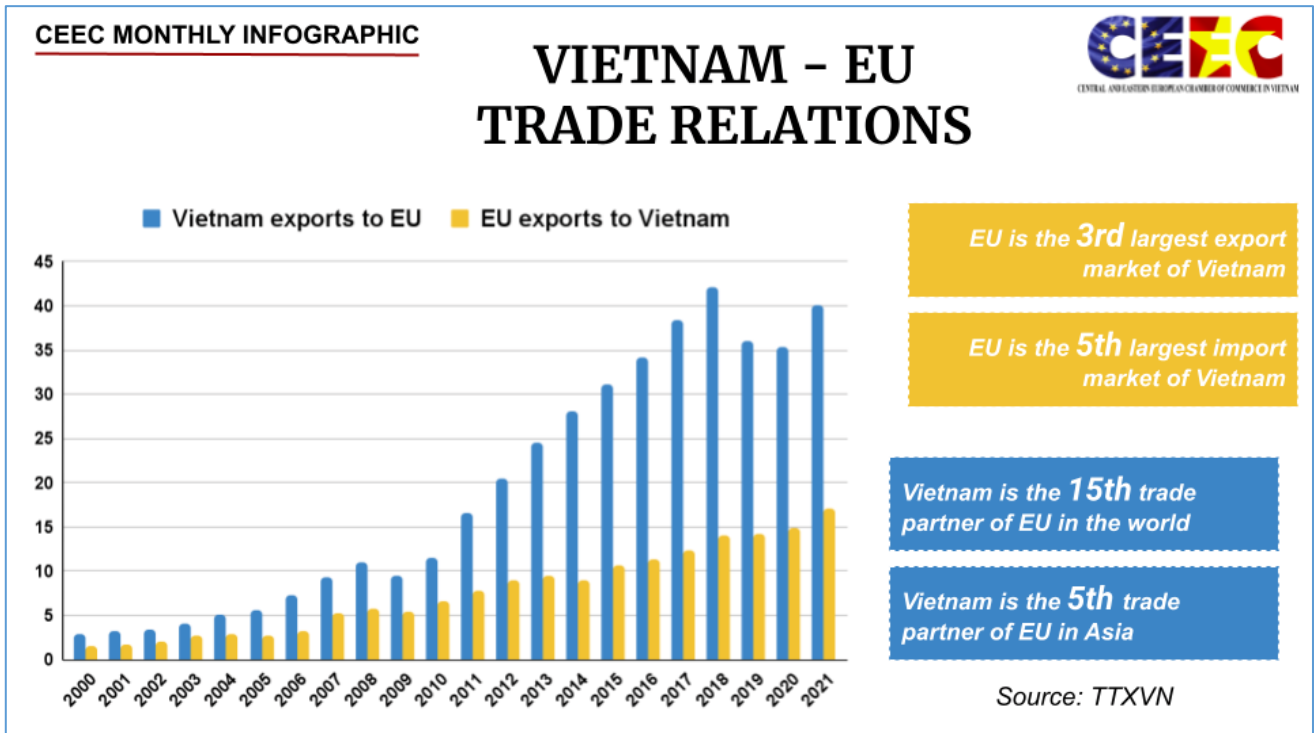


Vietnam's consumer price index (CPI) up 1.84% in 2021.

The hikes in prices of some commodities (petroleum, gas, building materials, rice and education) this year contributed to the rise of CPI in Vietnam.

To be more specific, retail sales of goods and services are categorized into Retail sales, Accommodation, food & beverage and Tourism. Besides the major three sectors, minor ones are included altogether in "Others". While Retail sales accounted for more than half of the country's total sales (1,985.4 trillion VND), tourism generated the least revenue at 4.5 trillion VND. Accommodation, food and beverage occupied 224 trillion VND and other sectors made up 249.9 trillion VND.

CEEC MONTHLY INFOGRAPHIC
Vietnam – EU Trade Relations

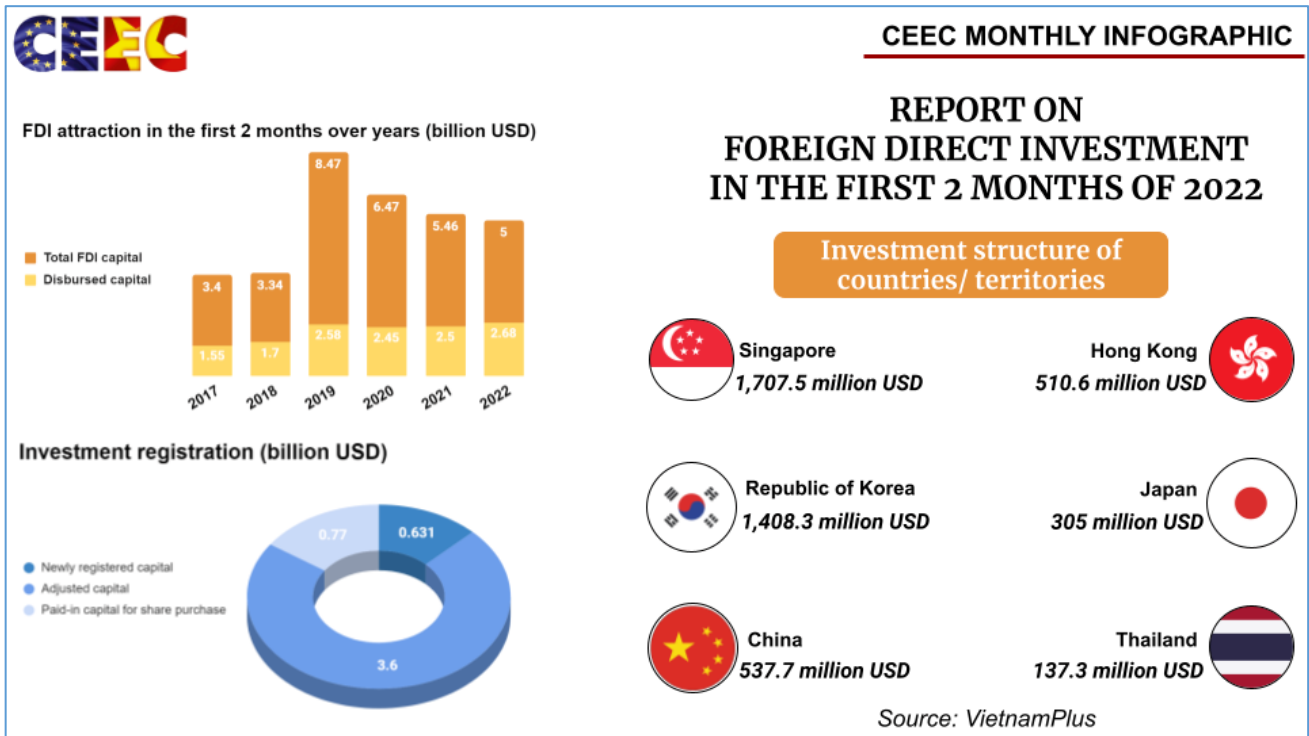


The Executive Vice President of the European Commission Frans Timmermans paid a visit to Vietnam on February 17-19.

On February 18, Prime Minister of Vietnam Pham Minh Chinh hosted a reception for visiting the Vice President. During the meeting, both sides affirmed the importance of Vietnam - EU trade relations and hoped for a further boost in the future.

Despite the huge impact of Covid-19, the two-way trade surged 56.8 billion USD in 2021, in which the total exports of Vietnam to the EU valued 39.9 billion USD and exports from EU to Vietnam valued 16.9 billion USD.

CEEC MONTHLY INFOGRAPHIC
Foreign Direct Investment
in the first 2 months of 2022



As of February 2022, the total newly registered, adjusted, and paid-in capital for share purchases by foreign investors reached USD 5 billion.

Newly registered capital: Total registered capital reached about USD 0.631 billion. Adjusted capital: Total additional registered capital reached nearly USD 3.6 billion. Paid-in capital for share purchase: The total value of paid-in capital was worth USD 0.77 billion. The top investors coming into Vietnam in 2 months of 2022 are Singapore (1,707.5 million USD) and Republic of Korea (1,408.3 million USD). Vietnam also received FDI from China, Hong Kong, Japan and Thailand.

**ANNOUNCEMENT ON CONTINUATION OF PARTNERSHIP
WITH GEBRÜDER WEISS**



We are pleased to announce that Gebrüder Weiss continue to be CEEC Official Logistics Partner for 2022.

With more than 7,400 employees, 170 company-owned locations and an annual turnover of 1.77 billion euros (2020), Gebrüder Weiss ranks among Europe's leading transport and logistics companies.

In addition to its core business of land transport, air & sea freight, and logistics, the company operates a number of highly specialized industry solutions and subsidiaries under the umbrella of Gebrüder Weiss Holding AG, based in Lauterach (Austria) – including the logistics consultancy firm x|vise, tectraxx (industry specialist for hi-tech businesses), dicall (communications solutions, market research, training), Rail Cargo (railway transports), and the Gebrüder Weiss parcel service GWP, co-shareholder of the Austrian company DPD. This bundling of services allows the corporate group to respond to customer needs quickly and flexibly.

CEEC would like to present its sincere thanks to Gebrüder Weiss for their confidence into the operation and development of the Chamber.

Find out more about the company: <https://www.gw-world.com/>

WEBINAR
Cross-Border Trade in the new post-covid reality:
Practical insights on trade and IPR

The graphic features a light blue and white background with wavy patterns. At the top left, the word 'SPEAKERS' is written in bold blue letters. Below it are three speaker portraits with their names and titles: Ivan Nikl (Branch Director, CzechTrade Vietnam), György Korökes (Co-Funder and Promotion Director, CET Oriental Solutions Ltd.), and Manh-Hung Tran (Country Managing Partner, BHVN | Baker McKenzie & External Expert of SEA IP SME Helpdesk). To the right of the speakers are logos for CEEC, SINGAPORE, CzechTrade, SOUTH-EAST ASIA IP SME HELPDESK, and European Commission. The main title 'CROSS-BORDER TRADE IN THE NEW POST-COVID REALITY: PRACTICAL INSIGHTS ON TRADE AND IPR' is centered in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below the title, the word 'WEBINAR' is written in a smaller, light blue font. At the bottom, the date and time 'THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY 2022 10AM (CET)/4PM (ICT)/5PM (SGT)' are displayed in bold dark blue letters.

On January 20 (Thursday) 2022, CEEC together with other Chambers and Business Associations, organized the webinar “Cross-Border Trade in the new post-covid reality: Practical insights on trade and IPR”, giving practical insights on trading and IPR between CEE countries and Vietnam and Singapore. Special thanks to Central and Eastern European Chamber of Commerce Singapore - CEEC, South-East Asia IP SME Helpdesk, CET Oriental Solutions, and CzechTrade for co-hosting an insightful webinar.

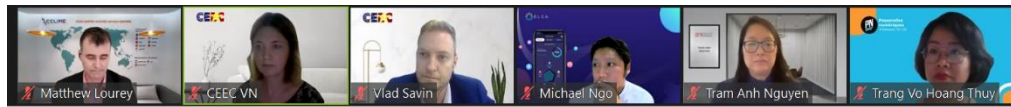
Our panel of speakers Manh-Hung Tran, György Kerekes, and Ivan Nikl and attendees had an interesting discussion on international trade and IPR in the post-Covid era.

Major challenges such as logistics disruption and increase in transportation prices are still visible for the upcoming months, yet, the opportunities are foreseeable. The recent statistics shared by our speakers proved that the EU market and EU investors are looking for great chances to enter Southeast Asia, and especially, to Vietnam.

We can surely be optimistic about 2022 when economic recovery takes place in the regions.

WEBINAR

EdTech in Vietnam: Evolution or Revolution?



SHARE & (L)EARN

EdTech in Vietnam: evolution or revolution?



On Thursday, March 30th, we welcomed more than 60 attendees to the webinar “EdTech in Vietnam: Evolution or Revolution?”. With the kind support of other Chambers and Business Associations in Vietnam: BeluxCham, CanCham, CCIFV, DBAV, EuroCham, HKBAV and SCCV, the webinar was successfully organized. With the participation of 4 EdTech experts: Micheal Ngo – Country Manager of Elsa, Corp, Tram Anh Nguyen – Co-founder of CFTE, Trang Vo Hoang Thuy – Country Representative of Passerelles numériques Vietnam and Matthew Lourey – Managing Partner of Acclime Vietnam and our Vice-Chairman Vlad Savin as the moderator, we had an insightful and interesting discussion on EdTech in Vietnam from different perspectives.

The complexity of Covid-19 over the last 2 years enabled speedy growth for EdTech industry but also brought out certain limits. With many years of experience in the field, the speakers enthusiastically shared details of their personal stories with the business during Covid time.

Indeed, the fast movement and urgent need for EdTech clearly showed the current stand of the industry in the Vietnam market. Before the hit of pandemic, online learning and online teaching were not considered traditional education in Vietnam. For that reason, both teachers and learners found themselves struggling in adapting to the new method. Especially, for people in rural areas with no access to modern technology, becoming an online teacher/ learner or a “tech-savvy” was extremely challenging for them. Needless to say, the lack of tech knowledge and tech skill created a burden for Vietnam education to step up quickly with the Covid changes.

However, we can see a huge opportunity for EdTech industry in Vietnam in the upcoming years. The unpredicted spread of pandemic proved that online learning is efficient, easily accessible and flexible for those who are interested. Taking this as a chance, EdTech businesses further developed their programs and models by integrating them into the market. For example, EdTech company connected

with schools/ institutions to act as an online platform or online source, which helped with class preparation and interaction.

On the other hand, limitations and difficulties for EdTech in the domestic market are named as a complex regulatory and slow movement with low capacity. Considering these obstacles to EdTech, our speakers gave advice for EdTech startups in Vietnam. As the industry itself is unique, the drive for establishing a business should be different. This, unlike the others, is the culture-driven and value-creation industry. Therefore, startups and entrepreneurs really need to understand the big picture of the industry, what they want to do and what people need. Besides, EdTech businesses should deal with the regulatory and the process at the early stage: knowing what you need, what you have to prepare and what you cannot do.

The webinar ended with Q&A session when attendees came up with the issues and concerns in a practical context. We hope the webinar on EdTech was intriguing and informative for all of you who wish to know more about the industry.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Save your date for the first after long break
CEEC Monthly Get-together
21 April 2022 from 6pm**



The poster features the CEEC logo at the top left, with the text 'MONTHLY GET-TOGETHER' in large, bold, red letters. Below this, it states 'Thursday, 21 April 2021 from 6PM HCMC'. A central image shows a collage of people at a social event, with blue and red arrows pointing outwards. At the bottom, it says 'FREE ENTRY' and lists corporate partners: ALMA, HOME CREDIT, mazars, and Getzlider Weiss. Social media icons for LinkedIn and Facebook are also present.

Further information will be updated on the CEEC website: <https://ceecvn.org/events/>
Please check our website regularly for upcoming interesting events

Adamed Pharma supports peoples in Ukraine

Thanks to our corporate member, Adamed Pharma, the hospitals in Ukraine, received medicines and medical materials worth almost one million euros.



CarePlus Charity Walk

On January 8, 2022, the #17th #Lawrence S. Ting #Charity_Walk program named Sharing Footsteps took place successfully at Crescent Lake area, Phu My Hung, District 7.

This is a meaningful activity that raises funds to support the poor every Spring. It is also an opportunity for CarePlus employees to enhance physical health and promote community-oriented spirit.

As a Medical Support unit also funder, CarePlus happily contributes to the community by sharing difficult circumstances and raising citizens' physical health.

