



FORTY YEARS

OF CONNECTING PEOPLE

Creating Partnerships and Driving Business

OUR FOUNDATION

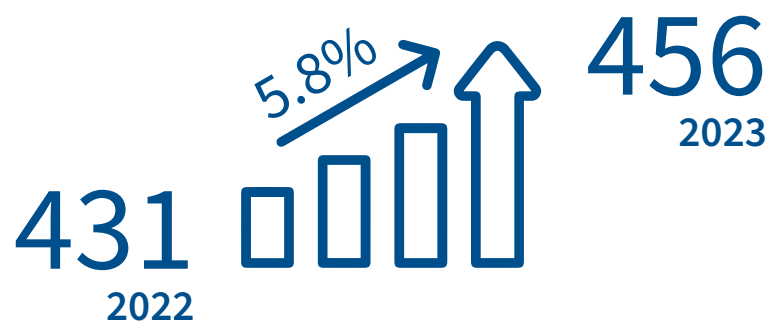
German companies have established a strong presence in Hong Kong over the past 160 years. Today, the city is home to around 500 German businesses, which include subsidiaries and branch offices of companies headquartered in Germany as well as locally established entities under German ownership. Nearly 100 German companies use Hong Kong as a regional headquarters location, managing business and supply chain operations across the entire Asia-Pacific region.

The history of the German Chamber of Commerce (GCC), Hong Kong dates back to the early 1980s. What began as an informal luncheon group of six businesspeople, quickly grew into a community of almost 200 individuals. Recognising the need

for a unified voice for the German community, six businessmen, two bankers, a lawyer, and the then Consul General of Germany eventually took the initiative in October 1983 to establish the German Business Association (GBA) with 128 registered members.

In 1987, the membership organisation took the next step forward by partnering with the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce (GIC), gaining additional resources and paving the way for continued growth throughout the following decade. In 1999, the organisation changed its name to GCC. Nowadays, GCC is one of the largest European chamber organisations in Hong Kong with over 450 members.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT 2022–2023



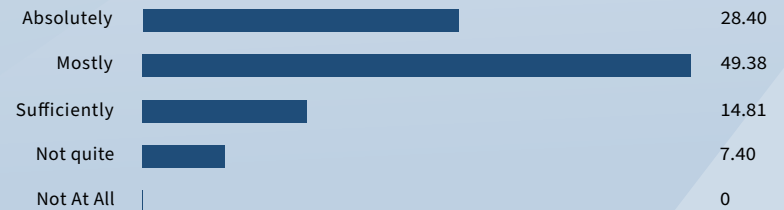
MEMBERSHIP SATISFACTION SURVEY

In June 2023, we conducted a Membership Satisfaction Survey to gather feedback from our members regarding their overall membership experience and potential ways to further improve our services. Overall, we seem to be on track: Half of our respondents found their experience had ‘improved’ or ‘much improved’ over the past 12 months and as many as 80% felt their expectations had been ‘mostly’ or ‘absolutely’ met.

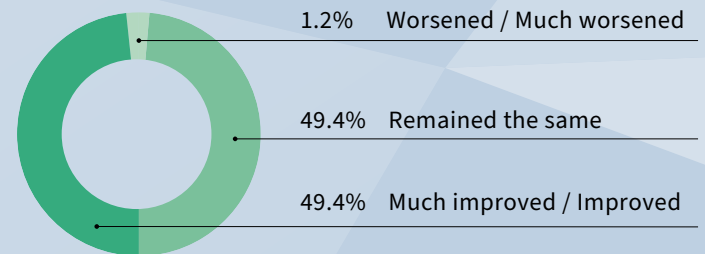
At the same time, we also received valuable suggestions which are going to help us further refine our offers to members—from information services to event formats to committee work—in the coming year. And we got started already: This summer, we introduced **What’s up @ AHK**, our weekly digest of upcoming events sent each Monday to reduce our overall number of event-related mailings.

Another significant communication development this year has been the introduction of our joint **GIC/GCC Instagram account**: Follow us (@ahk_hongkong) on this exciting new channel for even more creative, engaging, and exclusive content from us!

Does your GCC membership experience meet your overall expectations?



Over the past 12 months, my membership experience has ...



#GCCHK

Exclusive to Members



MEMBER BENEFITS PROGRAMME

Our Member Benefits Programme is exclusively designed for members of GCC, providing a platform for our participating Benefit Partners to offer special discounts on their products or services to fellow members

WHY BECOME A BENEFIT PARTNER?

- Marketing opportunity to promote own products/services.
- Higher visibility and greater exposure within the German business community in Hong Kong
- Easy access to over 400 members and new business opportunities
- Free of charge service for GCC members

HOW TO BECOME A BENEFIT PARTNER

Scan the QR code for more information or contact us at 2526 5481.



Premium Partners 2023–2024



The Backbone of Our Chamber

INTRODUCING THE GCC COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS,
THE CORE OF OUR MEMBER ENGAGEMENT AND LOBBYING EFFORTS.



SOURCING

The Sourcing Committee went ‘back to the roots’ in 2022–2023: Meetings were once again held at alternating member locations, a tradition that had been on pause during the pandemic. The Committee met on five occasions during the reporting period, facilitating insightful discussions on current topics such as the market trends in Europe, the future of Hong Kong as a sourcing hub, and diversification opportunities in Vietnam. In June 2023, ahead of the 134th iteration of China’s oldest and largest trade show in Guangzhou, the Committee Chairs met with the Permanent Representative of the Canton Fair Hong Kong Office to touch base and explore potential co-operation opportunities, especially with regards to promoting understanding and collaboration between sourcing companies and their Chinese suppliers.

Chaired by
Markus Hasse-Pratje
Managing Director
REWE Far East Ltd

Filippo Monti
Managing Director
TGI Technology Ltd

LOGISTICS

The Logistics Committee provides a regular platform for our members in the cargo business to exchange views on relevant topics, such as industry developments, technology advancements and expansion of logistics infrastructure in Hong Kong and the Greater Bay Area. In 2022–2023, the Logistics Committee continuously engaged with important stakeholders through discussion formats, as well as two exclusive site visits to the Asia Airfreight Terminal at Hong Kong International Airport as well as port operator Modern Terminals. A special highlight was the hybrid seminar ‘Green Logistics Solutions from Germany’ in conjunction with the traditional Port of Hamburg Evening Reception during the Hong Kong Maritime Week 2022, which was attended by Lam Sai-hung, Secretary for Transport and Logistics, and many other high-level industry stakeholders.

Chaired by
Roman Hofmann
Head of Contract Logistics APAC
Dachser Hong Kong Ltd

Eric Reuter
Vice President Asia & Managing Director
Forto HK Ltd



CFO

The CFO Committee, in 2022–2023, expanded its scope into areas beyond the traditional CFO role. The committee convened for a total of five meetings, each held at different member locations, addressing such topics as; CFO Function in Hong Kong, Digital Currencies and Cryptocurrencies, Updates on China Opening Up and the General Business Environment, Cracking the GBA Market, and the most popular discussion centred on Artificial Intelligence (AI). The CFO Committee had the pleasure of welcoming Joon Nak Choi from The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology to speak on ChatGPT & Beyond: The Promise & Perils of Generative AI. In particular, discussions followed on how AI may assist CFOs and what the future finance department may look like.

Chaired by:
Hauke Otten
COO
STARTEAM Global Ltd

Bing Yan
Head of Asia LGBS
Lufthansa Group

MITTELSTAND

The SME Committee, also known as the Mittelstand Committee, convened for six meetings to address crucial topics that are of particular relevance to small and medium-sized businesses. These meetings delved into a range of issues, such as ensuring compliance with the German Supply Chain Due Diligence Act and exploring the practicality of decoupling from China for small businesses. Additionally, the Committee focused on shedding light on the various SME support schemes provided by the HKSAR government through InvestHK and the HKPC. By fostering further exchanges with industry experts and facilitating member discussions, the Committee played a vital role in providing valuable insights, guidance, and support to small and medium-sized companies as they navigate the challenges presented by an ever-changing business landscape.

Chaired by:
Stefan Kracht
Partner & Group Integration Director
Acclime

Stefan Klindwort
Managing Director
KK Food Trading Co. Ltd

The Backbone of Our Chamber

GOING OPERATIONAL

In order to effectively address shared business challenges of our members and develop practical solutions, we introduced two new Working Groups in 2023. Going forward, these groups will not only be instrumental to GCC's continuous lobbying work by defining joint positions on important issues, but also help to connect our members even more closely with local stakeholders as well as with each other.

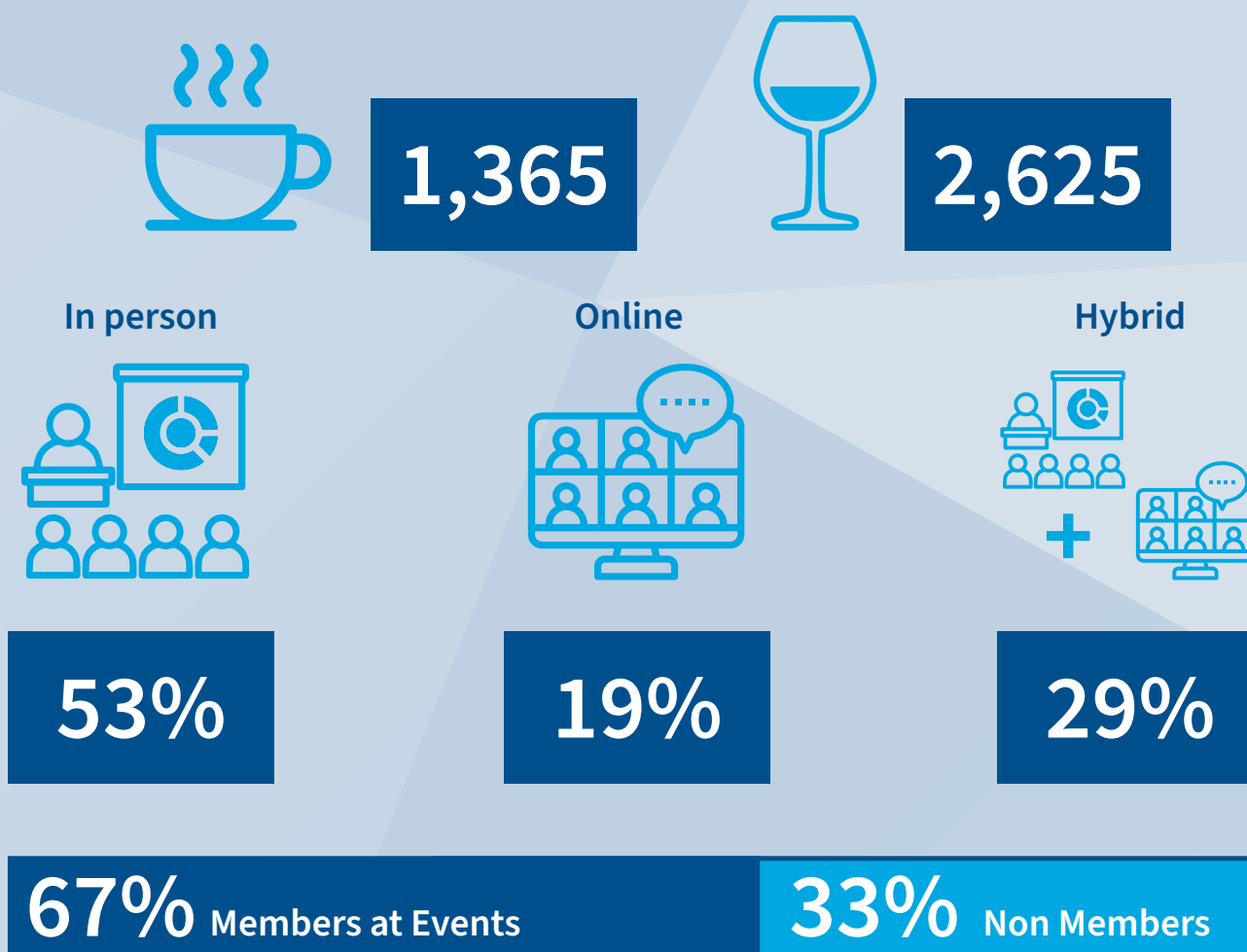
The **HR Working Group** was established to put a focus on strengthening co-operation between German employers and local universities in Hong Kong. Driven by the HR professionals in our member companies, particularly in the sourcing industry, the Working Group was preceded by a joint Career Fair Initiative, which saw GCC and a group of members participate in The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Careers Fair in March 2023.

Meanwhile, the **Sustainability Working Group** brings together sustainability and ESG leads from our member companies with an immediate focus on developing a joint approach to effectively communicate existing and forthcoming supply chain due diligence requirements in the area of environmental protection to factories in China.



Events

As early 2023 finally saw the end of all social distancing measures in Hong Kong, GCC gradually returned to its in-person events in both business and networking formats. In 2022–2023, GCC organised or co-organised 58 events, serving 1,365 cups of coffee at business events, and 2,625 glasses of wine at our numerous networking events.



Events

This membership year also marked the revamp of our popular **GCNetwork** series, as we started to host our monthly networking events at changing member venues. In its new format, the series not only creates an exciting opportunity for our hosting members to showcase themselves, but also gives other members access and insights into exclusive environments, from office premises to showrooms. We extend our gratitude to all members who have supported this new initiative so far! If you are interested in becoming our next GCNetwork host, contact our event department.

Our joint chamber events continued uninterrupted throughout the pandemic, offering a continuous platform for networking among members of the German and international chamber community. Building this successful track record, we organised our first D-A-CH event this year, bringing together members of the German (D), Austrian (A), and Swiss (CH) chambers. Fittingly, the kick-off networking was held at the German Swiss International School in March 2023 and was met with enthusiasm by over 120 attendees.



THE DO ASIA

W HONG KONG

WHub

GermanHub™

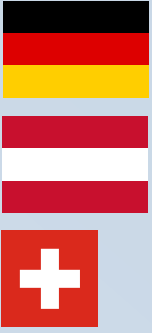
Biergarten Hong Kong
German Bar & Restaurant
SINCE 1984



HUMAN RESOURCES

17 MAY 2023 | **DIRAGIR Ltd**
Workshop: Retain and Motivate
Employees by Understanding
Personalities at Work

Murielle Gardret, Managing Director &
ICF Master Coach, DIRAGIR Ltd



Another highlight this past year was our first luncheon event in co-operation with the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce in December 2022, highlighting the manifold business opportunities of the Northern Metropolis development in Hong Kong. We are proud of the diverse range of events we have organised throughout the year, providing valuable networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities for our members and partners.

The full list of our 2022–2023 events is presented overleaf. For more insights to each of these events and our upcoming one:





FINANCE / TAX

25 AUG 2022 | **KPMG China**

Webinar: Hong Kong's Proposed Foreign Source Income Exemption (FSIE) Regime

John Timpany, Head of Tax, Hong Kong, KPMG China

Anita Tsang, Director, Tax Policy, KPMG China

22 FEB 2023 | **HSBC, S&P Global Sustainable1 and KTM**

Hybrid Seminar: Sustainable Supply Chain Finance

Anna Chu, Managing Director, Head of International Subsidiary Banking, Commercial Banking, Hong Kong, HSBC

Michael Schleef, Head of Commercial Banking Germany, HSBC

Aditya Gahlaut, Managing Director and Co-Head of Global Trade and Receivables Finance, Asia Pacific HSBC

Rong Yu, Head of Greater China ESG Solutions, S&P Global Sustainable1

Christoph Brennsteiner, Head of Treasury & Accounts Receivables, Finance, KTM

BUSINESS / TRADE

26 OCT 2022 | **KNO Global**

Hybrid Seminar: Worker Engagement in Supply Chains

Marianne Hughes, Founder and CEO, KNO Global

17 JAN 2023 | **Ravenscroft & Schmierer Solicitors Notaries Rechtsanwälte and Consulting Service International Ltd**

Hybrid Seminar: German Due Diligence Supply Chain Law—Latest Updates and Current Enforcement

Stefan Schmierer, Managing Partner, Ravenscroft & Schmierer Solicitors Notaries Rechtsanwälte

Karl Borgschulze, Managing Director, Consulting Service International Ltd

1 MAR 2023 | **TÜV SÜD and amfori**

Hybrid Lunch Seminar: Improving Your Global Supply Chain's Quality Management Capability

Richard Huang, Section Manager, CSR & Sustainability, TÜV SÜD China Holding Ltd

Joyce Chau, amfori Director Asia Pacific, amfori

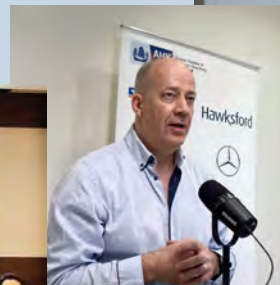
11 MAY 2023 | **Rödl & Partner**

Hybrid Lunch Seminar: De-Risking Your Supply Chain: Diversification Opportunities in ASEAN

Priya Selvanathan, Head of Tax & Transfer Pricing – ASEAN, Associate Partner, Licensed Tax Agent (Malaysia), Rödl & Partner

Dr Paul Weingarten, Head of Office Singapore, Partner, Foreign Registered Lawyer (Singapore), Rödl & Partner

Lutz Koch, Head of Office Hanoi, Associate Partner, Foreign Registered Lawyer (Vietnam) Rödl & Partner



CHINA / HONG KONG UPDATE

7 JUL 2022 | **Dezan Shira & Associates Ltd**
Webinar: RCEP: Opportunities for Hong Kong and the GBA

Guilherme Campos, Manager South China and Hong Kong Office, Dezan Shira & Associates Ltd

13 OCT 2022 | **Roland Berger**
Hybrid Seminar: The New China Story: Short-term Instability, Long-term Strength?

Denis Depoux, Global Managing Director, Roland Berger, Shanghai

Laurent Doucet, Partner, Roland Berger Hong Kong Ltd

15 DEC 2022 | Co-organised with **The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce**
Luncheon: The Opportunities of the Northern Metropolis in Hong Kong

Dr Steven Wong, Senior Vice President & Executive Director of Public Policy Institute, Our Hong Kong Foundation

Ryan Ip, Research Director and Head of Land and Housing Research, Our Hong Kong Foundation

SUSTAINABILITY / ENVIRONMENT

23 AUG 2022 | **Circular Silicon Ltd**
Hybrid Seminar: Why Silicon Recycling is Critical for a Circular Economy

Dr Jan-Philipp Mai, Founder & CEO, Circular Silicon Ltd

Alex Ubl, Director, Circular Silicon Ltd

AGM

23 NOV 2022 |
GCC Annual General Meeting and Briefing: Leading Change with Business Agility

Johannes Hack, President, GCC

Hannes Farlock, Delegate & Chief Representative, GIC

DIGITAL BUSINESS

6 OCT 2022 | **Ravenscroft & Schmierer Solicitors Notaries Rechtsanwalte and Evident**
Hybrid Seminar: Virtual Assets—Navigating the Regulatory Landscape in Hong Kong

Louie Lee, Consultant, Ravenscroft & Schmierer
Jan-Patrik Reimann, Head of Finance and

Compliance, Ravenscroft & Schmierer Solicitors Notaries Rechtsanwalte
Florian Spiegl, Founder, Evident

19 APR 2023 | **NanoMatriX Technologies Ltd**
Webinar: Discover the Benefits of AR for Online Sellers—Exploring Innovative Ways to Maximise Your Business Profits with AR Technology

Alfons Futterer, Managing Director, NanoMatriX Technologies Ltd

20 APR 2023 | **TUV SUD**
Hybrid Seminar: Cybersecurity of Wireless Devices in the EU: What Companies Need to Know

Maxime Hernandez, IoT Cybersecurity Expert & Lead Process Engineer, TUV SUD

31 MAY 2023 | **Jointly organised with Belgium-Luxembourg and Dutch Chambers**
Panel Discussion: How to Build a Brand People Talk About

Diego Dultzin Lacoste, Co-Founder, On The List
Carla Martinesi, CEO & Co-Founder, Chomp
Anushka Purohit, CEO & Co-Founder, Breer
Anne De Roulhac, Head of French Desk, Fidinam

Events

GCC

24

Events



LOGISTICS / TRAVEL

24 NOV 2022 | **Port of Hamburg Marketing Hybrid Seminar: Green Logistics Solutions from Germany & Port of Hamburg Evening Reception**

Sai-hung Lam GBS JP, Secretary for Transport and Logistics, Government of Hong Kong

Johannes Hack, President, GCC

Stefanie Seedig, Consul General, Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany

Angela Titzrath, Chairwoman of the Executive Board, Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG (HHLA)

Axel Mattern, CEO, Port of Hamburg Marketing

Anne Thiesen, Representative Hong Kong South China and Southeast Asia, Port of Hamburg Marketing

Lars Anke, Chief Representative Asia Hamburger Hafen und Logistik AG

Xiang Chen, CEO, OOCL Logistics Ltd

Soeren Hoessermann, Managing Director Nordic Hamburg Shipmanagement (HK) Ltd

Sebastian Stamer, Head of Airfreight – Asia Pacific Forto (HK) Ltd

Parash Jain, Global Head of Shipping and Ports Equity Research / Head of Transport Research Asia Pacific, HSBC

Benjamin Wong, Head of Transport, Infrastructure and Advanced Manufacturing, Invest Hong Kong

30 SEP 2022 | **Lufthansa Group**

Webinar: Ready to Fly—Latest Update on Air Travel Between Hong Kong and Germany

Christoph Meyer, General Manager Hong Kong South China & Macau, Lufthansa Group

Mona Chow, Station Manager, Station HKG Lufthansa Group

21 JUN 2023 | **Swiss International Air Lines D-A-CH Chambers Luncheon: Swiss International Air Lines After The Restart—What's Next?**

Mark Ansems, Head of Operations Steering, Swiss International Air Lines

Beat Christen, Emergency Director, Swiss International Air Lines

Frédéric Rolli, Executive Director, Head of Swiss Corporate Clients, Asia Pacific, UBS AG Hong Kong Branch



CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

24 SEP 2022 | **One World Spirit Association Ltd**
Dragon Boat Day

22 OCT 2022 | **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra**
Behind the Scenes with Hong Kong Philharmonic
Orchestra—An Alpine Symphony in Images Concert

CULINARY AND TASTING EVENTS

6 JUL 2022 | Tiffany's New York Bar,
InterContinental Grand Stanford Hong Kong
Whisky Tasting Experience—Fourth Edition

Tom Wood, Division Manager – Spirits, Northeast
Wines & Spirits

12 MAY 2023 | Nicholini's, Conrad Hong Kong
German White Asparagus Wine Dinner

GCNETWORK

21 JUL 2022 | GCNetwork @ Biergarten German Bar
& Restaurant

31 AUG 2022 | GCNetwork @ Grappa's Cellar
Causeway Bay

29 SEP 2022 | GCNetwork @ BMW iSpace

27 OCT 2022 | GCNetwork @ Jepsen Group

25 NOV 2022 | GCNetwork Special Edition @
Mercedes-Benz's BAM Festival

12 JAN 2023 | GCNetwork @ WOOBAR,
W Hong Kong

21 FEB 2023 | GCNetwork & Exclusive Book Reading
@ The DO Asia

25 APR 2023 | GCNetwork @ WHub

30 MAY 2023 | GCNetwork Special Edition @
GermanHub™

20 JUN 2023 | GCNetwork @ BMW iSpace



TOURS, MEETINGS AND VISITS BY BOARD OF DIRECTOR/S

4 JAN 2023 | GCC @ International Business meeting

19–26 MAR 2023 | GCC @ Grand Tour GBA: Exploring New Opportunities in the Greater Bay Area - Shenzhen, Dongguan, Guangzhou and Zhuhai, with Liu Guangyuan, Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, and Secretary Algernon Yau

24 APR 2023 | GCC @ International Business meeting

11 MAY 2023 | GCC @ AHKWeltkonferenz 2023, hosted by the DIHK. GCC President Johannes Hack, Vice President Markus Hasse-Pratje, and fellow Board Members Karena Belin and Claus Schuermann

29 MAY 2023 | GCC @ Q&A session, initiated by the Hon. Paul MP Chan, for members of the IBC on the ongoing topic of cross-border payment operations.

24–30 JUN 2023 | GCC @ Central and Western China, Tour with Liu Guangyuan, Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China

INTERCHAM EVENTS

InterCham is an alliance of all 28 international chambers of commerce in Hong Kong. It acts as an event working group and aims to raise funds for its InterCham Scholarship Fund, a programme designed to sponsor underprivileged university students in Hong Kong.

9 NOV 2022 | POST POLICY ADDRESS | HYBRID LUNCHEON

The Hon. John KC Lee, the Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

16 MAR 2023 | POST BUDGET ADDRESS | HYBRID LUNCHEON

The Hon. Paul MP Chan, Financial Secretary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

JOINT CHAMBER COCKTAILS / DINNERS

28 SEP 2022 | The Ballroom, The Mira Hong Kong
17th InterCham Connecting People Cocktail

13 OCT 2022 | Centenary, Marco Polo Hongkong Hotel

Joint Chamber Networking Dinner: Economic Outlook in the GBA

2 FEB 2023 | Grand Ballroom, New World Millennium Hong Kong Hotel

Joint Chamber CNY Networking Cocktail

30 MAR 2023 | German Swiss International School
D-A-CH Networking Cocktail @ GSIS

27 APR 2023 | Centenary, Marco Polo Hongkong Hotel

18th InterCham Connecting People Cocktail

JOINT CHAMBER EVENT SERIES

Financial Wellness for Women Series | Australian Chamber

1 SEP 2022 | 1/5: Launch and Focus on Equities (Hybrid Seminar)

15 SEP 2022 | 2/5: Fixed Income (Webinar)

29 SEP 2022 | 3/5: Real Estate (Webinar)

18 OCT 2022 | 4/5: Cryptocurrency (Webinar)

27 OCT 2022 | 5/5: Panel Featuring Experienced Female Investors & Closing Party (Panel Discussion)

Metaverse Webinar Series | Finnish Chamber

27 APR 2023 | Industrial Metaverse: Opportunities and Challenges

11 MAY 2023 | Future of Consumer Metaverse

JOINT CHAMBER EVENTS

2 SEP 2022 | American Chamber
Seminar: CSR Plan in COVID—How Can We Support the Shortfall of Blood Donations?

2 SEP 2022 | American Chamber
Blood Drive: Partnership with Children's Thalassemia Foundation

24 AUG 2022 | GCC in China
Webinar: Labour Market and Salary Development 2022/2023: Presentation of the GCC Greater China's 15th Annual Salary Survey Results

21 OCT 2022 | Dutch Chamber
China Dinner Seminar: Reshaping the Future With China

17 NOV 2022 | French Chamber
Made in Asia Symposium 2022: Decarbonisation in Supply Chains

29 NOV 2022 | British Chamber
Webinar: Hong Kong's New Foreign-sourced Income Exemption (FSIE) Regime

19 MAY 2023 | Dutch Chamber
Lunch Seminar: Energy Reduction: Reducing Electricity Usage and Carbon Footprint in Existing Buildings

1 JUN 2023 | Dutch Chamber
Hybrid Seminar: ESG Reporting: From Desire to Reality

14 JUN 2023 | Dutch Chamber
Lunch Seminar: Economic Outlook China

27 JUN 2023 | Dutch Chamber
Lunch Seminar: Travelling in the Greater Bay Area (GBA): Practical Guide on Tools and Cross-Border Payments

German Chamber Christmas Party

8 DEC 2022 | HONG KONG COUNTRY CLUB | DEEPWATER BAY, HONG KONG



Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Join Us!

Benefit From Joining the German Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong

GCC offers members an international network, promotional platform, business and trade fair services, training, and recruitment, as well as assistance with legal information and VAT refunds, dispute resolution, and corporate social responsibility.

As a member you will receive complimentary and ...

- **Exposure**
Company / Personal profile listing in the digital membership directory. New member introductions and reporting in GCsunmun newsletter, social media, and the website. Further your exposure by presenting your company's services and facilities to members through GCC events
- **Publicity**
Through GCsunmun, GIC/GCC Annual Report, GCC LinkedIn, GIC/GCC Twitter, and the GIC/GCC Website
- **Marketing**
Promotional opportunities using the chamber's corporate promotion service (corporate members only) and the Member Benefits Programme
- **Information**
Subscriptions to GIC/GCC's numerous media
- **ESTABLISH**
Business contacts with the German, local and international business communities through events and delegations
- **BE REPRESENTED**
GCC represents its members' interests by keeping in close contact with important government bodies, and participating in international & local business committees
- **COMMUNICATE**
with influential speakers and government policymakers and exchange ideas / information / support with other members
- **JOIN**
Relevant topical chamber committees and events to acquire the latest business trends / opinions, and gain a competitive edge
- **ADDED VALUE**
Special offers and services exclusively provided to members
- **PREFERENTIAL RATES**
for GIC/GCC products, services, and various sponsorship opportunities

German Chamber—Your Business Advantage

A German Chamber membership will be one of your best business assets if you want to do business in Hong Kong, Germany, and Greater China. Whatever your business needs – GCC can help. Through the global partnership with the German Chambers of Commerce Abroad (AHKs), which is officially mandated to promote trade and investment between Germany and its host countries, GCC members have unique and privileged access to a range of services, contacts, and resources that go far beyond the scope of a typical international chamber in Hong Kong.