

No images? [Click here](#)



## WEEKLY UPDATE

Dear members and friends,

The COP26 leaders summit last week resulted in some significant pledges to halt deforestation, methane emissions and increase investments in renewable energy. The commitments have been both welcomed and criticised in equal measure, and negotiations are ongoing around issues such as carbon markets and the support to poorer countries from developed nations for energy transition and disaster management. Closer to home, with China absent from the summit, and Australia's reluctance to join pledges to phase out the use of coal power, the summit may just be another step on the road to true net zero. Washington Post has a good update on the 'washout' of COP [here](#), with [The Guardian](#) giving some analysis on Australia's performance.

Also last week, the RBA released its economic outlook on 4 November predicting a sustainable global recovery from the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, with Australia's GDP projected to grow by around 3 per cent over 2021 and around 5½ per cent over 2022. Domestic savings increased, consumption is rebounding and investment in residential and non-residential real estate and construction are strong though threatened by potential shortages of materials and labour. The full reports and detailed analysis is available [here](#).

We are also seeing news start to come forward about the state of negotiations on the boundary with China for Hong Kong residents, with [reports](#) of an early 2022 reopening for Greater Bay Area. Moves were also announced on the roll out of booster shots and the more employers introducing vaccine mandates, with HSBC the latest to issue a direction.

Last Tuesday over lunch around 160 guests did what Australians all around the world were doing – pausing to watch The Cup. Guests at AustCham's ANZ Melbourne Cup Lunch enjoyed a unique high-level networking and business development opportunity with the Australian – Hong Kong business community. In addition, guests raised more than \$18,000 for AustCham's Charity Partner [The Fred Hollows Foundation](#)! This donation will support the Fred Hollows Foundation's priority to strengthen health systems and work

with communities to improve their own eye health. Thank you to everyone for a fantastic event, especially our Title Sponsor ANZ and Corporate Sponsor Madison Pacific Trust.

This week we welcome our UoW Mentor Programme pairs back for a session on Future Skills and The Future of Work, with two expert speakers sharing their insights on disruption, technology, adaptation and resilience. Followed shortly after AustCham will hold an event from the Construction, Property and Infrastructure Committee - [Built to Last](#): Championing Gender Equality and Diversity in the Built Environment. The interest in the event showcases how important this issue is for the sector and we thank our Platinum Sponsor: Leighton Asia; Gold Sponsors: Colliers, Arcadis, Turner & Townsend, MTR Corporation Silver Sponsor: JEB Group; and Networking Partner: LinkREIT as well as Knowledge Partner: KPMG and Media Partner: SCMP Events for their support.

Christmas is just over six weeks away and I'm pleased to announce tickets are now available for AustCham's [Christmas Mix](#) on December 2. Proudly supported by Platinum Sponsor Jason Lam Finance and Gold Sponsors OCBC Wing Hang and Oreana Financial Services we can't wait to kick off the holiday season with you. With limited capacity I encourage you to get in quick!

Finally, our friends at Advance have invited our members to participate in the 2021 Advance Global Australian [Survey](#), providing an opportunity to share your experience around the impact of border closures and to show the pipeline of talent overseas and returning to Australia. AustCham will receive a summary of insights from Hong Kong so please do join in - I'm told it will take around 10 minutes to complete.

Wishing you a productive and meaningful week,

**Stefanie Evennett**

Chief Executive

AustCham Hong Kong

## COMMITTEES SPOTLIGHT

### Looking Back

The People's Forum committee met to discuss plans for a content series on hybrid working. The group heard from guest

presenter, Mel Egan, Senior HR Consultant for Telstra. Mel spoke about key findings from published research carried out by Telstra examining a range of hybrid working strategies being employed by companies in Australia. It is clear hybrid work is here to stay, and the transition to hybrid work is more than just a logistical challenge. It should also prompt leaders to reassess their systems and processes and understand how to build and sustain a healthy hybrid workplace culture. If you would like to learn more, here is the link to the full public report: [Telstra Hybrid Working Report 2021](#)

CPI met to hear from guest speaker, Axel Kurschat, Director for KPMG who presented on KPMG's Global Construction Survey for 2021. One very interesting result from the survey to mention, is that companies with higher diversity can outperform their peers. This strongly supports the business case for diversity in the construction sector, which AustCham is very proud to present an event focusing on championing women across the Build Environment coming this Thursday, 11 November.

The Small Business Network met and debriefed on their last session about social media and their joint industry networking event with the Food and Beverage committee – both of which, were a roaring success! During their session, they discussed a growing challenge regarding the continued quarantine rules in place and the impact this is having on business continuity plans and the lack of insurance coverage regarding the impact that Covid-19 for small business. An unfortunate reality for SME's, however, the Australians on the committee celebrated a positive development: Australia's international borders are open again!

Finally, the Women in Business Network is thrilled to welcome Corporate Sponsor Macquarie Services Limited Hong Kong. Thank you to Macquarie for their support of this important network for AustCham Hong Kong.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

**TUES 9 NOV | 12.30pm-1.30pm | Finance, Legal and Tax Committee Meeting**

**WED 10 NOV | 12.30pm-1.30pm | Sustainability & Innovation Committee Meeting**

**WED 10 NOV | 5.00pm-6.00pm | Greater Bay Area  
Committee Meeting**

**THURS 11 NOV | 5.00pm-6.00pm | Food, Beverage and  
Hospitality Committee Meeting**

The Chamber has active volunteer committees providing members with access to a network of industry peers, senior government and business decision makers, industry insights and briefings. Committees provide the opportunity to shape the public voice of the Chamber on business issues, and develop sector-specific events and activities. Committees meet regularly, typically monthly.

Membership of a Committee maximises the value of your AustCham membership. If you would like to be involved in a committee, please contact [Chloe Taylor](#).

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

##### **AustCham Events:**

**THURS 11 NOV | IN-PERSON | [Built to Last: Championing Gender Equality and Diversity in the Built Environment](#)**

**THURS 2 DEC | IN-PERSON | [Christmas Mix](#)**

##### **Training & Professional Development:**

**OCT 2021 - SEPT 2022 | WEBINAR | [ASFIMA Training Series Season 2: Asia Financial Markets Explained](#)**

##### **Supported Events:**

**THUR 18 NOV | WEBINAR | [Australian Property Market Update with CoreLogic's Head of Research Tim Lawless](#)**

#### AUSTCHAM EVENT INFORMATION



## Christmas Mix

**THU 2 DEC | IN-PERSON | 6.00pm - 9.00pm**

Bring your holiday spirit to our Christmas Mix on Thursday the 2nd of December at the Grand Hyatt – Pool House.

Join us for an evening full of high-quality in-person networking with the AustCham community. Be ready plenty of entertainment, delicious canapes and free flow drinks to toast the year that was.

Every attendee will receive gift bags filled with lovely surprises and will have the chance to win one of ten Lucky Draw prizes valued at more than \$35,000 HKD.

Our Christmas Mix is also a great opportunity to support some of Hong Kong's children in need with our annual Giving Tree, so please bring along gifts to donate children supported by our CSR partner, The Hub.

Don't miss out on our favourite festive networking event! Sponsorship and group ticketing packages are available now [here](#). Individual ticket sales will open in November.

**REGISTER HERE**

## TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT EVENT INFORMATION



## **ASFIMA Training Series Season 2: Asia Financial Markets Explained**

**OCT 2021 - SEPT 2022 | WEBINAR | 6.30pm- 8.30pm HKT**

Following the highly successful [pilot ASIFMA Training Series](#) with more than 450 registrants from over 90 firms and supported by 17 Partner Organisations, we are excited to bring to you our Training Series **Season 2!**

- Series of monthly interactive training sessions on key emerging topics relevant to the Asian financial industry
- Delivered by expert trainers from our network of leading Financial Institutions. Participants will be confident they are learning from a source accredited by the industry
- Aimed at getting junior and intermediate professionals up to speed on emerging areas in financial markets within Asia.

### **Monthly Training Session Format:**

- Interactive virtual live training session of 60-90 mins in English
- Introduction to the topic in a dynamic format, including use of polling, Q&A and surveys
- Exclusive access to an online repository containing educational resources for each topic, including session presentation provided by the trainers, background materials and videos on-demand

### **Topics, Schedule:**

The first monthly session on Sustainable Finance/ESG in Asia will be held on **Tuesday 26 October 2021**. The full list of topics is as follows. (Note these are subject to change if more relevant topics emerge over the year).

- Sustainable Finance/ESG in Asia (*26 Oct 2021, 12pm-1:15pm HKT*)

**To enjoy a member discount, please select 'Non-members' category and enter Discount Code : 'AUSTCHAM'.**

**REGISTER HERE**

## SUPPORTED EVENT INFORMATION



### **Australian Property Market Update with CoreLogic's Head of Research Tim Lawless**

**THU NOV 18 | WEBINAR | 7.00pm - 8.30pm**

Join us for our first session of our "Get It Done" series, where JL Finance will provide you with the tools and information over the next few months to achieve your Australian dreams.

No better way to kick things off than a night of insight into the always hot Australian property market from the largest provider of property information, analytics and property-related risk management services in Australia and New Zealand. We are so excited and absolutely honoured to have Tim Lawless the Head of Research from CoreLogic® joining us from Australia as our very special guest speaker. Jason Lam, the Principal and Mortgage Adviser, of Jason Lam Finance will be hosting the session and be on hand to provide answers to the tough lending questions.

Without a doubt, the Australian property and lending market is going through unprecedented times leaving many wondering, what's next? Our market update will uncover and shed light on all the questions you may have regarding Australia's residential and what to expect in the coming months leading up to 2022 and beyond.

**A SURPRISE GIVEAWAY:** We have specially arranged an once in a lifetime experience for a lucky attendee and their plus one to join us at an exclusive event that will be held at a world class hotel in TST and to test drive a luxury vehicle on the streets of TST. More to be revealed on the night.

**Register Now!**



Forward

AustCham respects your privacy. Your email will never be shared with a third party without your consent. View our [Privacy Policy](#).

**You are subscribed to the AustCham WEEKLY FLYER list.**  
**Unsubscribing below will remove you from ALL AustCham mailing lists.**  
Instead, [UPDATE YOUR EMAIL PREFERENCES](#) below.

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)