

Horasis Asia Meeting

3-4 December 2023, Binh Duong, Vietnam

a Horasis leadership event

Co-hosts:

Binh Duong Province

Becamex IDC Corp.

Report



Inspiring our future

© Horasis

2023 – All rights reserved

The statements quoted in the publication do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of Horasis.
No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means.

Upcoming Horasis events:

Horasis China Meeting Binh Duong, Vietnam, 14-15 April 2024

Horasis is a global visions community dedicated to inspire our future. (www.horasis.org)

Horasis Asia Meeting

3–4 December 2023, Bình Duong Convention and Exhibition Center, Hoa Phu, Thu Dau Mot, Bình Duong, Vietnam

a Horasis leadership event

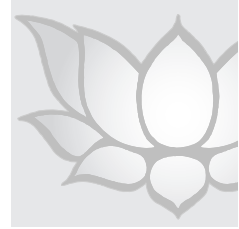
■ Co-hosts:

Binh Duong Province

Becamex IDC Corp.

■ Co-chairs:

Mai An	Co-founder and President, IMT Solutions, Vietnam
Claude Béglé	Chairman, SymbioSwiss, Switzerland
Lisa Botos	Founding Partner, MMBP Private Partners, Singapore
Can Van Luc	President, BIDV Training and Research Institute, Vietnam
Van Dang	Chief Executive Officer, Savvycom, Vietnam
Vinh Quang Dang	Senior Private Sector Specialist, The World Bank, Vietnam
Agnes VST Devanadera	President and CEO, Clark Development Corporation, The Philippines
Harry Hui	Founder and Managing Partner, ClearVue Partners, China
Yoshito Hori	Founder and Chairman, Globis, Japan
Colley Hwang	President & Chief Executive Officer, Digitimes, Taiwan, China
John Jung	Chairman and Co-founder, Intelligent Community Forum, Canada
Tadahiro Kawada	President, Kawada Technologies, Japan
Roger King	Founder and Chairman, ODS Holdings Inc., Hong Kong
Don Lam	Chief Executive Officer and Founding Partner, VinaCapital, Vietnam
Nguyen Quang Huan	Chairman, Halcom, Vietnam
Nguyen Van Hung	Group Executive Chairman, Becamex IDC, Vietnam
Ben Nelson	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Minerva Project, USA
Johan Nyvene	Chairman, Ho Chi Minh City Securities Corporation, Vietnam
Xiaoyin Qu	Chief Executive Officer, Run The World, USA
Quynh Anh	Managing Director, SwissEP, Vietnam
Murat Seitnepesov	Chairman, Integral Group, Switzerland
Yip Thy-Diep Ta	Founder, J3d.ai Labs, Germany
Charles Tang	President, Brazil China Chamber of Commerce, Brazil
Eddie Thai	General Partner, Ascend Vietnam Ventures, Vietnam
Wang Dong	Executive Director, Institute for Global Cooperation and Understanding (iGCU), Peking University, China
Wang Huiyao	Founder, Center for China and Globalization; Former Counselor, China State Council, China
Marjorie Yang	Chairman, Esquel Group, Hong Kong SAR
Michael Yeoh	President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific, Malaysia



Programme

Schedule 3-4 December 2023 (Vietnam Time)

Sunday, 3 December <i>Day one</i>	Monday, 4 December <i>Day two</i>	Tuesday, 5 December <i>Day three</i>
	07.30–08.45 Breakfast Sessions – Asian Impact Investing – Asian expectations of AI – Asian effects of single disruptions – Asian family-owned Businesses – Blockchains are developing	
8.00–13.30 Optional Workshop Agenda Setting using AI	09.00–09.45 Grand Opening ASEAN driving Asia forward	09.00–13.00 Sightseeing Meet in Hotel
	09.45–10.45 Plenary Asian economic outlook	
	10.45–11.00 Break	
	11.00–12.30 Dialogue Sessions – Developing organizational culture – Nurturing Asia’s tech talent – Supporting start-ups – Asian industrial policy – United in Diversity – Binh Duong: Intelligent Communities	
From 13.00 Registration	12.30–13.30 Lunch Networking Lunch	
	13.30–14.30 Plenary Asia & global economic transformation	
14.00–15.30 Update Sessions – Promoting development success – Nurturing Digitalization – Asian supply chain consolidation – Roadmaps for Asia’s energy transition – Empowerment of Asian women and girls – Asian Art	14.30–16.00 Dialogue Sessions – Managing Smart city development – Developing Asian infrastructures – Need for youth employment – Innovation clusters – Reality of robotization – Binh Duong: Innovation Forum	
15.30–16.30 Plenary Leading the Asian Renaissance	16.00–16.30 Break	
16.30–17.30 Plenary Addressing the climate emergency	16.30–18.00 Dialogue Sessions – Asian multi-national management – Asian entrepreneurs – Investment in ASEAN – Asian benefits of net-zero – ESG as a business game-changer	
17.30–18.30 Plenary Supporting Asian entrepreneurs		
18.30–19.20 Welcome Reception	18.00–19.00 Plenary Revitalizing Asian growth	
19.30–21.30 Dinner Vietnam’s development success	19.15–22.00 Closing Dinner Integrating Asia-wide policy decisions	



Binh Duong Convention & Exhibition Center – venue of the Horasis Asia Meeting



Horasis – ASEAN driving Asia forward



Virtual Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Meeting Summary

*By Frank-Jürgen Richter,
Chairman, Horasis, Switzerland*

The eighth Horasis Asia Meeting took place over 3-4th December in Bình Duong, Vietnam co-hosted by Binh Duong Province and Becamex IDC. The Horasis Asia Meeting has become the foremost annual meeting for Asia Pacific business leaders and their global counter-parts. The event offers businesses and government officials a platform to discuss a wide range of issues related to the economy. The meeting assembled over 600 delegates from government, businesses and civil society world-wide.



Huynh Thanh Dat, Minister of Science and Technology, Vietnam, speaking during the Grand Opening

The COVID pandemic has not ended and new variants are seen to evolve creating new outbreaks across the world, for instance, Pirola; but vaccine delivery is now well managed and pharmaceutical firms are searching for a cure. The pandemic's other legacy is unresolved as yet – how to pay for its disruption in direct costs and indirect costs which generally have resulted in much higher national debts. Further geopolitical faults has also led to sharply increasing costs on many nations, changes in resources distribution like food and fuels and logistics chains; and an increase in global uncertainty and stock-market volatility.

While the COVID epidemic forced a digital delivery mode in 2020 and 2021, the location of the meetings has rotated annually and has been held in Bangkok, Thailand (2016), Kolkata, India (2017) and Bình Duong New City, Vietnam (2018, 2019) and Kitakyushu, Japan (2022). Its focus remains upon Asia presenting a systemic view of activities affecting the drivers of Asia's economic success and how Asian businesses interact regionally and globally.

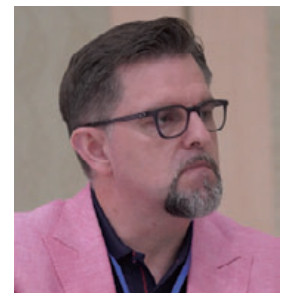
Looking ahead, delegates considered how Asian nations could work more closely with each other, to support developing nations



Richard Rekhy, Member of the Board, KPMG, UAE



Mai Hung Dung, Vice Chairman, Binh Duong Province, Vietnam



Michael Walsh, Secretary General, PBEC, Hong Kong



Arrival of Minister Huynh Thanh Dat



John Jung, Chairman and Co-founder, Intelligent Community Forum, Canada



Shin Ito, Chief Executive Officer, iKoyoo Inc., Japan

and to promote regional cooperations through APEC, ASEAN and so on. There was discussion about combatting climate change and to better resist its dire effects.

Welcoming the delegates **Huynh Thanh Dat**, Minister of Science and Technology, Vietnam briefed the guests on the socio-economic situation of the province, particularly its gross regional domestic product (GRDP) that increased by 8.29% in the first 10 months of this year compared to the same period last year. Based on the fact that Binh Duong is one of Vietnam's leading localities in terms of attracting foreign direct investment (FDI). As of December 2023, it had 4,076 investment projects from 65 countries and territories around the world with a total capital of over US\$ 39.6 billion. Japan had run 339 validated projects, valued at nearly US\$ 6 billion. Administratively we have found it is better to review, to quickly respond, and clearly instruct businesses how to process their applications, to limit processing time.



Alexander Wan, Advisor to Chairman, Pacific Century Group, Hong Kong

Intelligent Community of the Year. **John Jung**, Chairman and Co-founder, Intelligent Community Forum, Canada said that the initial results in the implementation of the smart city project have created a highlight and foundation for Binh Duong province to continue to make breakthroughs in the next period. In particular, building a smart city and participating in international organizations such as ICF have contributed to extensively promoting Binh Duong's image in the international arena. **Charles Tang**, President, Brazil China Chamber of Commerce, Brazil reminded the meeting that smart cities and how they are managed is not just top-down data collection and new policies, but a recognition people can really be at the center of this.



Veronica Shim, Founder, E-Alliance, Singapore

Vo Van Minh, Chairman, Binh Duong Province, highlighted the significance of this event, saying it will be an important international event in Binh Duong as the province has been recognized by the Intelligent Community Forum (ICF) as the



Nguyen Van Hung, Chairman, Becamex IDC, Vietnam



Mitesh Shah, Executive Director, MitKat Global Consulting, Singapore, chairing a panel



Charles Tang, President, Brazil China Chamber of Commerce, Brazil

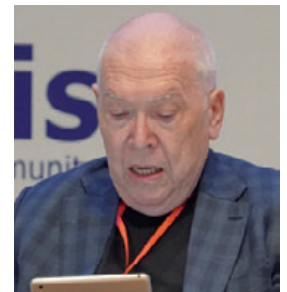


Vo Van Minh, Chairman, Binh Duong Province, Vietnam

Then, while discussing the Who and the How of the Asian Renaissance, **Roger King**, Founder and Chairman, ODS Holdings Inc., Hong Kong said ‘Time is short’ it will be worrying if global leaders procrastinate – there is too much to do. But there are no shortcuts – we must work hard. Short time to the clarity of execution was emphasized by China said **Ben Nelson**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Minerva Project, USA. ‘It was because of cooperation and an era of globalization that 800 million people in China were lifted out of poverty.’

Yet the capital of the region must be mobilized said **Vo Xuan Vinh**, Professor, Ho Chi Minh City University of Economics, Vietnam. Capital structure decisions are an important corporate behavior that draws

strong interest from different stakeholders who must be convinced to invest. This is more important in emerging markets due to their unique legal, cultural and institutional characteristics. **Mai An**, Co-founder and President, IMT Solutions, Vietnam agreed – the first criterion given by investors is whether they have confidence when deciding to invest in that locality or not? Does that place and time help them do business sustainably? A factor also agreed by **Mitesh Shah**, Executive Director, MitKat Global Consulting, Singapore ‘there are risks of financial problems such as companies losing revenue, losing market share, not meeting customers’ needs, losing reputation, leading to bankruptcy, eventually affecting the global economy.’ According to Mitesh Shah, when this situation occurs, businesses need to aim at the local market. Thus, summarized **Wang Huiyao**, Founder, Center for China and Globalization; Former Counselor, China State Council, China ‘Asia will be the next economic powerhouse in terms of growth.’ Despite the complex web of industrial policies, subsidies and commitments, particularly those by developed nations to their developing counterparts, the necessity for a collaborative approach to “de-risk” our planet is undeniable. It is incumbent on all nations to foster an environment conducive to finding



Richard David Hames, Founding Director, The Asian Foresight Institute, Thailand



Akira Osaka, Founder, Ignition, Japan



Wang Huiyao, Founder, Center for China and Globalization, China



Liu Hongchuan, Partner, Broad & Bright, China



Mai An, Co-founder and President, IMT Solutions, Vietnam



Roger King, Founder and Chairman, ODS Holdings Inc., Hong Kong



Nguyen Minh Vu, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam



Vo Xuan Vinh, Professor, Ho Chi Minh City University of Economics, Vietnam

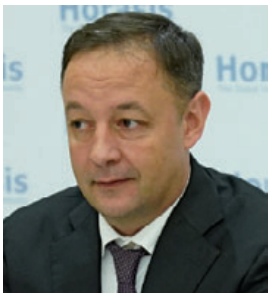
solutions to this universal menace. The plenary chair, **Richard David Hames**, Founding Director, The Asian Foresight Institute, Thailand stated there must be a coherent view. There must be strategically relevant yet viable ‘whole system’ solutions for business and government in today’s society.



Claire Chen, President of Asia-Pacific, The Rob Rockefeller S.C., USA

Many countries in Asia have accumulated large foreign reserves which destabilizes the interchangeability of the Euro, USD; and GDPs becomes heavily affected by Asian central banks. For western economies their state managers worry of the effects of China (2013) becoming the world’s #1 in terms of purchasing power, India is now third.

China and India kept their traditional specializations local, looking to their large domestic markets, but have developed export-oriented sectors linked to new technology. Although facing considerable regularity resistance, foreign firms, through offshoring and outsourcing, have played a critical part in turning China into a global export platform for electronic products, and India into a global center for ICT services.



Paul-Antoine Croizé, Managing Director, Lallemand Vietnam, Vietnam

Vietnam followed quickly. Foreign direct investment into Vietnam increased 2.2 percent year-on-year to US\$ 15.91 billion in

the first nine months of 2023 as data from the Foreign Investment Agency (Ministry of Planning and Investment) showed. Furthermore, FDI pledges, which indicate the size of future FDI disbursements, advanced 7.7 percent from a year earlier to US\$ 20.21 billion. Over the last 15 years Vietnam has seen tremendous growth in its industrial development through attracting FDI to its designated Economic Zones and Industrial Parks managed by State Owned Becamex Corp. It has attracted globalized firms to locate their regional manufacturing base in its Industrial Park complex: Lego, one of the first to fully automated production lines in Vietnam utilizes AI technology in the process, and has created up to 4,000 jobs. Recently, on the sidelines of COP28 in the UAE, Abu Dhabi Ports Group a subsidiary of



Ben Nelson, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Minerva Project, USA



Van Dang, Chief Executive Officer, Savvycom, Vietnam, one of the meeting co-chairs



Lisa Botos, Founding Partner, MMBP Private Partners, Singapore



Murat Seitnepesov, Chairman, Integral Group, Switzerland

the conglomerate IHC, which has invested in Vietnam through the TTEK Company in the fields of customs technologies, and digital payment solutions stated in a high-level meeting with Vietnam’s PM, that IHC wants to expand investment in the country in seaports, logistics, digital transformation, smart urban areas and non-tariff zones. Binh Duong’s industrial production index in 2023 expanded by 6.5% compared to the previous year. Its export earnings reached 31.8 billion USD, while its investment attraction was estimated at US\$ 1.4 billion by the end of November.

However, when discussing the effect of Asia driving the world’s economic transformation, the panelists were careful to widen the discussion away from Vietnam. For instance,

Lisa Botos, Founding Partner, MMBP Private Partners, Singapore who is a cultural strategist specializing in media and art stated she is adept at viewing any challenge through a multiplicity of lenses and believes that culture is an underutilized tool that when skillfully employed to tangible value to any organization. She affirms their successful clients seek cultural impact and relevance – both public and private – and want to participate meaningfully in creative endeavor, and to contribute to the collective good. **Murat Seitnepesov**, Chairman, Integral Group, Switzerland also agreed – the world of business, commerce and leisure is built on mutually-beneficial relationships, leveraging new technologies in order to enhance logistics, marketing, ecological health and prosperity.



Martyn Anstey, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, REIMAGINE, United Kingdom



Sebright Chen, Chairman & CEO, Summer Atlantic Capital, USA



Johan Nyvene, Chairman, Ho Chi Minh City Securities Corporation, Vietnam

It is important for Asian nations to discuss their respective strengths, weaknesses and needs as there is increasing tension between the US and China. **Wang Dong**, Executive Director, Institute for Global Cooperation and Understanding (iGCU), Peking University, China explained that as the relationship between China and the United States becomes increasingly complex and interdependent, leaders in Beijing and Washington are struggling to establish a solid common foundation on which to



Jorge Martin-Martinez, Member of the Board, Kulara Water, Cambodia



Colley Hwang, President & Chief Executive Officer, Digitimes, Taiwan, China



Cuong Dang, Partner and Chief Executive Officer, Forbes Vietnam, Vietnam, chairing a plenary panel



Michael Yeoh, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific, Malaysia



Wang Xin, Founder and President, Charigo Center for International Economic Cooperation, China



Tina Phan, Director Indochina, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Vietnam



Tadaaki Kimura, Chief Executive Officer, Addlight, Japan

expand and deepen bilateral relations. Such discussions are not aided by the heightened and increasing numbers of tariffs, especially in high tech.

Colley Hwang, President & Chief Executive Officer, Digitimes, Taiwan, China believes the focus of semiconductor industry operations in particular is changing. From 2023-2024, the tech industry will be driven by three key factors: semiconductors, the ICT supply chain, and AI-driven IoT (AIoT). Specifically, **Michael Yeoh**, President, KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific, Malaysia acknowledged AI is ‘very disruptive’. Asking further ‘how can we improve our skills and our technology together in order to weather the storm?’ I don’t think any one country can do that. We don’t have enough resources – building trust, transparency and co-creation are key to ‘people-centered collaboration.’ On a practical note, **Yip Thy-Diep Ta**, Co-Founder, J3d.ai Labs, Germany explained, ‘AI is changing nearly every industry and will impact society in ways we are just beginning to understand.’ **Van Dang**, Chief Executive Officer, Savvycom, Vietnam noted that the pace of change has overwhelmed national, state and provincial governments around the world, he said. But at the community level, where government most closely touches people’s

lives, there is hope. Digital services make it possible for communities everywhere to build dynamic economies, strong societies and affirming cultures – and to pass these assets on to the next generation. ‘And Binh Duong is one of the world’s intelligent smart cities,’ concluded **Cuong Dang**, Partner and Chief Executive Officer, Forbes Vietnam, Vietnam.

Johan Nyvene, Chairman, Ho Chi Minh City Securities Corporation, Vietnam noted there is a huge infrastructure difference between Asian countries – Singapore and Japan are ranked in the top-10; China (48th), India((85th), and, for instance Bangladesh is 132nd. Overall, the region asks for \$ 20 trillion for development by 2030 vs the world’s demand for up to \$ 50 trillion.



Wang Dong, Executive Director, Institute for Global Cooperation and Understanding (iGCU), Peking



Marjorie Yang, Chairman, Esquel Group, Hong Kong SAR, making a point on sustainable fashion



Alejandro Reyes, Senior Fellow, Centre for Contemporary China and the World, University of Hong Kong, chairing the plenary 'Asia Driving the World's Economic Transformation'

This financial demand is a big ask when considering the many other requests for funding when nations face large budget deficits Singapore has a large public debt of 105.5% of GDP, somewhat below that of Japan having a 226% public debt against GDP: in comparison China (22%) and India (52%) public debt vs GDP.

On the other hand, in terms of GDP/capita the US leads by a large margin at \$ 70k, China (\$ 62k) and India (\$ 11k) with Japan (\$ 45k). Such large disparities make regional cooperation meetings fraught, even when considering that Public/Private financing is gaining in popularity across the region, concluded **Alejandro Reyes**, Senior Fellow, Centre for Contemporary China and the World, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong.



Claude Béglé, Chairman, SymbioSwiss, Switzerland

Climate change and its effects was the focus of one Plenary panel chaired by **Mohamed Irshad**, Head of Corporate Affairs for ASEAN, TCS, Singapore who noted he started volunteering at grassroots organizations, which exposed him to residents from underprivileged backgrounds. 'That had a deep impact on me,' says Irshad. 'I wanted to play a part in building bridges between different communities and helping those in difficult circumstances.' To do this, I learned it was very important to have capable people leading an organization. Climate change is owned by everyone, it is a complex phenomenon and needed competent players. Such as **Claude Béglé**, Chairman, SymbioSwiss, Switzerland. His company's first mission was to design a Cleantech strategy for the city of Geneva, now its mission statement has widened to include public affairs at large, and in particular sustainability dealing with both private and public activities in the fields of infrastructure and smart cities, cleantech and academia. **Tadahiro Kawada**, President, Kawada Technologies, Japan agreed with the chair, and finds the Smart Cities a good approach to addressing climate change coupled with prosperity increase. **Marjorie Yang**, Chairman, Esquel Group, Hong Kong SAR agreed, 'Sustainability is a fundamental problem of a consumer



Harry Hui, Founder and Managing Partner, ClearVue Partners, China



Warrick A. Cleine, Managing Partner, KPMG in Vietnam and Cambodia, Vietnam



Connie D.M. Allsopp, Founder, The World's Registrar, Canada



Tadahiro Kawada, President, Kawada Technologies, Japan



Xiaoyin Qu, Founder, Run The World, USA



Herbert Chen Wu, Managing Director, The Economist Global Business Review, China, on the reality of Asian entrepreneurs



Vinh Quang Dang, Senior Private Sector Specialist, The World Bank, Vietnam

product-led company.’ She considers the basis for change is education and has addressed the needs of upwards of rural households in China, essentially improving the standards of teaching, encouraging education and learning, and enhancing health and public hygiene in areas outside the regional capital.

And thus, says **Vinh Quang Dang**, Senior Private Sector Specialist, The World Bank, Vietnam, education is a field with great potential for development. Vietnam has built many subjects related to supply chains, distance education programs, network administration, logistics – as ‘hot’ fields of study. **Herbert Chen Wu**, Managing Director, The Economist Global Business Review, China noted the connection between schools and businesses that will create many initiatives and build skills to develop human resources with the capacity of wide and deep participation. ‘As are the needs of sustainability,’ as **Xiaoyin Qu**, Founder, Run The World, USA, underlined. **Eddie Thai**, General Partner, Ascend Vietnam Ventures, Vietnam. ‘At the end of the day we need to nurture entrepreneurs,’ concluded **Harry Hui**, Founder and Managing Partner, ClearVue Partners, China.

Skills development, especially with respect to digitization, was the subject of a panel chaired by **Pietro Borsano**, Deputy Executive Director, Chulalongkorn School of Integrated Innovation, Thailand who said that human resources training should not only focus on providing short-term knowledge and skills but also aim to develop creative thinking, problem-solving ability and strategic vision. This helps workforces not only to adapt to current technologies but stay prepared to face the challenges of the future. He affirmed that digital transformation is an inevitable trend today. Smartphone use is increasing rapidly, enabling governments to promote digitalization as a strategic goal for sustainable development in the future. He noted how, along with Fintech, ERP solutions have also promoted digitalization



Pietro Borsano, Deputy Exec. Director, Chulalongkorn School of Integrated Innovation, Thailand



Eddie Thai, General Partner, Ascend Vietnam Ventures, Vietnam



Harry Hui, Founder and Managing Partner, ClearVue Partners, China



Tim Nguyen, Deputy Rector of 3AI, Institute of Applied Research & Innovation for Enterprise, Vietnam



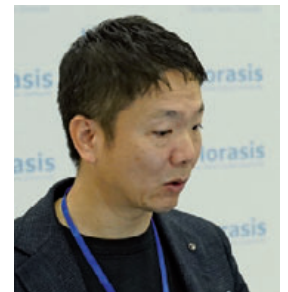
Nguyen Quang Huan, Chairman, Halcom, Vietnam



Don Lam, Chief Executive Officer and Founding Partner, VinaCapital, Vietnam

and development; and integrating solutions, scanning QR codes for payment and using API software have promoted digital development. Again, on scholarship, **Tim Nguyen**, Deputy Rector of 3AI, Institute of Applied Research & Innovation for Enterprise, Vietnam noted they have research projects to integrate into the content of the curriculum of digital technology subjects, with the goal of helping students become responsible digital citizens. As for digital currency... we must synchronize the entire system for implementation. And in the field of digitization, **Hidetoshi Uchiyama**, Chief Executive Officer, Unerry, Japan illustrated how companies need to collect data based on each user's consent while not storing personal information, given Unerry's

customers are mainly retail companies that use user location information to open stores. On top of all this, **Krishna Rajagopal**, Group Chief Executive Officer, AKATI Sekurity, Malaysia described how tech-leaders at all levels are tasked with more responsibilities in organizations than ever before, including overseeing new projects, maintaining the company's own tech stack, enabling and managing remote work arrangements, and more. On top of those significant tech-specific responsibilities, new tech leaders also have to master leadership skills ranging from delegation to cross-level communication through to big-picture thinking and planning. Overall, said **Tran Hoang**, Chairman, Vietnam Marcom, Vietnam, implementing digital transforma-



Hidetoshi Uchiyama, Chief Executive Officer, Unerry, Japan



Bradley C. LaLonde, Managing Partner, Vietnam Partners, Vietnam



Shin Ito, Chief Executive Officer, iKoyoo Inc., Japan and Tran Hoang, Chairman, Vietnam Marcom, Vietnam



Loan Ma, Chief Executive Officer, Auxesia Holdings, Vietnam



Bill Nguyen, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, ABS Institute, Vietnam and Sailesh Purswani, President, Thai Martin Group, Thailand



Agnes VST Devanadera, President and CEO, Clark Development Corporation, The Philippines



Krishna Rajagopal, Group Chief Executive Officer, AKATI Security, Malaysia



Tsutomu Ishiai, Senior Staff Writer, The Asahi Shimbun, Japan



Victor Guixer, Managing Partner, Guixer & Partners, Spain

tion is inevitable and extremely important because it helps optimize the values of the entire economic, cultural and social law system. Over the past years, Binh Duong was very successful in pioneering many solutions. So far, Binh Duong has strongly reformed administrative procedures, initially it brought efficiency, creating favorable conditions for businesses and people; helping save time, building trust in the government's policy of building up a smart city as well as upholding responsibility through specific solutions, so convincing the community to join hands in implementation. Therefore, provinces and cities must have smart ways to coordinate with experts at home and abroad to solve the problem of digital transformation. Convincing people and the community to respond is a matter that requires transparent policies, showing people about the benefits of this process. A matter emphasized by **Sailesh Purswani**, President, Thai Martin Group, Thailand, 'if the government leaders and young entrepreneurs align, the country can take off.'

The closing plenary reviewed Asian growth and the need for co-ordination, though with an emphasis on Vietnam. **Nguyen Quang Huan**, Chairman, Halcom, Vietnam said climate change is bringing many disruptions and for a partially low-lying nation like

Vietnam water management is important as its demand is rising rapidly as the population slowly increases and commercial ventures demand more water. **Agnes VST Devanadera**, President and CEO, Clark Development Corporation, The Philippines stressed the need for good public services based on her wide experiences which included time in Energy Regulation matters in the Philippines. A point well taken by **Yoshito Hori**, Founder and Chairman, Globis, Japan who stressed that most of Southeast Asia is currently becoming a Silicon Valley for startups. **Don Lam**, Chief Executive Officer and Founding Partner, VinaCapital, Vietnam agreed – noting, one of the key infrastructures that people aren't talking about is renewable energy capacity.



Yoshito Hori, Founder and Chairman, Globis, Japan



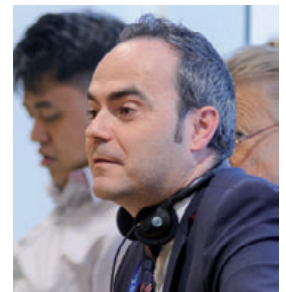
Award Ceremony

And at the moment, Vietnam is already planning to be triple our energy capacity by 2030 with solar and wind. And all the while, as **Nguyen Quang Huan**, Chairman, Halcom, Vietnam reminded us, a collaborative stakeholder economy would better allow people to transact and benefit.

Finally, closing the meeting, **Vo Van Minh**, Chairman, Binh Duong Province, Vietnam reminded all that the average median age in Vietnam is 32.8 years in 2023, which bodes well for the country's future economic growth through 2050 and beyond. If the Government can successfully execute some of the major infrastructure requirements in the coming 5-7 years, Vietnam's future is bright indeed. And as Chairman of the

Binh Duong Provincial People's Committee, **Vo Van Minh** pledged to bring all his abilities, wisdom, and enthusiasm to build a stronger and stronger government system from the province to the grassroots, operating effectively and efficiently.

I personally believe in a promising future for Asia. The continent has all the ingredients to become the world's economic powerhouse. And it is my hope that the Horasis Asia Meeting will continue to serve as an important platform for stimulating thought and creative solutions. As you read the key points and recommendations presented in this report, we welcome your thoughts and suggestions as we prepare the programme for the next Horasis Asia Meeting.



Rafael Cascales, President, Spanish Association of Foreign Trade Professionals, Spain



Nitin Tripathi, Professor, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand



Asia meets the world



Ajit Shah, Managing Director, Lotus Holdings, Nepal



A dialogue session



Martyn Anstey, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, REIMAGINEx, United Kingdom



Panellists gather on the stage



Marko Kasic, Founder, FundLife International, The Philippines



Plenary – Co-ordinating and Revitalizing Asian Growth



Trang Nguyen, Senior Manager, act renewable, Vietnam



Plenary 'Asian Economic Outlook'

Summary of the Agenda Setting Workshop

By Yip Thy-Diep Ta,
 Founder, J3d.ai Labs, Germany

At a time when rapid technological advancements and the emergence of artificial intelligence are reshaping our world, we stand at a critical juncture. This period, a metaphorical crossroads, demands thoughtful consideration of the impact and trajectory of our technological progress. The Horasis Asia Meeting, held on December 3 and 4, 2023, in Bình Duong, Vietnam,

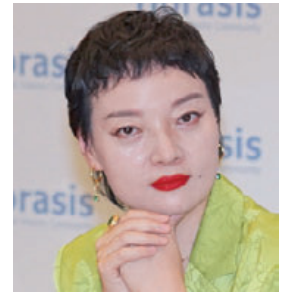


Yip Thy-Diep Ta, Founder, J3d.ai Labs, Germany

embraced this need for introspection and forward-looking action. This gathering emerged as a pivotal forum for interdisciplinary collaboration, casting light on pathways towards a more connected and sustainable future.

Horasis, renowned for nurturing global business communities, offered a vital platform at this meeting. The goal was to explore the complex challenges and opportunities that arise in our increasingly tech-driven era. The meeting was designed to merge thought leadership with practical insights, sparking dialogues on how nations and communities, particularly within the vibrant ASEAN region, can adeptly navigate and capitalize on this era of rapid technological change for both economic and social enhancement.

In partnership with J3D.AI and Horasis, the overarching ambition of this initiative was to propel economic development in Vietnam and the region. This collaborative effort aimed to strategically utilize AI and technological innovations for sustainable growth. Moving beyond mere economic indicators, the focus was on a comprehensive view of societal advancement, ethical integration



Megan Jing Li, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Shanghai iMega Industry Co., China



Rajiv Raghunath, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Wellversed Media, India



Yuichiro Sato, Chief Operations Officer, iPay88, Malaysia



J.T. Li, Professor, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong



Nguyen Viet Long, Director of Binh Duong Science and Technology Department, Binh Duong



Yuki Aizawa, APAC Director, Women in Tech, Malaysia



Mehmet Isiklar, Managing Director, SZUTest, Türkiye

of technology, and nurturing young talent – all key components for a resilient and dynamic future in the region.

This report presents the key insights, discussions, and strategic directions formulated during the Horasis Asia Meeting Agenda Setting Workshop.

How can Vietnam leverage its young talent, sustainability & ESG practices and AI for success?

As Vietnam’s population approaches a significant milestone of 100 million, becoming the 15th largest globally, it stands at a crossroads of unprecedented opportunity and challenge. With 21.1% of its population between the ages of 10-24, Vietnam is positioned to harness this youthful energy for transformative economic growth and innovation (UNFPA Vietnam). The Agenda Setting Workshop, therefore, centered on leveraging these demographic advantages along with sustainability practices and advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) to carve a path towards a successful and resilient future.



Quyen Nguyen, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Sharework, Vietnam



Pham Phan Anh, Director, Mitsubishi Electric Vietnam, Vietnam

The Horasis Asia Meeting featured a notable 4-hour Agenda Setting workshop. This session, involving 28 participants from 11 countries, including 10 Vietnamese representatives, served as a concise teaser to the more extensive 3-day interventions following the Malik Syntegration® methodology. The agenda setting workshop’s theme focused on the pivotal question: ‘How can Vietnam leverage its young talent, sustainability & ESG practices, and AI for success?’

Across these three key areas – Youth & Education, AI, and Sustainability & ESG Practices – a common thread emerges: the importance of collaboration, education, and a systematic approach. Vietnam’s path to success hinges on empowering its youth with the values and skills needed for



Stanley Wang, Founder, Illuminati Technologies, Thailand



Quynh Anh Nguyen, Managing Director, SwissEP, Vietnam



Shuichi Terashima, Founder, TMCWorldnetwork, UK and Lionel Lee, Chair, The Better Foundation, Singapore

sustainability, staying at the forefront of AI development through collaboration, and adopting a systematic approach to drive social change and sustainability.

Collaboration, education, and systematic thinking were identified as the golden thread that weave these elements together, forming the foundation for Vietnam's journey towards success and prosperity in the age of rapid AI and sustainability.

Key Insights

The workshop on Vietnam's AI development and sustainability provided comprehensive insights, highlighting the potential path Vietnam could take to emulate the techno-

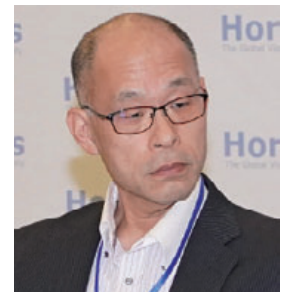
logical and economic successes of Japan and Taiwan, referred to by the participants as the 'Taipan' model.

Educational Transformation for a Future-Ready Workforce

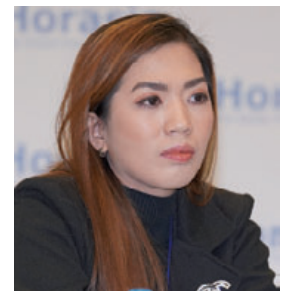
A primary focus was the transformation of Vietnam's education system. Recognizing the current gaps, the workshop emphasized the need to revamp educational methodologies to align with the rapid advancements in technology. The envisioned state includes an education system that integrates AI and sustainability, emphasizing not only theoretical knowledge but also practical skills, critical thinking, and innovation.

Strategic Technological Advancement with AI and Smart Manufacturing

Discussions highlighted Vietnam's potential to emerge as a global leader in technology, drawing parallels to 'Taipan' economies. The next five to seven years are critical for Vietnam to make significant progress in areas such as IoT, software development, and AI-driven smart manufacturing. The goal is to transition from being primarily a manufacturing hub to becoming a center for AI and technological innovation. This



Hiroyuki Ohnishi, President, Technology Seed Incubation Co., Japan



Jonecca San Pascual, Chief Executive Officer, Pieza, The Philippines



Kevin Varend, Co-founder, J3D.ai Labs, Germany chairing a session on AI



Mitchell Pham, Co-founder, CodeHQ, New Zealand



Session on 'Nurturing Digitalization'



Elisa S. Nuada, Managing Director, Blue Chip Global Development, The Philippines

transition involves substantial investments and strategic policy development, focusing on creating a competitive yet equitable tech ecosystem.

Data Management and Sharing for AI Development

The workshop identified Vietnam's approach to data management and sharing as a pivotal area. Developing policies that balance open data access with privacy concerns is essential for nurturing a conducive environment for AI research and investment, positioning Vietnam as an attractive destination for global tech companies.

Sustainability and ESG Integration in Education & Business Practices

Sustainability emerged as a key focus area, with discussions around setting clear benchmarks and government-led actions in sustainability. Emphasizing ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) principles in education and business operations aligns Vietnam with global sustainability trends, enhancing its appeal as a responsible and forward-thinking market.



Tomohiro Yamaguchi, Executive Director, Alternative Development Organization, Japan



Osama Bin Noor, Co-founder, Youth Opportunities, Bangladesh

Opportunities and Focus Areas for Vietnam's Growth

Mindset Shift and Development Model: A significant mindset shift is needed among stakeholders, moving from traditional models to a unique vision based on Vietnam's strengths and values.

- **Enhanced Diversity in Higher Education:** Expanding the reach of higher education in AI and technology, especially beyond major cities, is seen as vital for broad-based economic and social development.
- **AI-Driven Curriculum and Workforce Development:** Prioritizing the transformation of education with AI-driven curricula adapts to individual learning needs, preparing students for the challenges of the 21st century.



Constantin Malik, Co-Founder, J3d.ai Labs, Germany



Session 'Asia's Great Expectations of AI as an Everyday Tool'

Workshop Methodology and Characteristics

J3D.AI deployed an intervention combining a cybernetics-based methodology, AI tools, key stakeholders with relevant expertise, and various metrics for enhanced decision-making. Below are some cybernetic principles. Metrics in the end.

- **Cybernetics-Based Feedback:** Utilizing principles of cybernetics, the workshop emphasized feedback loops and dynamic interaction among participants.
- **Critic Role:** A unique aspect was the inclusion of 'critic' roles, enabling an outside-in perspective that ensures a stream of continuous feedback
- **Iterative Discussion:** Discussions followed



Vasso Sourla, Chief Strategy Officer, J3D.AI Labs, Germany

a cyclical, iterative process, facilitating the evolution of thoughts and solutions.

- **Self-Organization:** Participants were encouraged to self-organize, fostering a collaborative and participatory environment.
- **Rapid Collaboration and Networking:** The format promoted quick collaboration on complex questions and accelerated networking among participants.
- **Extraction Through Meditation:** Meditation was used as a tool for rapidly distilling insights and synthesizing collective wisdom.

Deep Dives

Current State and Key Issues

Vietnam's educational landscape is currently grappling with adapting to the rapid technological advancements. The system faces challenges in integrating critical 21st-century skills, particularly in AI and sustainability. There is an evident gap between traditional educational approaches and the evolving needs of a tech-driven economy. The curriculum lacks a strong emphasis on practical, problem-solving skills that are essential in today's digital world.



Ruth P. Briones, Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Greenergy Solutions, The Philippines



Daniel Koppelkamm, Managing Partner, Convergence Partners, Switzerland



Murthy R Nuni, Managing Partner, Marshal Funds, United Kingdom



Rupa Vasudevan, Chancellor, BEST Innovation University, India



Michael Rodriguez, Professor, Nexford University, USA



Shaoming Han, Dean of School of International Education, Yantai Institute of Technology, China



Peter Portheine, Director, Eindhoven International Project Office, Netherlands



Brian Wong, Chief Strategy Officer, Hong Kong-ASEAN Foundation, Hong Kong



Sharon Lim, She Loves Tech, Chief Content Officer, Singapore

Desirable Future State

Ideally, Vietnam’s education sector will evolve into a more dynamic and responsive system, deeply integrated with AI and sustainability. This future state envisages an educational framework that not only imparts theoretical knowledge but also emphasizes practical skills and innovative thinking. The goal is to align educational outcomes with the technological and economic landscape, preparing students for future challenges.

Fields of Opportunities

Mindset Shift

There was a consensus on the need for a significant shift in mindset at various levels, including among decision-makers, educators, and the youth. This shift involves moving away from traditional models and defining a unique vision for Vietnam based on its strengths and values. Participants emphasized the importance of not merely replicating other countries’ models (like China or India) but instead creating a unique identity and approach for Vietnam.

Diversity in Higher Education

The discussion pointed out the current limitations in Vietnam’s higher education system, particularly the need for more diversity and inclusivity. Expanding the

reach and accessibility of quality higher education to more areas, beyond major cities, was seen as vital. This expansion could involve developing university towns and leveraging educational infrastructure as a tool for broader economic and social development.

Youth Engagement in Education

The engagement of youth in the design and implementation of education programs was identified as crucial. Including young people in these processes ensures that their needs and perspectives are adequately addressed.

Education Transformation with AI

Vietnam should prioritize the transformation of its education system using AI. This involves implementing AI-driven



Francis Schortgen, Associate Dean of Faculty, University of Utah Asia Campus, Korea



Bryan Yang, Chief Executive Officer, Inspiration Inc., China



Raymond Khattar, Chairman & Founder, Blue Chip Capital, Australia



Ai Sasaki, Chairperson, Asian Women Leaders Forum, Japan

curricula that adapt to individual students' needs and preferences. By adopting this approach, Vietnam can prepare its youth for the dynamic challenges of the 21st century, equipping them with the skills necessary for success in a rapidly changing world.

Current State and Key Issues

Based on the discussions, the current state of AI in Vietnam is characterized by a dynamic transition towards integrating more advanced technologies in various sectors, especially in manufacturing. Key issues identified include the need for a robust regulatory framework that navigates the balance between fostering AI innovation and ensuring ethical usage. There's a recognized gap in education and workforce development, specifically in AI literacy and

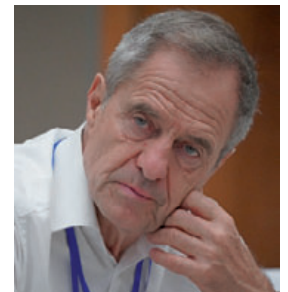


Thai Linh Huyhn Dinh, Chief Executive Officer, World Trade Center Binh Duong New City, Vietnam

adaptability to technological changes. Furthermore, discussions highlighted the challenges in developing sufficient technological infrastructure to support AI advancements. Data privacy and ethical use of AI also emerged as significant concerns, with Vietnam's data laws being less stringent than in some Western countries.

Desirable Future State

Participants envisioned an ideal state where Vietnam emerges as a technological and development hub, akin to Japan or Taiwan, 'Taipan'. This vision hinges on Vietnam successfully navigating a critical period of approximately five to seven years, a window of opportunity seen as crucial for the country's technological leap. Central to this vision is the idea of Vietnam not just as a manufacturing hub, but as a global center for AI and technological development. The participants emphasized that this would require substantial investment in various sectors, including the Internet of Things (IoT), software industry, and smart manufacturing. Moreover, there's a recognition that Vietnam's AI strategy must be comprehensive, integrating policies on data sharing and open data while ensuring fair competition and adhering to international trade agreements. This vision positions Vietnam



Bernhard Bauhofer, Founder and Managing Partner, Sparring Partners, Switzerland



Aurélie Carlet, Founder & Director, Zen House Gallery, Japan



Le Thien-Bao, Founder, Galerie BAQ, France



Robin Nguyen, Founder, IBI Global, Vietnam



Jouko Ahvenainen, Founder and Chairman, Prifina, Monaco



Mohamed Irshad, Head of Corporate Affairs for ASEAN, TCS, Singapore, chairing a panel on ESG



Tadahiro Kaneko, Deputy Head of Sustainability, Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Japan

not only as a manufacturing powerhouse but as a leader in AI and technological innovation.

Fields of Opportunities

From the participants' discussions, it emerges that Vietnam's pathway to achieving a developmental status akin to Japan or Taiwan centers around three key opportunity areas:

Education and Workforce Development

The participants noted that Vietnam's investment in education, particularly in AI and technology, is not just about creating a skilled workforce; it's about laying the foundational bedrock for sustained technological growth. This focus on education translates into a more innovative, tech-savvy population capable of driving and supporting advanced industries, crucial for keeping pace with global technological advancements.

Data Management and Sharing Policies

The conversation highlighted that Vietnam's approach to data management and sharing is less about the current state of its data laws and more about the potential these laws hold in shaping the country as an attractive destination for AI investment. By crafting policies that strike a balance between open

data access and privacy protection, Vietnam positions itself as a conducive environment for AI research and development, thereby attracting global tech companies and investors.

Sustainability Through AI-Driven Smart Manufacturing

The discussion around integrating AI into manufacturing is not merely about technological adoption; it's about redefining Vietnam's industrial landscape to be more resource-efficient and environmentally sustainable. This shift has implications beyond immediate economic benefits; it aligns Vietnam with global trends towards sustainable development, enhancing its international standing and appeal as a forward-thinking, responsible manufacturing hub.



Indronil Sengupta, Chief Executive Officer, Invesify, Vietnam



Rexy Tseng, Artist, Taiwan



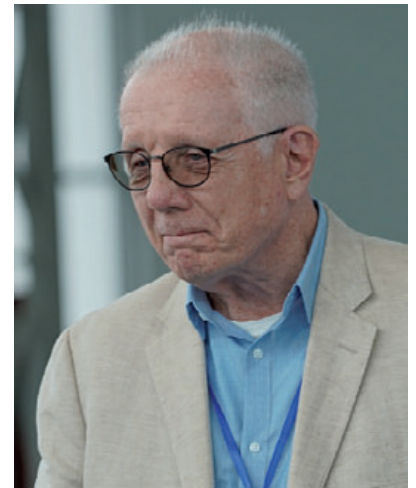
Martin Schulze, Founder and Director, Public Delivery, Korea, chairing a panel on art



Charlie Xue, Founder & CEO, Dwell Realty, Vietnam



Nuttakorn Rattanachaisit, Founder & Managing Director, Predictive, Thailand



Harold Sjursen, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, New York University, USA

Current State and Key Issues

Vietnam currently faces sustainability challenges, notably in areas like greenwashing, lack of clear legislation, and inefficient sustainable practices in businesses. The discussions highlighted the need for better standards and guidance in sustainable operations. There's also a pressing issue of balancing economic growth with environmental protection, especially in rapidly urbanizing areas.

Desirable Future State

The envisioned future for sustainability in Vietnam includes a robust framework where businesses operate with clear sustainability benchmarks and green initiatives. This vision also sees widespread public and corporate education on ESG (Environ-

mental, Social, and Governance) principles, fostering a culture of sustainability that extends beyond mere compliance.

Fields of Opportunities

Establish Sustainability Education on all levels and in all fields. Sustainability education is not only necessary on the business level but it has to start already for children. Awareness and understanding of environmental issues need to be integrated into all levels of education. The aim is to develop a well-informed population that values and actively participates in sustainable practices. Platforms can be developed that will serve various stakeholders – from students to business leaders, ensuring that the principles of sustainability are widely understood and implemented.



Yoshiki Sasaki, Chief Executive Officer, Japan Strategic Capital, Japan



Siddharth Poddar, Founder and Managing Editor, StoneBench, Singapore



Nguyen Quang Huan and Agnes VST Devanadera



Claire Dung Tran, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Rayo, Vietnam



Asif Iqbal, President, Indian Economic Trade Organization (IETO), India



Pascal Scott, Director, M Health Limited, United Kingdom, chairing a panel infrastructure



Becky Wong, Chief Executive Officer, Globex Capital Partners, Hong Kong SAR



Alexis Oh, Vice Director, Vietnam Singapore Industry 4.0 Innovation Center, Vietnam

Sustainability&ESG

Collaboration among stakeholders across society. To achieve progress in matters of sustainability and ESG it is crucial for stakeholders to come together and collaborate. Individual, non-coordinated efforts do not work. The most important aspect here is to assume a systems view and leverage already existing ecosystems in the country. Introduce and adopt best practice examples to trigger social change in mindset.

sustainability and ESG. This is needed, however, if progress in this area is to be achieved. The introduction of best practices from around the world can help shape such a mindset and build people’s awareness for matters of sustainability.

Advocate for Government-Led Systemic Actions

Government needs to lead when it comes to taking systemic action. It is important to understand that all pieces of society need to work together interconnectedly for success to be achieved. The government’s involvement is crucial in setting the tone for such systemic sustainable practices.



Maggie Chao, Deputy Division Director, Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI), Taiwan, China

Vietnam can learn from other countries in the world including Japan which is seen as an example of how to tackle sustainability issues such as waste management. So far, people’s mindset is not yet geared towards



Cong-Thang Huynh, Co-founder, InnoLab Asia, Vietnam



During the Closing Dinner



Frank-Jürgen Richter welcoming participants



Panellists of the Opening Plenary



Chris Gutierrez, Founder, StoreBloc, Vietnam



Iris Dyson, Founder and Managing Director, Challenge Works, United Kingdom



Nguen Thi Minh Thu, Chief Investment Officer, Phoenix Holding, Vietnam



Bharat Lal Meena, Co-founder and Chairman, BESTI University, India



John Blakey, Founder, The Trusted Executive Foundation, United Kingdom



An Le, Chief Executive Officer, NFQ, Vietnam



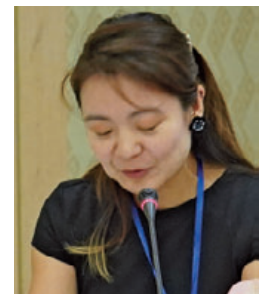
Yuri Podnebes, Director, Ace Battle Association, Luxembourg



Dinh Q. Le, Artist, Vietnam



Li Zhongtao, Chief Executive Officer, Capsio Technology Co., China



Siyi Ren, Co-founder, ZIADOO Biotech, Singapore



Srikar Reddy, Executive Vice Chairman, Sonata Software, India



Lusy Widowati, Founder, Tiga Daun, Indonesia



Jim Yuan, Co-founder and Partner, Joyview Education, China



David Jackson, Chief Executive Officer, Avison Young, Vietnam



Emil Kaburuan, Founder, KOMPIS Creative Solutions, Indonesia



Plenary 'Asia Driving the World's Economic Transformation'



Jin Yuxian, Chairman, CIE International Education Group, China



Ho Thi Thu Hoa, Director, Vietnam Research and Development Institute, Vietnam



Nara Lee, Managing Partner, Brainchild Partners, Korea



Zhou Yi, Co-founder, MarvelTec, Singapore



Greg Crichton, Managing Director, Greater Asian Advisors Limited, Hong Kong SAR



Sharing a light moment



Natasha Dukach, Executive Director & Co-Founder, Cash For Refugees, Ukraine



Nobumitsu Akai, Director, JFR Group, Japan



Plenary on Asian Economic Outlook



Gricha Safarian, Co-Founder, Sustainable Cacao Institute, Vietnam



Kyle J Hong, Founder, Alcove Investment Management, Korea



Cao Dai Thang, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Intech Group, Vietnam



Chris Tay, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Drink NOD International, China



Mark Paul I. Ramos, Partner, PCMD and Co., The Philippines



Zoe Yuan, Founder, Shanghai Zoe Wellness Edu & Tech Co., Singapore



Duncan J. McCampbell, Associate Professor, Metropolitan State University, USA



A meeting of minds



Nguyen Van Hung, Group Executive Chairman, Becamex IDC and Frank-Jürgen Richter, Chairman, Horasis



Welcome Reception



Yean Lee Chong, Head of Strategic Partnerships, Lexasure Financial Group, Singapore speaking to the media



Session 'Investing in ASEAN'



Listening to a Plenary Panel



During the coffee break



Plenary 'Addressing the Climate Emergency'



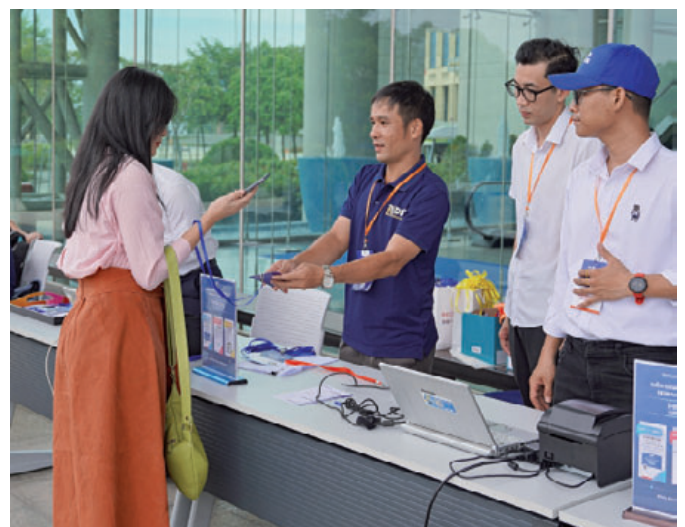
During the Grand Opening



An early morning discussion



Opening Plenary – Leading the Asian Renaissance



Registering participants



Traditional Music during the Closing Dinner



Performance during the Closing Dinner



Visiting an artists village



Excursion on the last day



Horasis is all blue – showing perspectives, inspiring the future

Horasis

The Global Visions Community

Horasis: The Global Visions Community
Maurerstrasse 2
CH-8500 Frauenfeld
Switzerland

phone +41 79 305 3110

www.horasis.org

