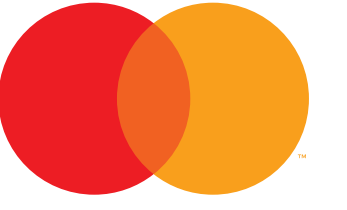


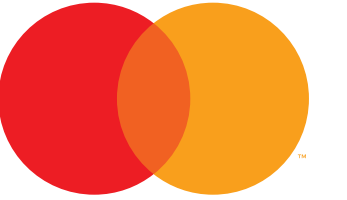
Asia Pacific Spotlight





The past week has been devastating for the people of Ukraine. While our first priority has been securing the safety and well-being of our employees and their families, we are equally committed to ensuring the stability, integrity and resilience of our own network and the global payments ecosystem. As always, it cannot be about competition. It's about collaboration, especially in trying times like these.

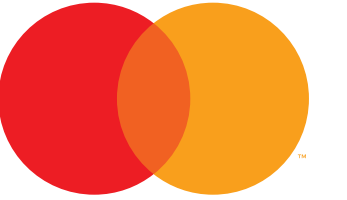
True to that promise, we are working with governments and partners around the world to ensure the safety and security of our systems, to power economies and empower people. In this edition, we commemorate a landmark development in Mongolia and reveal what it takes to enable borderless real-time payments, transform tomorrow's retail experience, set up small businesses for success, and more.



M/Chip ₮-Cards: Now Powering Mongolia's Economy

Marking an economic milestone, the Bank of Mongolia launched its M/Chip ₮-Cards – run on Mastercard's M/Chip EMV security standard – that will enable ₮ (or tugrik – the Mongolian currency) cards to function as the primary payment instrument of the country's economy. "This giant leap forward advances the national agenda, and benefits Mongolian consumers and businesses," said Asia Pacific President Ari Sarker.

[Learn more →](#)



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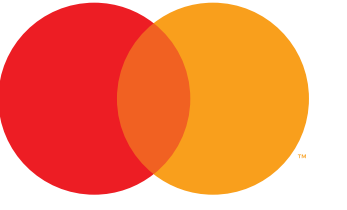
Why the success story of real-time payments hinges on coopetition

At the close of 2021, Bank Indonesia, the country's central bank, launched Bank Indonesia Fast Payment (BI-FAST), a real-time, 24/7 payments infrastructure designed to boost the

Immediate Global Money Transfers: Mission Impossible?

Real-time payments are on the rise in Asia Pacific's economies, only hindered by the lack of interoperability between national payment systems that prevents users from enjoying instant, easy transfers when moving money across borders. Asia Pacific CTO **Gautam Aggarwal** argues that coopetition is a critical, yet overlooked, part of the solution.

[Read now at Financial Times →](#)



How Payments Acceptance Drives ROI

Smart businesses prioritize smart payments acceptance. Find out how merchants can increase revenue, customer loyalty and ROI by offering more digital payment options like QR codes and biometrics.

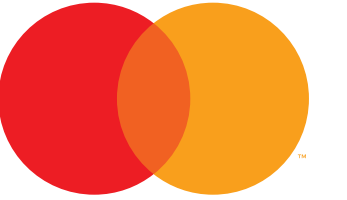
[More on this at e27 →](#)



Rethinking Philanthropy for Scale

Today's new normal demands a new approach to small business support programs. Can the effective deployment of technology and a reset of risk-return calculations lead to better outcomes for Asia's SMEs?

[Learn more at ADB.org →](#)



Future of Shopping, Reimagined

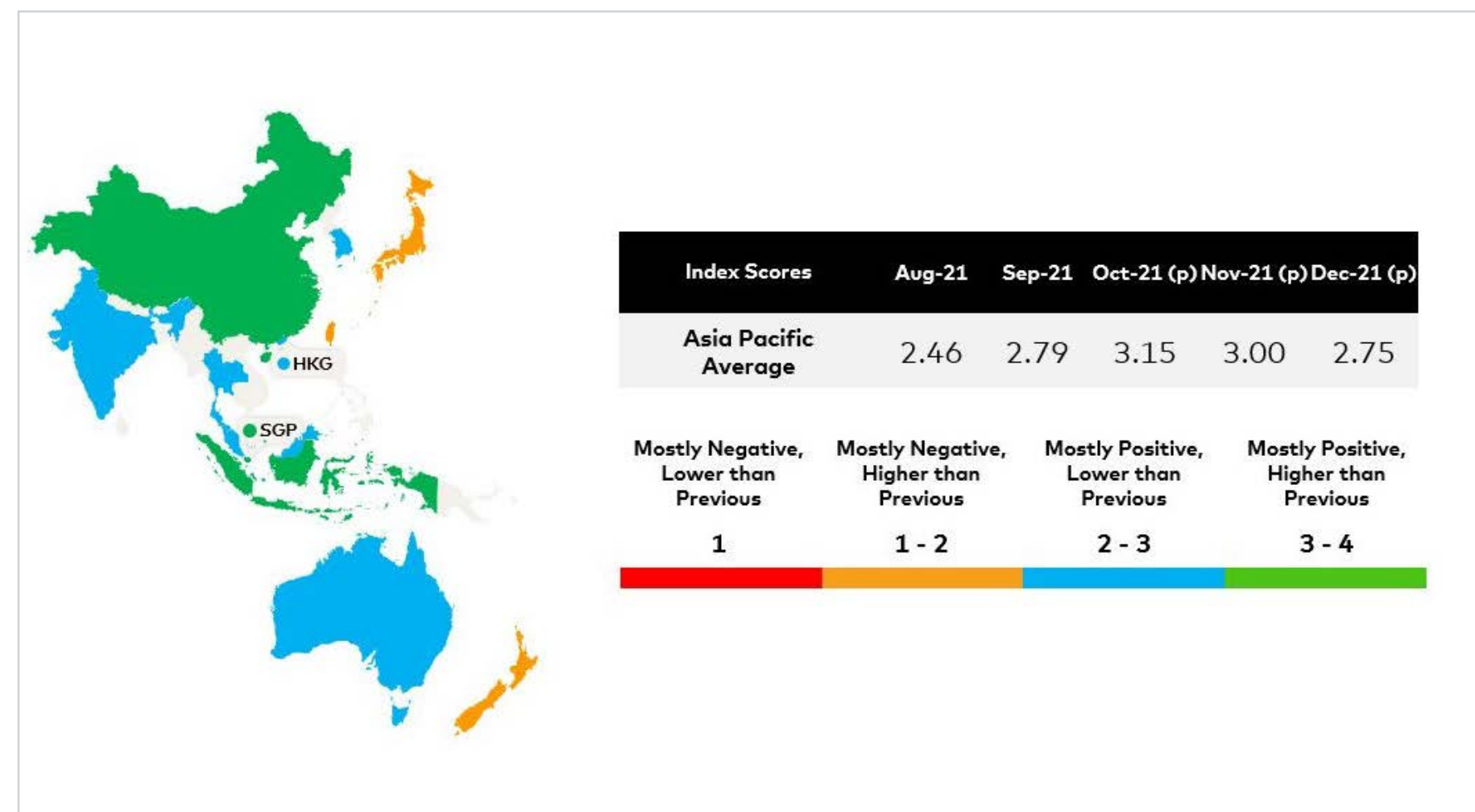
Touchless payments and frictionless checkouts are the norm post-Covid. So, what's next? We're betting on connected interactions, powered by biometrics, that will unlock immediate, seamless, personalized retail experiences.

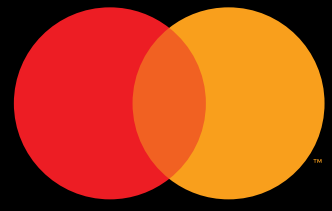
[See the interactive report →](#)

Asia Pacific Consumer Retail Barometer

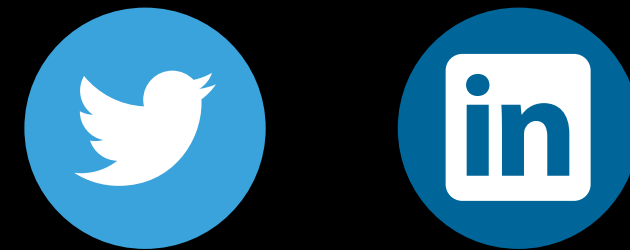
The regional average slipped for a second month, driven by drops in Taiwan, Malaysia, Australia and Japan. Credit card expenditure remained the strongest indicator while consumer confidence was the weakest.

[Download the Barometer →](#)





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