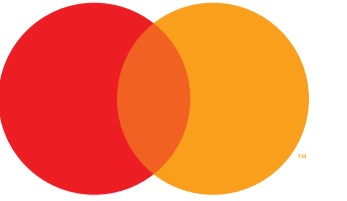


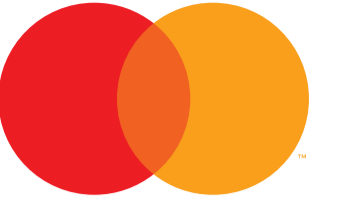
# Asia Pacific Spotlight





With COVID restrictions easing up around the world, travel is back in full swing, and we're seeing it first-hand in Asia Pacific. This month, Mastercard's CEO Michael Miebach returned to our region with a memorable visit to India, marked by fruitful conversations and forward-looking plans, highlighted in this Spotlight edition. But that's not all. This issue also captures the growing excitement for digital payments in the region—as you will find out through our most recent [New Payments Index](#) and experts' insights—and the certainty that there has never been a better time to build forward better with everyone in mind. We break down what that means, particularly for the tourism sector and women. Enjoy!

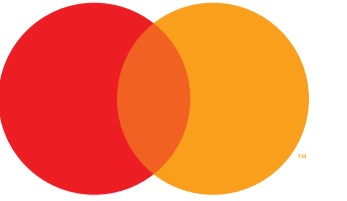




## As Seen on TV: Michael Miebach in India

Mastercard CEO Michael Miebach sat down with CNBC-TV18's Shereen Bhan to discuss the future of digital payments, the importance of India to Mastercard's global strategy, his approach to leadership, and more.

[Catch interview →](#)

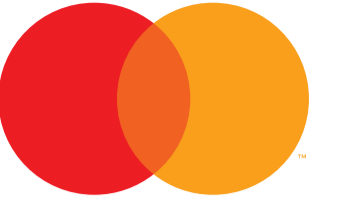


## APAC Ahead in Digital Payments Uptake

Consumers in the region are among the most enthusiastic adopters in the world of digital wallets, QR codes, BNPL, cryptos, biometrics, and other payment technologies. According to the just-released **Mastercard New Payments Index**, 69% even increased their usage of at least one of these in the last year, demonstrating strong momentum.

[Watch now →](#)





## The Factors Driving Prices Up

Why is inflation so high, and is it here to stay? Mastercard Chief Economist addresses these questions and unpacks some of the drivers behind it, including supply chain disruptions and pent-up demand.

[Listen to podcast →](#)

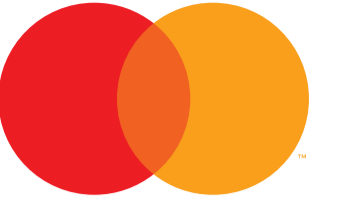


## Navigating The Digital Assets Landscape

Blockchain, cryptos, NFTs, CBDCs—what are the opportunities, and what are the risks? Experts break down the buzzwords and explore how businesses can harness the power of digital assets.

[Catch this episode →](#)





## Forget “Back to Normal” Tourism

Travel is back! But it can be better than ever: more sustainable, inclusive, and beneficial to greater segments of the population. And there are great examples in APAC to learn from.

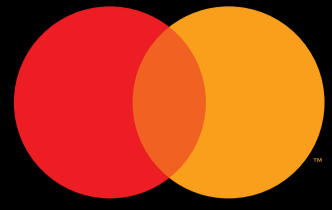
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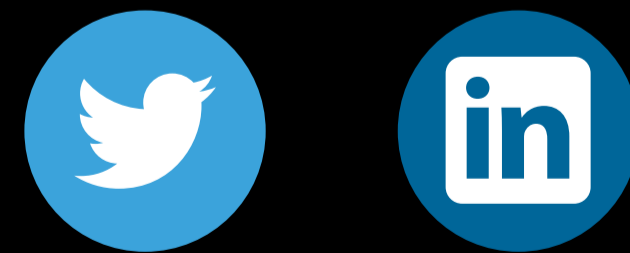
## Connecting Women to the Digital Economy

The barriers holding women from participating in the digital economy, especially after the pandemic, are many but not inevitable—if private and public sectors work together to remove them.

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