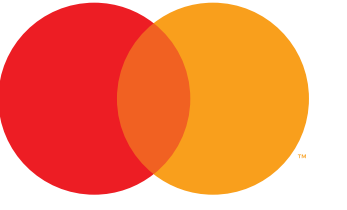


Asia Pacific Spotlight

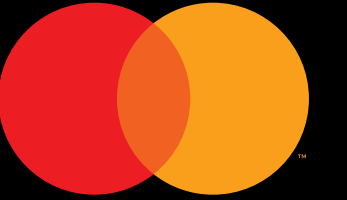




Two months into 2021, with many markets now in or nearing economic normalization domestically, we're optimistic that consumers and businesses are revving up to embrace the next normal. We know we are.

With our expertise in fast and secure omnichannel payments, we're helping governments, customers and merchants to seize opportunities through our technology, data insights and partnerships. In this issue, we delve into how we're empowering more people to join the formal economy, leading the rapid shift to digital payments by creating better – and even Priceless – experiences for consumers, and advancing real-time payments and open banking.

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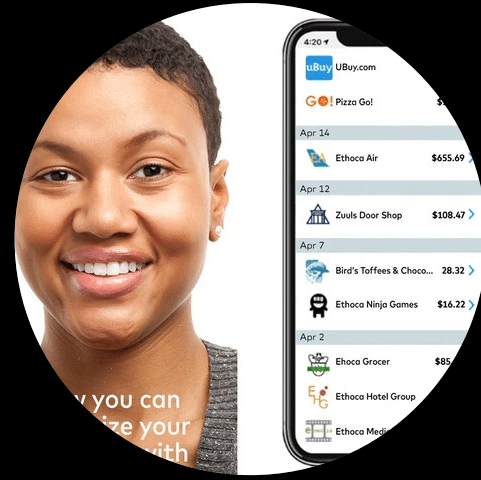


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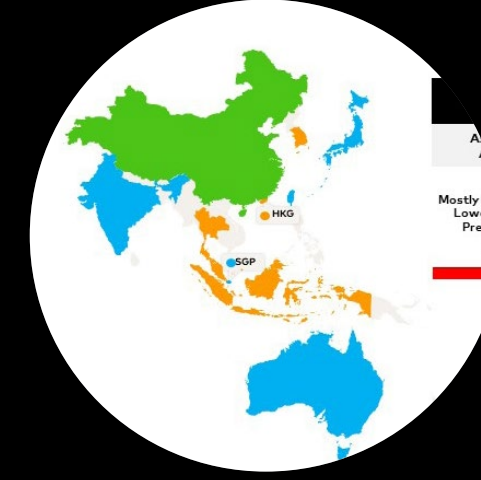
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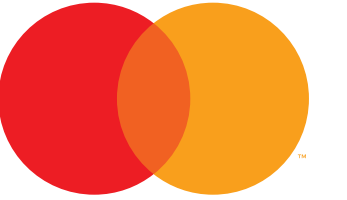
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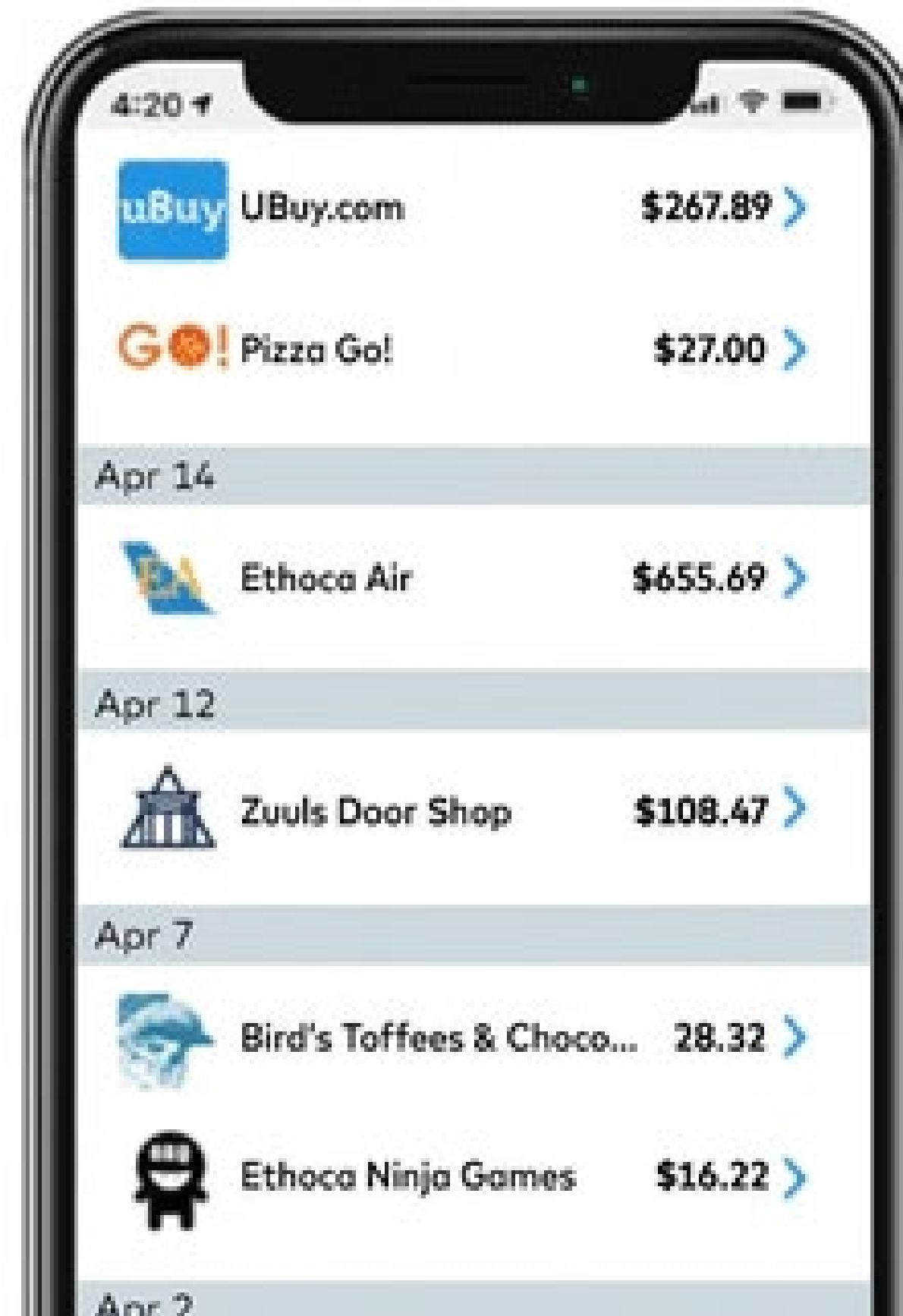
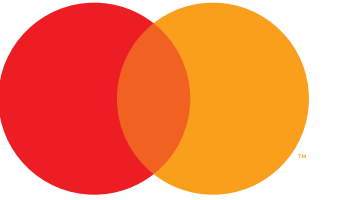


Digital Skills for 100K Indonesians By End 2022

We're celebrating the first anniversary of Mastercard Academy 2.0. This flagship program was designed to support the Indonesian government's top priority of developing a new generation of workers, who possess high quality technology skills and can participate successfully in the expanding digital economy.

[Watch now](#) to learn more.

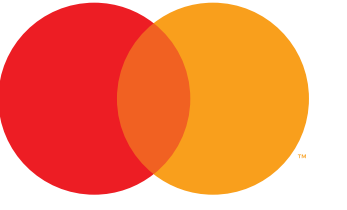
Contact us →



Too Many Chargebacks? Give Consumers Clarity

Let's be clear. Consumers are tired of deciphering cryptic purchase descriptions when reviewing digital banking statements. To avoid unnecessary disputes and costly chargebacks, we've launched a new initiative, managed by **Ethoca**, which allows merchants to upload logos for inclusion in online banking apps. The logo is linked to corresponding transactions, helping cardholders to quickly identify legitimate purchases. All merchants and financial institutions are welcome!

Join us →



RTPs: Supporting Nation Building Agendas

The shift from cash to a digital economy fuelled by real-time payments (RTPs) has accelerated. With financial inclusion via payments digitization at the core of most nation-building agendas, Asia now leads the world in RTPs. Asia Pacific Co-President Ari Sarker says the next challenge is connecting those infrastructures across borders.

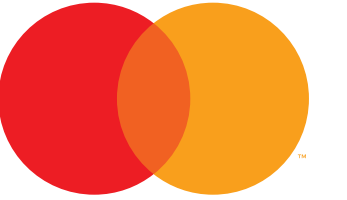
[More on this at Business Insider →](#)



Open Banking: The Race To Protect Data Rights

Data decency and consumer trust are the bedrock of open banking. Head of Services for Asia Pacific Matthew Driver says decency, transparency and consumer consent are required for long-term success, and shares why open banking, if done right, will change the world.

[More on this at The Paypers →](#)



Technology Gets Money Back Into The Economy

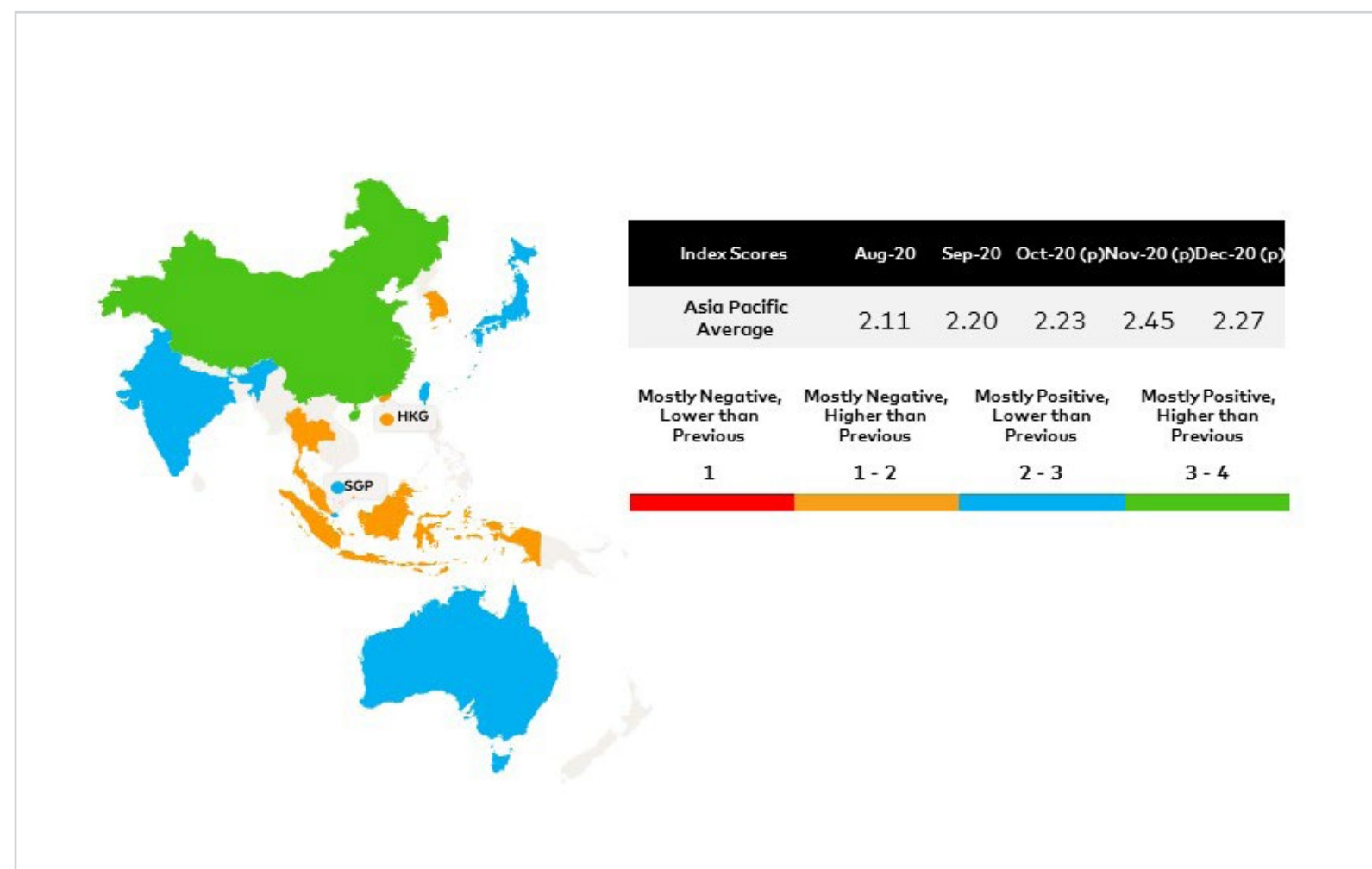
Mastercard Chief Economist for APAC & MEA says technology can bring more people into the formal economy through digital payments and spending, supporting economic recovery.

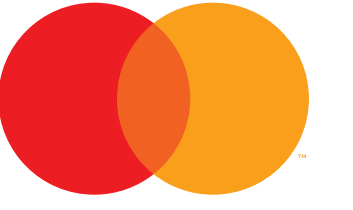
[Watch now at CNBC →](#)

Asia Pacific Consumer Retail Barometer

The AP regional average dipped in December, ending a four months long upward streak, pulled down by weakening consumer confidence and overall drops in most markets.

[Download the report →](#)

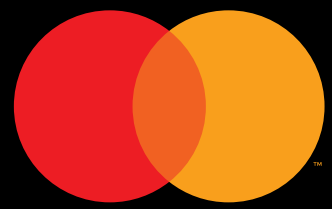




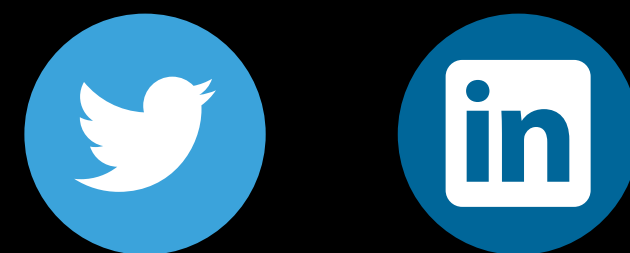
Bringing Fans Closer Than Ever To the AO Action

As the official payment partner of the Australian Open, we combined Mastercard's passion for technology with the worldwide love of tennis to invite fans to Open the Open at [Priceless.com](https://www.priceless.com). Priceless Experiences ranged from being a Virtual Fan and going behind the scenes with Mastercard's smart humanoids to 1:1 livestreams with our tennis ambassadors. Capping it off, promotions celebrated Melbourne's small businesses and Mastercard ambassador Naomi Osaka won her fourth Grand Slam title!

Relive the highlights →



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