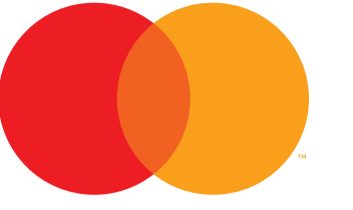


Asia Pacific Spotlight



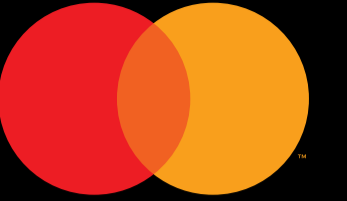
A WARM WELCOME



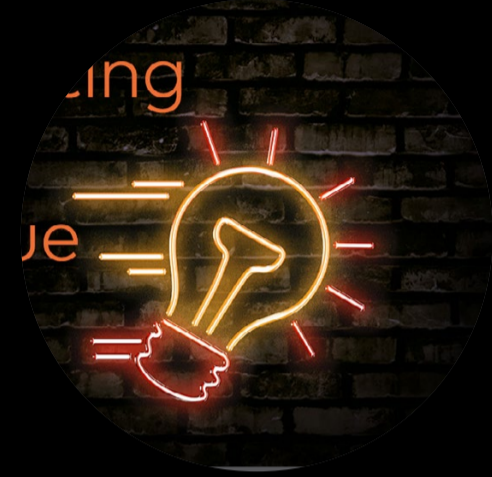
Many of us are longing to travel again to try new things, be inspired and meet new people. And while we may need to wait to see a new place from 35,000 feet, we're thankful that technology has made it possible to have these experiences virtually. In this issue, we explore how we'll be doing just that at the upcoming Singapore Fintech Festival – the definitive crystal ball on the future of fintech and payments.

Taking stock of where things stand today, our Co-Presidents talk through the strides we've made in accelerating digital commerce, helping our economies to recover more quickly. Looking ahead, we're excited about game-changing developments on the horizon and the spirit of partnership in the air that will reshape the future of commerce. And while we have many reasons to be optimistic, maintaining this momentum requires working together to ensure that those who have been hardest hit by the pandemic - small businesses and women - aren't left behind. Read on to learn more.

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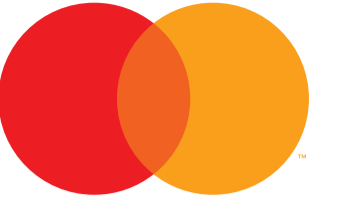


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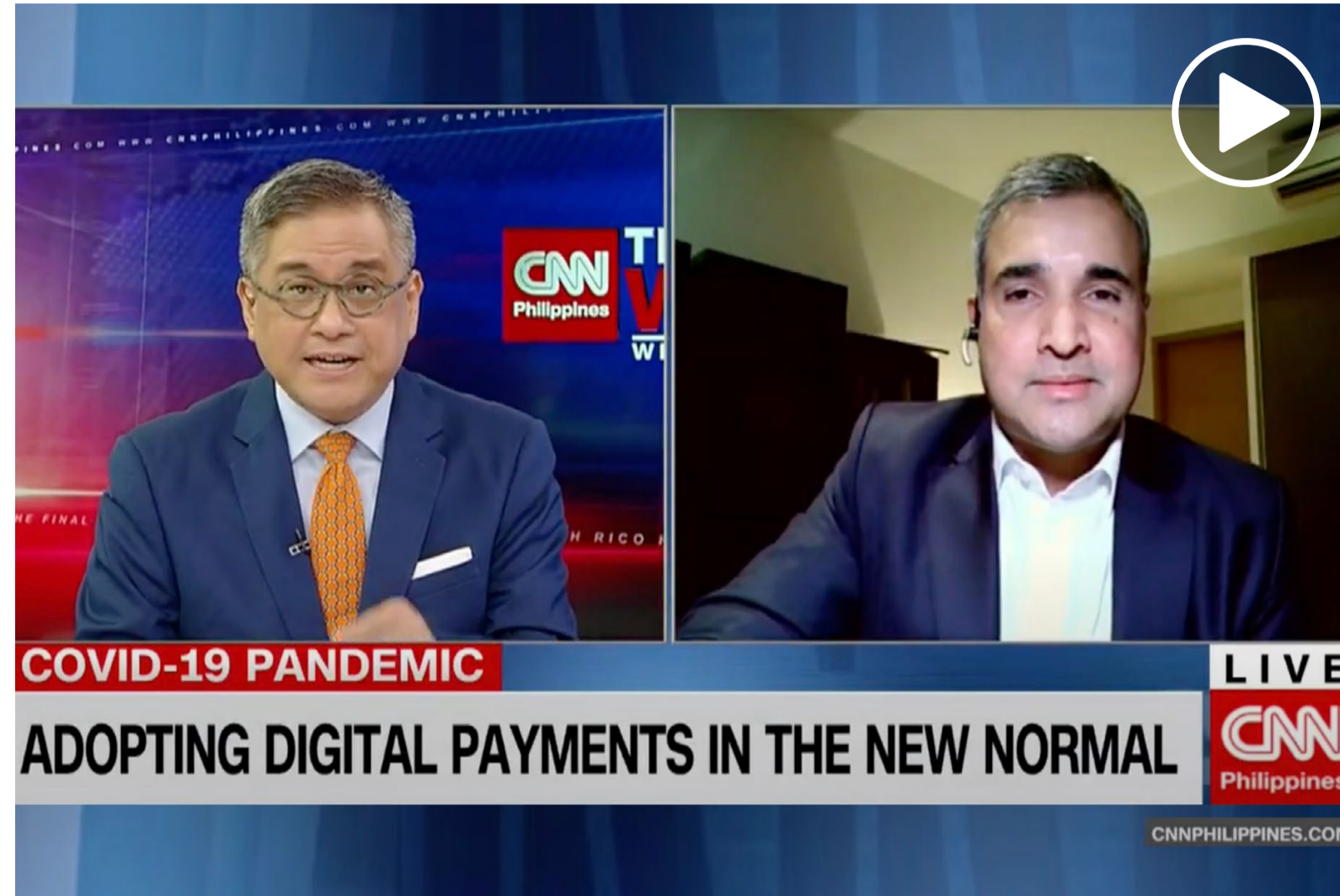
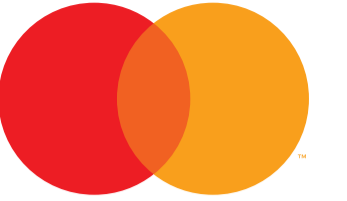


Visit Us Virtually at the Singapore Fintech Festival

We're closing 2020 on a high note! From 7 to 11 December, Mastercard will be headlining the world's largest fintech event as a Grand Sponsor of the Singapore Fintech Festival (SFF) which will feature a 24-hour online experience over five days with satellite events in 40+ global fintech hubs.

We'll have an exciting line-up of speakers on stage including President & CEO-elect Michael Miebach and Asia Pacific Co-President Ari Sarker. Visitors to the immersive SFF platform can virtually tour Singapore and interact with us through our digital showcase, workshops, lab crawls and more. We look forward to connecting with bold innovators around the world and forging new partnerships. If you're at SFF, do come see us, and even if you're not, you can follow all the action on [LinkedIn](#) and [@MastercardAP](#).

Explore SFF →



Digital Ramp-Up Benefits the Region

The pandemic accelerated adoption of digital payments worldwide. With cashless options becoming the new normal, what lies ahead for countries like the Philippines? CNN's Rico Hizon speaks to Mastercard Asia Pacific Co-President Ari Sarker to find out how consumers and businesses in Asia are adapting.

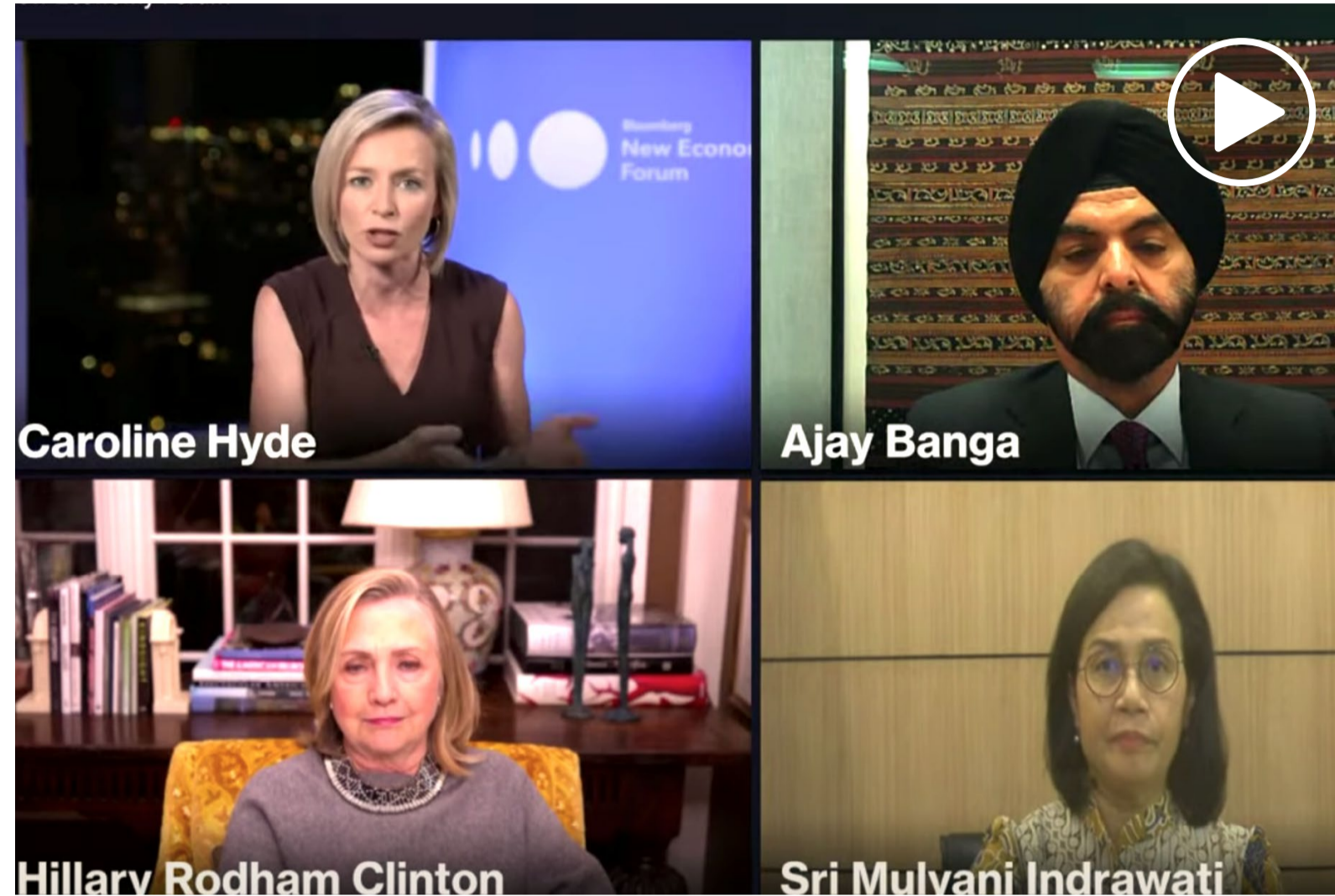
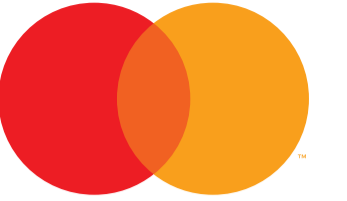
[Watch now on CNN →](#)



Consumer Spending Returning to Normal

Speaking from the Bloomberg New Economy Forum, Mastercard Asia Pacific Co-President Ling Hai provides updates on Mastercard's China domestic market entry, how consumer spending across the APAC region is recovering from COVID-19, and expectations for cross-border travel.

[Watch now on Bloomberg →](#)



A Matter of Survival: Supporting SMEs

At the Bloomberg New Economy Forum, Mastercard CEO Ajay Banga, Hillary Clinton and Indonesian Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati discuss how the public and private sectors can help SMEs to weather the economic storm caused by COVID-19 and close the digital divide.

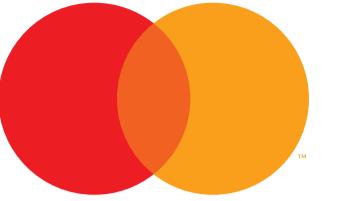
[Watch now on Bloomberg →](#)



Payments Prediction: Your Face is the Future

Imagine paying using only your face, voice or a wave of the hand. Soon biometrics and the integration of AI, technology tools, and social commerce will make passwords and pins things of the past. Mastercard Asia Pacific Co-President Ari Sarker and Executive VP, Products & Innovation for Asia Pacific Sandeep Malhotra offer a peek into the future.

[Learn more at Business Insider →](#)



The Mastercard Index of Women Entrepreneurs 2020

Tracking the progress of women entrepreneurs and business owners representing 80% of the world's female workforce across 58 economies, including 15 in the Asia Pacific region.

Asia Pacific Ranking

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
							
New Zealand	Australia	Thailand	Chinese Taipei	Hong Kong SAR	Philippines	Indonesia	Mainland China

9	10	11	12	13	14	15
						
Singapore	Vietnam	Malaysia	South Korea	Japan	India	Bangladesh

COVID-19 Could Set Back a Generation

Mastercard's annual Index tracking the progress of women in business revealed that seven economies in Asia Pacific are among the top 20 worldwide that are most conducive to women's entrepreneurship. See why they stand out and how women's lives have been disproportionately disrupted by the pandemic.

[More on this →](#)

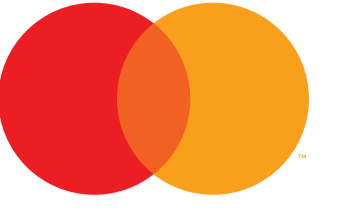


With Guest Speaker
Gautam Aggarwal
& Host **Rashmi Dalai**

Coopetition: Pipe Dream or Real Thing?

In this episode we explore the concept of coopetition - collaborating with competitors to win. Is it still beneficial for tech companies, or does losing ownership of IP outweigh the benefits? As nationalist sentiment and protectionist tendencies persist, how can companies make the most of it in today's environment?

[Listen now →](#)



Asia Pacific Consumer Retail Barometer



Index Scores	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20 (p)	Aug-20 (p)	Sep-20 (p)
Asia Pacific Average	1.89	2.18	2.16	2.07	2.18

This graphic illustrates the aggregate score of the 4 metrics detailed below.

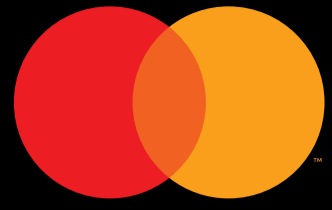
(p) – preliminary data



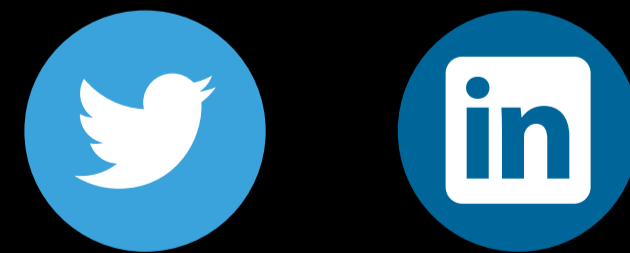
Regional Snapshot:

Upticks in Mainland China, South Korea, Malaysia and Australia helped to reverse a two-month down streak in the Asia Pacific average, returning it to the June 2020 level, despite dips in Hong Kong SAR, Thailand, Indonesia and India.

[Download Report →](#)



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