

ACRONYMS

A*STAR	Agency for Science Technology and Research (Singapore)
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFTA	ASEAN Free Trade Area
AMC	Asset Management Corporation (Thailand)
APEC	Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASEAN	Association of South East Asia Nations
ASEM	Asian European Leaders Meeting
BCBC	Business and Commerce Bank of China
BCIC	Bumiputera Commercial and Industrial Community (Malaysia)
BIBF	Bangkok International Banking Facilities (Thailand)
BLIC	Business License Information Centre (Hong Kong)
BO	build-operate
BOI	Board of Investment (Thailand)
BOO	build-operate-own
BOT	build-operate-transfer
BSA	Business Software Alliance
CCP	Chinese Communist Party
CDRC	Corporate Debt Restructuring Committee (Malaysia)
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEPA	Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (Hong Kong)
CEPT	Common Effective Preferential Tariff
CFA	Court of Final Appeal (Hong Kong)
CFIC	China Federation of Industry and Commerce
CPPCC	Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference
CPV	Communist Party of Vietnam
CSSA	Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (Hong Kong)
DFI	development finance institutions (Malaysia)
DOS	Department of Statistics (Malaysia)
EFC	Entrepreneurship Factor Conditions
EPF	Employees Provident Fund (Malaysia)
EPZ	Export Processing Zones (Taiwan)
EU	European Union
FDI	foreign direct investment
FIC	Federations of Industry and Commerce (PRC)
FSMI	Fund for Small and Medium Industries (Malaysia)
GDP	gross domestic product
GEM	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
HCM	Ho Chi Minh City
HK	Hong Kong
HKASTRI	Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute Company
HKJICIM	Hong Kong Jockey Club Institute of Chinese Medicine
HKMA	Hong Kong Monetary Authority
HKPC	Hong Kong Productivity Council
HKWPEA	Hong Kong Women Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association

HOME	Home Owner Mortgage Enhancement Program (Hong Kong)
HSIP	Hsinchu Science-based Industrial Park (Taiwan)
IA	Infrastructure Allowance (Malaysia)
IAA	Industrial Adjustment Allowance (Malaysia)
ICAC	Independent Commission Against Corruption
ICT	information communications technology
IDA	Infocomm Development Agency (Singapore)
IDC	Infrastructure Development Corporation (Malaysia)
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPO	initial public offering
IPP	intellectual property protection
IPR	intellectual property rights
ITA	Investment Tax Allowance (Malaysia)
JSBs	Joint Stock Banks (Vietnam)
JTC	Jurong Town Corporation (Singapore)
KLIBOR	Kuala Lumpur Interbank Offered Rate (Malaysia)
L/Cs	letters of credit
LFPR	labor force participation rate
LFS	Labor Force Survey (Malaysia)
LOBATA	Labuan Offshore Business Activity Tax Act (Malaysia)
MAI	market for alternative investment (Thailand)
MAS	Malaysian Airline System
MBA	Master's of Business Administration
MDC	Multimedia Development Corporation (Malaysia)
MESDAQ	Malaysian Exchange of Securities Dealing and Automated Quotation
METI	Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (Japan)
MFN	most favored nation
MISC	Malaysian International Shipping Corporation
MITI	Ministry of International Trade and Industry (now METI, Japan)
MITI	Ministry of International Trade and Industry (Malaysia)
MNC	Multinational Corporation
MOFTEC	Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation (PRC)
MPDF	Mekong Project Development Facility
MPF	Mandatory Provident Fund Ordinance (Hong Kong)
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment (Vietnam)
MSC	Multimedia Super Corridor (Malaysia)
MTDC	Malaysian Technology Development Corporation
NEL	New Enterprise Law (Vietnam)
NEP	New Economic Policy (Malaysia)
NIC	newly industrializing countries
NPL	non-performing loans
NTB	non-tariff barrier
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturing
OPP3	Third Outside Perspective Plan (Malaysia)
OSDBU	Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (Singapore)
OTC	over the counter
PC	personal computer
PIBF	Provincial International Banking Facilities (Thailand)

PRC	People's Republic of China
PS	pioneer status
PSB	Productivity and Standards Board (former name for SPRING)
R&D	research and development
RWCR	risk-weighted capital ratio
SAR	Special Administrative Region (Hong Kong)
SBV	State Bank of Vietnam
SERAP	Small Entrepreneur Research Assistance Program (Hong Kong)
SET	Security Exchange of Thailand
SIBOR	Singapore Interbank Offered Rate
SME	small and medium-sized enterprises
SMEIC	Small and Medium Enterprises Information Centre (Hong Kong)
SMI	small-medium scale industries (Malaysia)
SMIDEC	Small- and Medium-Scale Industry Development Corporation (Malaysia)
SOCBs	State Owned Commercial Banks (Vietnam)
SOE	State-owned Enterprise
SPRING	Singapore Productivity, Innovation and Growth
SSN	social safety nets
STM	Syarikat Telekom (M) Berhad (Malaysia)
SUCCESS	Support and Consultation Centre for SMEs (Hong Kong)
TDC	Hong Kong Trade Development Council
TEC	The Enterprise Challenge (Singapore)
TFR	total fertility rate
TNB	Tenaga Nasional Berhad (Malaysia)
TPUB	Bumiputera Entrepreneurs Project Fund (Malaysia)
TRIPS	Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (agreement)
TSPE	Tentative Stipulations on Private Enterprises (PRC)
TVE	Township and Village Enterprise (PRC)
UCE	Urban Collective Enterprise (PRC)
UMNO	United Malaysia National Organization
USBTA	Bilateral Trade Agreement between United States and Vietnam
VAT	value-added tax
VC	venture capital
VCC	venture capital companies
VCCI	Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry Vietnam
VND	Vietnam Dong
WB	World Bank
WTO	World Trade Organization