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AHK Sri Lanka

Monthly Newsletter



Delegation der Deutschen
Wirtschaft in Sri Lanka
Delegation of German Industry
and Commerce in Sri Lanka

 Partner In Sri Lanka

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Current Development

COVID-19 Update

As at 28 October 2022, active cases of COVID-19 amounted for 99. Fully Vaccinated travelers do not need to take pre-boarding and on arrival (day 01) Covid-19 test (PCR or Rapid Antigen test) before travelling to Sri Lanka.

Relaxation of Import Restriction

The Import and Export Control Department published Gazette No. 2296/30 (Regulations No. 13 of 2022) selectively relaxed the previously imposed import restrictions.

Raw materials or intermediate goods, specified in Schedule I, not sufficiently available locally and required for any products, which are locally manufactured with a minimum of 20% local value addition, will be allowed to be imported by the Controller General of Imports and Exports on the recommendation of the Secretary of Ministry of Industries.

Importation of project-related capital goods, listed in Schedule I (including international brands being imported by registered agents) for any Strategic Development Projects or other projects, funded by foreign direct investors or local investors, approved under Section 17 of the Board of Investment (BOI) of Sri Lanka Act No. 4 of 1978, are permitted to be imported with the recommendation of the Director General of Board of Investment.

Gazette Notification No. 2297/79 dated 16 September 2022 was published by the Department of Imports and Exports Control to amend the payments terms for empowering imports under the payment systems of open accounts/payment after sale of goods basis in relation to import of essential food items including milk powder, dhal and poultry food products.

BOI launches Investor Facilitation Centre (IFC)

The Board of Investment (BOI) of Sri Lanka launched an Investor Facilitation Centre (IFC) with the aim to provide an efficient service to investors while streamlining the investment approval process and strengthening inter-agency coordination.

The overall objective is to complete the investment approval process within 14 days.

Global Innovation Index (GII) of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka secured the 85th position in the world ranking and fifth in the regional ranking on the 2022 edition of the Global Innovation Index (GII). Analysis of the breakdown of the ranking score showed that Sri Lanka was given a rank of 119 for its institution, 120 for human capital and research, 73 for infrastructure, 108 for market sophistication, 71 for business sophistication, 66 for knowledge and technology outputs, and 69 for creative outputs.

In the Global Innovation Index (GII), Germany was ranked in the 8th most innovative economy.

Sri Lanka ranked among safest tourist nations to travel

Sri Lanka was ranked among the top 13 safest countries to travel in the world as per the online travel community platform WorldPackers.com.

Supply Chain Due Diligence - Questionnaire for reporting published by German authority

On 14 October, the BAFA (The Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control) published the catalogue of questions for reporting on the German Supply Chain Act (LkSG). The document allows companies to check how they can fully comply with their reporting obligation from 01.01.2023. Click [here](#) to refer to the document in German.



German supply chain act and its impact on Sri Lankan exporters

Starting next year Sri Lankan exporters will have to face strict rules when accessing the German market, due to the new law that comes into force in Germany on January 1, 2023. The law on corporate due diligence in supply chains stipulates that German importers must ensure that their suppliers follow human rights, labor laws and sustainability/environmental standards or they will face penalties. The push for the new law began after a factory building called Rana Plaza collapsed, killing nearly 1,000 people.

The main statement of this law is that employers must ensure their employees' safety and workplace conditions. It states to respect basic labor laws and human rights, such as no forced labor, child labor, etc. and the treatment of employees according to the law. Consumer awareness of production conditions rose after the Rana Plaza incident in 2013 (the collapse of a garment factory in Bangladesh) and led to a national wide interest in better supply chain management and transparency. Especially Germans love excellent quality products, and they want to make sure that these were made decently. The German consumers have attached significant importance to good working conditions, building fire safety and other protective measures. The European Union has now also presented a draft of a supply chain law for all of Europe. This means that the entire EU internal market will be subject to a uniform set of rules. This will make life easier for all companies doing business in and with Europe.

Since Sri Lanka, as a country, already sticks to most standards as far as working conditions and child labor, it has quite an advantage compared to the South/South-East Asia region. Sri Lankan laws only need some more enforcement. Overall, the risk of penalties is lower than in other surrounding countries. It is an especially good opportunity for Sri Lanka's garment and agriculture sectors to enter the German market and be competitive.

Topics Sri Lankan companies should improve are the freedom of association and collective bargaining to allow workers to form unions or works councils. The treatment of workers should be equal and not based on their gender or other social factors, therefore discrimination based on gender or other reasons is not acceptable. Furthermore, overtime regulations, lawful payments and health protection must be available for all employees equally.

As Germany's industry is trying to diversify its supplier base, finding alternatives to China. German businesses are interested in reliable new partners in South/South-East Asia and Sri Lanka has a well-developed industry for that. Sri Lankan businesses are competitive and can be particularly good suppliers for German customers.

If you need more information on this topic, please contact [AHK Sri Lanka](#).

This article was written by:

Lara Buche

Intern at AHK Sri Lanka



Economic Data of Sri Lanka

Economic Growth in Sri Lanka

In the second quarter of 2022, the economy of Sri Lanka shrank by -8.4% compared to the previous year. The overall Agriculture, Industry and Services activities declined by 8.4 percent, 10.0 percent and 2.2 percent respectively, in the second quarter of 2022. The decline is attributed to the fertilizer, fuel shortages and the global economic volatility.

Forecast by ADB

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has lowered Sri Lanka's growth outlook to a negative 8.8% this year as opposed to a positive 2.4% estimated in April. ADB is also forecasting a 3.3% negative growth next year for Sri Lanka revising from a 2.5% positive growth previously forecast.

Inflation

Inflation based on the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) in September 2022 was 73.70%. Food inflation (Y-o-Y) increased to 94.9% in September 2022 from 93.7% in August 2022.

Trade Statistics

According to the statistics published by the Export Development Board, Sri Lanka's merchandise exports increased by 5.75 % y-o-y to USD 1,093.98 Mn in September 2022 with cumulative exports amounting to USD 9,996.19 Mn in Jan-Sep 2022. The estimated value of services exports for the period of Jan-Sep 2022 was USD 1,455.75 Mn, increasing 3.8% over the corresponding period of 2021. The EU accounted for 22.93 % of total Sri Lanka's merchandise exports.

Import expenditure in Jan-Aug 2022 decreased by 4.6% to USD 12,801 Mn. Lower importation of commercial vehicles, such as agricultural tractors and tankers and bowsers, contributed mainly to the drop in the import expenditure on

transport equipment.

German Exports to Sri Lanka

Exports from Germany to Sri Lanka amounted to EUR 149,855,000 in Jan-Aug 2022, indicating a decrease of 16.1% compared to the same period of the previous year.

German Imports from Sri Lanka

Germany imported from Sri Lanka goods amounting to EURO 679,655,000 in Jan-Aug 2022, compared to EURO 563,635,000 in the same period of the previous year, indicating an increase of + 20.6%.

Sri Lankan Global Exports

Apparel and Textile Exports

Apparel and Textile exports increased by 17.61% to USD 4,562.67 Mn during the period of Jan-Sep 2022 compared to the same period of 2021.

Rubber-based Exports

Export earnings from Rubber-based finished products decreased by -2.18% to USD 787.87 Mn in Jan-Sep 2022 compared with the same period of 2021. The decrease was attributed to lower exports of Industrial & surgical Gloves (-20.87%).

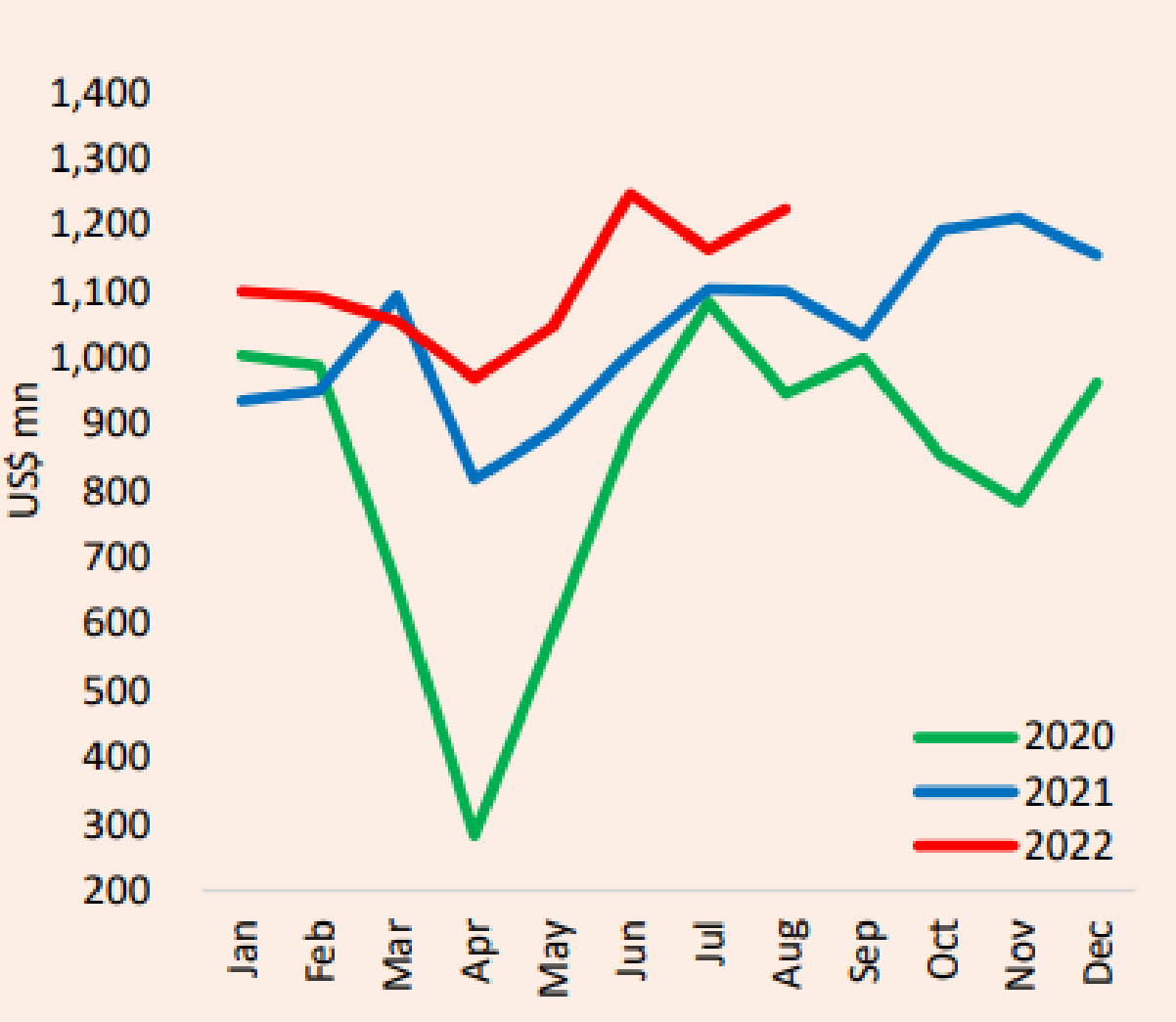
Tea Exports

Export earnings from Tea decreased by -5.27% to USD 937.14 Mn during the period of Jan-Sep 2022 compared with the corresponding period of 2021. Sub categories of tea sector exports such as Tea packets (-5.87%), Bulk Tea (-5.15%), Instant Tea (-17.37%) and Green Tea (-48.96%) decreased.

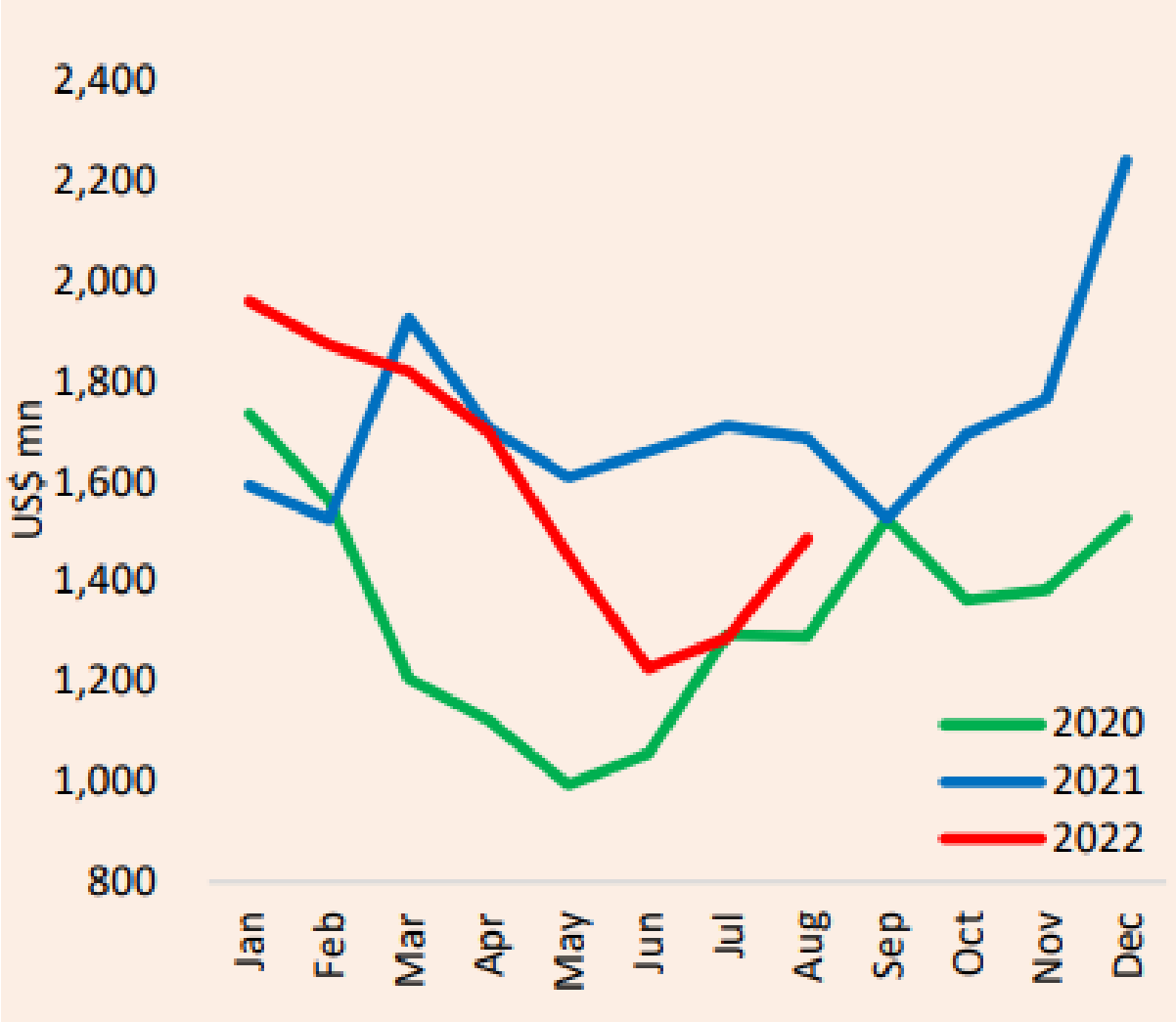
Coconut-based Exports

Coconut-based export earnings increased by 4.90% to USD 638.58 Mn during the period of Jan-Sep 2022 .

Export Performance of Sri Lanka 2022



Import Performance of Sri Lanka 2022

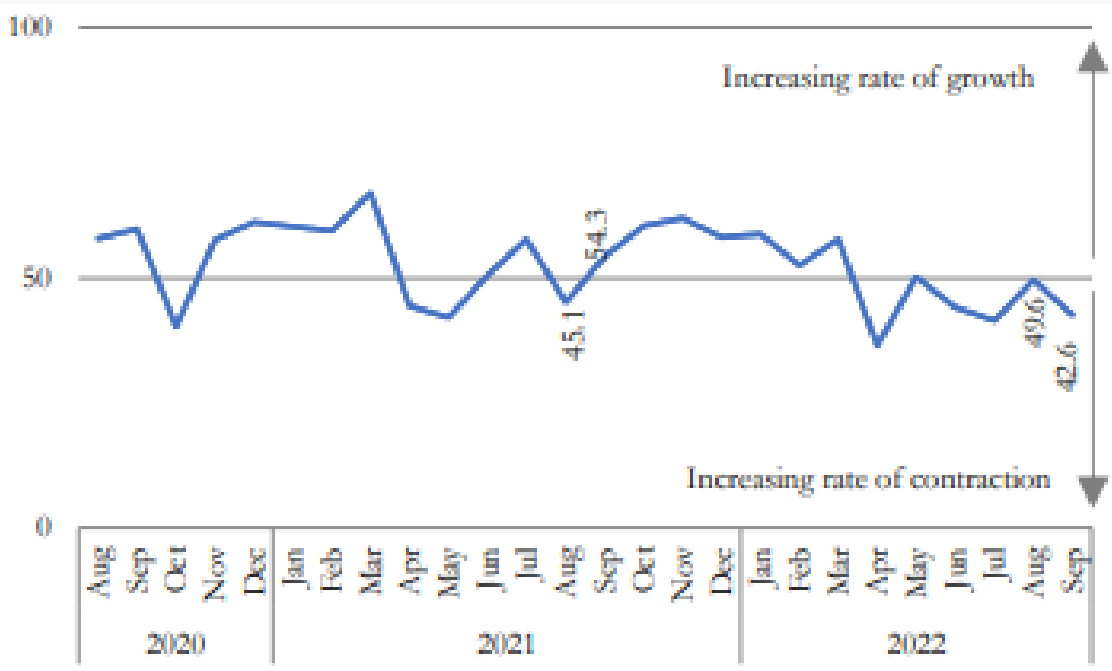


Foreign Exchange

During the year up to 21st October 2022, the Sri Lankan rupee depreciated against the US dollar by -44.8% and Euro by -36.1%.

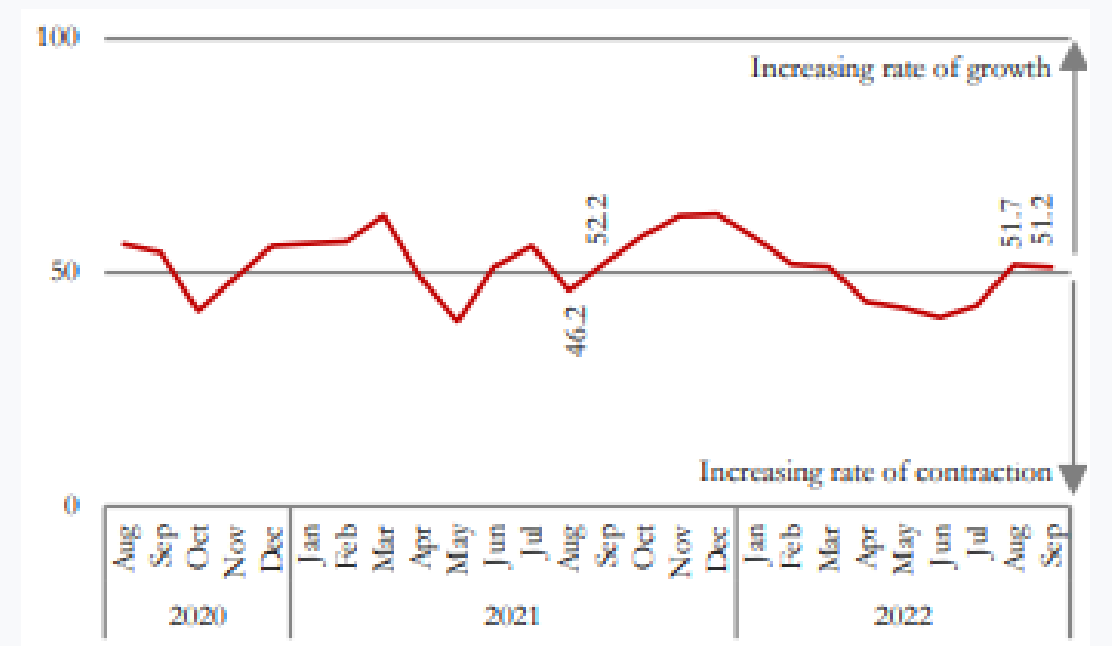
As at 30 September 2022, Official Reserve Assets (USD Mn) amounted to USD 1,777 Mn. This includes proceeds from the People's Bank of China (PBOC) swap equivalent to around USD 1.4 bn, which is subject to conditionalities on usability.

Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index



Manufacturing PMI recorded an index value of 42.6 in September 2022, with a decline of 7.0 index points from the previous month driven by the decreases in all the sub-indices, except Employment and Suppliers' Delivery Time.

Services Purchasing Managers' Index



Services PMI recorded an index value of 51.2 in September 2022 indicating a marginal expansion in the services sector driven by the increases observed in New Businesses, Business Activities and Expectations for Activity.

Tourism Sector

The total number of international tourist arrivals to Sri Lanka during September 2022 was 29,802, indicating a y-o-y decline of 80.1%.

Europe became the largest source of tourist traffic to Sri Lanka with 44.4% of the total traffic received in September 2022. German tourists amounted to 8.1% of total tourist arrivals in the same duration.

According to Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority (SLTDA), the spike in demand for tourists to visit Sri Lanka could be owing to factors such as the easy access, preference for short haul travel and consumer confidence which is gradually building up with the recent marketing and promotional initiatives.

Top primary markets for tourists to Sri Lanka - Jan-Sept 2022



Upcoming Events

CEO's Dinner

Date: 17 November 2022

CEOs from specific German brands in Sri Lanka will meet together to discuss the current challenges in their respective industries, and the way forward. The special guest at the event will provide an economic outlook for the year 2023 and how companies could navigate through the upcoming year ahead.

Sustainability Awards 2022

Date: 02 December 2022



Implemented by **FRIEDRICH NAUMANN FOUNDATION** for Freedom, Sri Lanka

In partnership with **AHK** Delegation der Deutschen Wirtschaft in Sri Lanka (Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka)

Sustainability Awards 2022

IDENTIFYING ROLE MODELS TO DRIVE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

We are recognizing the sustainability initiatives and awarding companies across the **Agriculture, Textile and Tourism Sectors**

For more information: please visit www.shorturl.at/xWXZ6

The Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (FNF) and Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in Sri Lanka is organizing 'Sustainability Awards 2022', to recognize the sustainability initiatives and award companies across the Agriculture, Textile and Tourism Sectors. Interested companies from the specific sectors that have embarked on sustainability and due diligence in their supply chains are encouraged to apply. We are now accepting entries for the Sustainability Awards 2022.

⇒ Final Entry Deadline: 08 November 2022

To be eligible for the Sustainability Award 2022, please submit nominations [here](#).

“Warehouse operator – Cooperative Training” Graduation

Date: 05 December 2022

In cooperation with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Sri Lanka, the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (AHK Sri Lanka) and the Tertiary and Vocational Education Commission (TVEC), leading logistic companies in Sri Lanka such as Aitken Spence Logistics, EFL Global, Hayleys Advantis Limited 3PL, John Keells Logistics, Hellmann MAS Supply Chain and CINEC Campus joined the German-certified Warehouse Operator Training initiative.

30 representatives from logistics front runners of Sri Lanka who will complete the 'Warehouse operator – Cooperative Training' examination in November 2022 will be awarded at the graduation ceremony on the 5th December 2022.

Train the Trainer Online course “Ada International Basic” Commencing in November 2022

The course will cover four modules including Analyze, Plan, Conduct, Complete and will alternate between online training and self-learning sessions, with a total duration of approx. 40 hours. Participants will acquire valuable information and knowledge concerning online teaching, improve their professional skills, and act as multipliers in your company. Successful participants will receive an official German trainer certificate issued by AHK Sri Lanka. The training is free of charge. Interested individuals can register [here](#).

Exhibitor Delegation to International Green Week 2023

Date: 20 - 29 January 2023



IGW is the origin of the Global Forum for Food and Agriculture (GFFA). This is where over 70 international ministries and food producers meet – their displays reveal the fascinating world of the food and beverage industries. 400,000 visitors and 1,880 exhibitors across 72 countries participate in the International Green Week. Every year more than 300 forums, seminars, conferences, and committee meetings take place. The importance of the exhibition is clearly demonstrated by the presence of 200 international ministers and secretaries of state.

Plans are underway at AHK Sri Lanka for a Sri Lankan exhibitor delegation to International Green Week 2023 - world's leading trade fair for food, agriculture, and gardening. The delegation trip to the trade-fair will be the ideal for exporters of culinary delicacies, including fruit & vegetables, fish & meat, and wine & beer.

Visitor Delegation to INHORGENTA MUNICH 2023

Date: 24–27 February 2023



INHORGENTA MUNICH, Europe's leading platform for jewelry, timepieces and gemstones is the order and communications platform for the industry and reflects the market in all its diversity. Spread over six halls at Messe München, exhibitors from across the globe will present their latest creations. Through its extensive supporting program, comprising the INHORGENTA AWARD and the TRENDFACTORY MUNICH, the trade fair offers an in-depth overview of international trends and developments. The last the trade fair brought 1,055 exhibitors from 44 countries and around 26,000 visitors from 85 countries to Munich.

Exhibitor Delegation to transport logistic Munich

Date: 09 - 12 May 2023



The transport logistic Munich gives visitors a complete look at the entire process chain of the transport and logistics sector. At the trade fair, more and more exhibitors from Germany and all around the world present their innovative products and services. Transport logistic Munich also features an extensive program of related events and conferences. Furthermore the trade fair serves as an ideal platform for knowledge transfer and networking. About 2162 exhibitors from 62 countries and 60726 visitors from 123 countries attend the the transport logistic trade fair in Munich.

Visitor Delegation to spoga+gafa

Date: 18 –20 June 2023



Spoga+gafa is the world's leading international trade fair for the garden and leisure industry and open to trade visitors only. The fair is characterized by the high internationality of exhibitors and visitors, making it the most important platform in the industry to conquer new markets, to find new contacts and to learn about the latest trends and innovations.

Visitor Delegation to A+A 2023

Date: 24 - 27 October 2023



The A+A provides the world's leading international trade fair as a leading platform for business, communication and information. It covers the entire spectrum of exhibits for Safety and Security. The exhibitors - from small businesses to global players - will present a remarkable portfolio of products, solutions and innovative concepts and themes. About 1,942 exhibitors and 67,248 visitors attend the A + A in Düsseldorf.

For more information on trade fairs, please contact:

Mr. Malintha Gajanayake, Head of Corporate Affairs & Export Promotions via malintha@srilanka.ahk.de



**FRIEDRICH NAUMANN
FOUNDATION** For Freedom.
Sri Lanka



Delegation der Deutschen
Wirtschaft in Sri Lanka
Delegation of German Industry
and Commerce in Sri Lanka

Sustainability Awards 2022



We are now
accepting
nominations

Identifying role models to drive sustainable change
*Recognizing the sustainability initiatives and awarding
companies across the Agriculture, Textile and Tourism
sectors*

Award Categories



Large Enterprise: from
Agriculture and Textile
sectors



Hotel/Accommodation
Service Provider



**Small and Medium
Enterprise:** from
Agriculture and Textile
sectors



Tour Operator/Destination
Management Company
(DMCs)

Last date to submit nominations:
08 November 2022

Apply here:
shorturl.at/qsJN0

Past Events

Celebrating the success stories of German businesses at 'Top German Brands in Sri Lanka 2022'

The 8th edition of the 'Top German Brands in Sri Lanka' event organized by the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (AHK Sri Lanka), with the support of the German Embassy in Colombo, was held on Thursday, 13th October 2022 at Hilton Colombo.

With the aim to encourage cooperation, networking, and exchange among world market leaders and industry peers from Germany and Sri Lanka, the 'Top German Brands in Sri Lanka 2022' flagship event showcased the presence of over 260 German brands in the country and emphasized the two countries' long-standing economic relations. German business representatives, and high-level decision makers in Sri Lanka attended the event to catch up with the latest news relating to the German-Sri Lankan business affairs, and took advantage of the networking opportunities to create long-lasting business partnerships.

Chief Delegate of the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (AHK Sri Lanka), Ms. Marie Antonia von Schönburg, welcomed over 160 representatives of German brands established in Sri Lanka at the event. In her welcoming remarks, Ms. von Schönburg highlighted the achievements of AHK Sri Lanka and German businesses in the year 2022, and the impactful collaborations with project partners such as Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Goethe-Institute and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom in Sri Lanka. The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Sri Lanka and Maldives, H.E. Holger Seubert, provided with an overview of German-Sri Lankan bilateral trade and investments. Mr. Anushka Wijesinha, Economist and Co-Founder of Centre for a Smart Future, gave his

perspective on 'The economy of Sri Lanka and its' challenges and prospects'.



[Check the event photos here](#)



Discussion with AHK Sri Lanka 'HR Sector Committee'



The AHK Sri Lanka Human Resources (HR) sector committee met yesterday to discuss the common challenges faced by HR professionals and the way forward.

In attendance were HR representatives from companies such as Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited, Aqua Dynamics Private Limited, B Braun, CAP Ceylon, DHL Keells (Pvt) Ltd, Diesel & Motor Engineering PLC, Eu-Retec Pvt Ltd, Hafele India Private Limited, Hapag Lloyd Lanka (Pvt) Ltd, Hayleys Travels (Pvt.) Ltd., Hellmann MAS Supply Chain, J.M.Wickramarachchi & Company. (PVT) Ltd, KRAMSKI Lanka (Pvt) Ltd., MAN Energy Solutions, Robert Bosch Lanka (Pvt.) Ltd, and Senok Group Trade Combine.

The discussion with the committee members, moderated by Ms. Marie Antonia von Schönburg, drew attention to concerns such as employee retention, wages, employee compensation, and possible tax implications. The HR sector committee of AHK Sri Lanka will cooperate to identify appropriate strategies and promote the vision of a fair workplace to increase the overall bottom line with a more diverse, equitable and inclusive workforce.

Discussion with AHK Sri Lanka 'Logistic & Maritime Committee'



AHK Sri Lanka Logistic and Maritime Committee members from Abans Logistics, Aitken Spence Shipping, ASL Logistics CMB, DBS Logistics, Freight Links International, Hapag Lloyd Lanka, Hayleys Advantis, Hellmann MAS Supply Chain, Kuehne + Nagel International, M&M (Militzer & Munch), Mercmarine Group of Companies and Icore Technology Solutions (Pvt) Ltd met on 27 October 2022 to discuss the various developments in the industry.

Matters such as the Private operators to operate Container Freight Stations, container yards for isolated containers at the port, taxation bond reduction, restriction imposed for the importation of spare parts, upgrading LPI, and recognition of containers for transshipment.

Ms. Marie Antonia von Schönburg, Chief Delegate and Mr. Malintha Gajanayake, Head of Corporate Affairs / Export Promotion at AHK Sri Lanka were pleased to inform the participants about the planned delegation from Sri Lanka to transport logistic that will take place from 09 - 12 May 2023 in Munich. The trade fair serves as an ideal platform for knowledge, know-how transfer and networking opportunities.

AHK Sri Lanka 'Breakfast Dialogue'



AHK Sri Lanka organized an insightful 'Breakfast Dialogue' meeting on 21 September with the attendance of CEOs and Executive Directors of German brands with the objective to promote a collaborative dialogue, and gain insight into pertaining topics that concern business relations.

Guest speaker at the event, Ms. Dilrukshi Kurukulasuriya, Executive Director/Chief Human Resources Officer at Diesel & Motor Engineering PLC presented on the topic 'People as Competitive Advantage' which underlined the importance of talent management, employee welfare, and redesigning the workplace to foster a healthy organization.

AHK Sri Lanka Sundowner Event with HR Managers

The 'Sundowner' event for HR Managers representing German brands was organized on 29 September, at the Galle Face Hotel with the objective to connect and socialize with associates, professionals and C-level executives in the Human Resources sphere. HR managers and executive directors from Hellmann MAS Supply Chain, DIMO, J.M. Wickramarachchi & Co, CAP Organics, Hapag-Lloyd, and Continental AG were among the attendees.

Discussion with AHK Sri Lanka Water Sector Committee

On September 15, 2022, AHK Sri Lanka hosted the second meeting of the newly established Water Committee. A total of 16 companies from the water sector were represented. In her opening speech, Marie Antonia von Schönburg reported on the inaugural meeting, which took place during Water Week. In the second meeting of the committee, decision-makers from the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) informed about the status and further planning of various water projects throughout Sri Lanka. The discussion that followed provided an opportunity for company representatives to engage in dialogue with the government agency. This allowed the companies to share the current status and further planning of various water projects in Sri Lanka. In order to expand knowledge, the AHK Sri Lanka would like to offer delegation trips to Germany, where the companies can visit fairs or German water projects to absorb practical aspects in the German water sector.

[AHK Sri Lanka is looking forward to further cooperation](#)

The AHK Sri Lanka draws a first incredibly positive interim conclusion. Building on the 2019 country profile for the circular and water economy, AHK Sri Lanka was able to provide important impulses for the water sector thanks to the Water Week. The German-Sri Lankan Water Week was financed as part of the Export Initiative for Environmental Protection by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety (BMU) and supported by the project "Chambers for GreenTech" of DIHK Service GmbH.

Continued in page 10.

Highlights

Recent progress and accomplishments of AHK Sri Lanka

AHK Sri Lanka meets representatives of National Medicines Regulatory Authority (NMRA)



AHK Sri Lanka meets Mahinda Amaraweera, Minister of Agriculture, Wildlife, and Forest Resources Conservation of Sri Lanka



AHK Sri Lanka meets Dr. P. Nandalal Weerasinghe, Governor of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka



The growing success of the environmental technology export initiative

Three months ago, the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (AHK Sri Lanka) held the first German-Sri Lankan Water Week with remarkable success. Since then, a lot has happened in Sri Lanka's water sector, including 25 young professionals from the National Water Supply and Drainage Board (NWSDB) completing the "German Water Certificate" training program. The training included knowledge about the building of a sustainable drinking water supply system as well as finding adequate sources of funding. The aim of this initiative is a know-how transfer, which allows the Sri Lankan water industry to sustainably expand its capacities and therefore accelerates the development of a safe and urgently needed water supply system. The training series was conducted in the following months after Water Week by leading industry experts from Germany.



Allianz Lanka Celebrates its Top Sales Performers of 2021 at Allianz Annual Awards Ceremony



Caption:

Alan Smee, Chairman of Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited, Gany Subramaniam, CEO of Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited, Jayalal Hewawasam, CEO of Allianz Life Insurance Lanka Limited, with winners Nihal Sheridan Fernando and Vinoga Keshava Sabhanayake and other members of the management at the ceremony.

Allianz Lanka, one of Sri Lanka's premier insurers, and a member of the global Allianz SE Group, recently celebrated its best performing sales staff of 2021 at the Allianz Annual Awards Ceremony, which was held on the 16th of August 2022, at Monarch Imperial. This year, the Awards were held under the theme "Wings of Growth". The Allianz Annual Awards Ceremony is a highly anticipated sales event that is held annually, with participation of the Company's leadership and is also often attended by foreign dignitaries from the Allianz Asia-Pacific Region.

157 salespeople received awards for their efforts, along with prizes that included trophies, certificates and cash prizes. The two Championship Titles were awarded to Nihal Sheridan Fernando, for Life, and Vinoga Keshava Sabhanayake, for General. Participants at the Allianz Annual Awards included team members from sales management, senior management and leadership, while the Chief Guest for the evening was Alan Smee, Chairman of Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited.

Addressing the gathering, Gany Subramaniam, CEO of Allianz Insurance Lanka Limited said, "Today, we honour and celebrate the outstanding contributions of the best members of our sales teams. This event appreciates their hard work and dedication through 2021, which was a very challenging year due to the global pandemic. Thus, the outstanding performances we have witnessed in 2021 truly deserve to be

and ensured that Allianz has retained its position among Sri Lanka's leading insurers. I take this opportunity to congratulate all the winners, and encourage each and every member of our teams to always look to be the best possible versions of themselves."

CEO of Allianz Life Insurance Lanka Limited, Jayalal Hewawasam also added, "2021 threw huge challenges at us due to the global pandemic. So, we had to transform, adapt and change our outlook in order to survive, and ensure customer satisfaction. However, thanks to our amazing team, we have done better; we are thriving. Supported by their enthusiasm and zest for life, we have transformed obstacles into opportunities and are ready to meet the new challenges that lie ahead as a result of the economic challenges of 2022. Together, we are working with pride and dedication, to protect life's most precious things."

Allianz Insurance Lanka Ltd. and Allianz Life Insurance Lanka Ltd., known together as Allianz Lanka, are fully-owned subsidiaries of Allianz SE, a global financial services provider with services predominantly in the insurance and asset management business, headquartered in Munich, Germany. The global strength and solid capitalization of the Allianz Group, coupled with local expertise and business know-how, have been Allianz Lanka's powerful formula for success.



Aitken Spence’s Adaaran Prestige Vadoo wins big at FHAM Culinary Awards 2022

Premier hospitality chain Aitken Spence Hotels made waves in the culinary sphere with its resort, Adaaran Prestige Vadoo Maldives that clinched the champion award at Food and Hospitality Asia Maldives (FHAM) Culinary Awards 2022, with the coveted titled of ‘Most Outstanding Culinary Organization 2022’.

The 11-member Adaaran Prestige Vadoo team won 13 Gold, six (06) Silver and nine (09) Bronze medals at the national culinary competition of the Chef’s Guild of Maldives which is the only internationally recognized event endorsed by the World Association of Chefs Societies (WACS), Chef’s Guild of Maldives, the Chef’s Guild of Lanka and World Platform of Islamic Countries Culinary Society.

The Group of Aitken Spence Hotels received multiple accolades at the competition which included - 6 medals and 6 recognitions for Adaaran Select Meedhupparu, 9 medals and 4 recognitions for Adaaran Select Hudhuran Fushi, 4 medals for Adaaran Club Rannalhi and 3 medals for Heritance Aarah.

The competition provides top chefs in the Maldives an opportunity to showcase their skills, promote talent and compete with fellow professionals.

This win is important as Aitken Spence Hotels competed with over 30 resorts and 560 entries including renowned hospitality brands of international repute. Therefore, it is a compelling testament to the culinary prowess of our resorts and the ability for creative innovation to curate gastronomic wonders. The team of chefs from Adaaran Prestige Vadoo were trained and guided by the Company’s team of Culinary Olympic winners.

“Our win further endorses Aitken Spence Hotels’ expertise in the culinary sphere, which we have proudly nurtured over the years. We are beyond elated to have received this honour as it shows the dedication and drive of our teams,” said Stasshani Jayawardena, Executive Director Aitken Spence PLC, Head of Tourism and Leisure, and Chairperson of Aitken Spence Hotel Managements. She further commented



that creativity is an art that requires constant work and encouragement and that the win is a result of a combined effort. “The team at Vadoo were trained by the very best of our chefs who have gracefully transferred their knowledge. Every win shows learning and growth and this is no different.”

Adaaran Prestige Vadoo is a 50-overwater villa resort located in close proximity to the Male International Airport. Accessible via a 40-minute speedboat ride, the resort interiors are an ode to Japanese architecture with each villa featuring a plunge pool. Catering to the romantics, discerning guests at the resort will be looked after by personal butlers; and can enjoy fine dining and Japanese cuisine among other, during their stay. Adaaran Prestige Vadoo is part of the Adaaran chain of hotels, under the Sri Lankan blue-chip conglomerate Aitken Spence PLC. Aitken Spence Hotels owns and operates 21 hotels and resorts across Sri Lanka, Maldives, Oman and India. The Company’s owned hotels are reflected under the Heritance, Adaaran and Turyaa brands, popular around the world for its exceptional service and undisputed product and curated lifestyle experiences. The Company’s Sri Lankan portfolio includes 10 resorts spread across the island of which five are Heritance properties, whilst the Maldives resorts totals to six (with one Heritance resort), four in Oman and one in India.



DIMO Marine Solutions caters to local fisheries sector with all-new marine workshop in Dikkowita

DIMO, a leading diversified conglomerate in Sri Lanka, through its Marine Engineering arm DIMO Marine Solutions, has now expanded its services for the local fisheries sector by establishing a state-of-the-art marine workshop at the Ceylon Fisheries Harbour Corporation Dikkowita North Terminal (CFHC). The marine workshop was declared open by Mr. Gahanath Pandithage, Group CEO of DIMO.

Mr. Vijitha Bandara, Executive Director at DIMO, who also oversees the Marine Engineering business of DIMO, said, “Developing Sri Lanka’s marine engineering sector will enable us to explore different avenues in fisheries, leisure and shipping industries while paving the way for fuelling the dreams and aspirations of the communities in these sectors. DIMO Marine Solutions caters to global players in the leisure sector such as Four Seasons Explorer and Cheval Blanc Randheli, through servicing and repairing of luxury yachts. Additionally, it also caters to the shipping industry through companies such as Sri Lanka Shipping, and facilitates institutions including the Sri Lanka Navy. With this new facility in Dikkowita, we are confident that we can immensely contribute to the development of the fisheries sector in the country.”

DIMO launched this facility to expand its contribution to the development of the local fisheries sector, and with the aim of catering to the local one-day and multi-day fishing boats as well as foreign fishing vessels. While undertaking engine related repairs, engine overhauling, machining, and repairs of all types of pumps, injectors, and radiators, the services offered by the new marine workshop will also extend to the repair of coolers, heaters, heat exchangers, condensers, and electrical & hydrochloric gear boxes.

DIMO has forged a multitude of partnerships with internationally reputed brands including MTU which spans over 37 years, Detroit Diesel, MG Duff and ROCHEM. DIMO represents these brands across both Sri Lanka and the Maldives. These international partnerships have assisted the company in gaining international exposure, which has played an integral part in the



Caption: Representatives of DIMO’s management team and staff at the marine workshop in Dikkowita

evolution in DIMO’s marine engineering expertise. DIMO is the only entity in Sri Lanka that has been awarded with ISO 9001:14000 and the AERA USA certification for engine overhauling.

The facility in Dikkowita is equipped with NVQ level 4 qualified expert technicians, guaranteeing a high-quality service at all times. DIMO’s marine workshop in Dikkowita will be backed by the company’s engineering excellence and DIMO outlets in coastal locations, providing unparalleled convenience for customers.

The workshop will undertake the servicing of communication systems of boats, motor rewinding, servicing, varnishing, and baking of all types of engines. It also has the capacity to service ships of up to 80 feet in length. DIMO has carefully selected Dikkowita as the location for this marine workshop as such was identified as a strategic location in terms of the logistics of offering one day service for boats and vessels.

DIMO works closely with the CFHC to facilitate the local fisheries sector with latest engineering solutions. The marine workshop is a result of such initiatives, and the company looks forward to implementing similar projects in the future with the assistance of the CFHC, and further developing the industry.

DIMO Marine Solutions offers a wide range of cost-effective and customised solutions, including Engineering, Design, Project Management, Installation, Commissioning, Maintenance and is also equipped with a flying squad to attend overseas repairs.



Häfele Latest Drawer Systems

MatrixBox Premium

Häfele is offering its top-of-the-line German engineered drawer systems range – MatrixBox, equipped with cutting-edge technology that enhances movement and adds functionality as well as style. The MatrixBox Premium drawer system from this range, manufactured at Häfele production plant in Kenzingen, Germany, combines performance with exceptional value. It operates smoothly, opens swiftly and closes with precision.

The product comes in three trendy finishes - Metallic Anthracite, Metallic Silver and White, making the drawer systems stand out from the rest.

The users can configure different applications with this system which comes with a wide range of accessories. It enables to create flexible drawer heights with the round or rectangular galleries and height extension side panels that come in matching finishes as the standard drawers.

In addition, one can create a new design

philosophy by choosing an accessory set that allows users to insert attractive side décor options. Its modern and streamlined design can be consistently implemented in standard as well as inner drawers.

MatrixBox Premium comes equipped with Soft-Close as well as Push-to-Open Soft-Close runner system functionalities in weight carrying capacities of 35kg and 50kg. This premium drawer system features simple assembly and easy adjustment as well as unrivalled design and flexibility in application.

It is suitable for installation in kitchens, bedrooms, bathrooms and home offices, as well as commercial and industrial environments. With a robust testing record of 100,000 cycles, these systems are well proven to be reliable and durable over a long period of time.

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The Kingdom of Thailand has declared that COVID-19 is not a quarantinable disease. Therefore, all formalities related to COVID-19 including pre-departure or on-arrival testing are no longer applicable to enter the Kingdom of Thailand.

A passenger who has been infected with COVID-19 will seek medical assistance at a clinic or hospital. The treatment is by attending physician consideration at their own cost. Closed contact is no longer quarantinable.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TO CANADA

The Government of Canada announced the removal of all COVID-19 entry restrictions including testing, quarantine, and isolation requirements for anyone entering Canada.

COVID-19 vaccination requirements have been lifted;

- All travellers arriving in Canada will no longer need to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to enter Canada or meet COVID-19 testing, quarantine or isolation requirements.
- ArriveCAN is no longer mandatory.
- All travellers will also no longer need to submit their public health information through ArriveCAN.
- Travellers can continue to use the optional, Advance Declaration feature in ArriveCAN external site which may not meet accessibility guidelines to save time at the Airport by submitting their customs and immigration declaration in advance of arrival.

Customers will no longer be required to undergo health checks for air travel or wear masks on board flights. Although the masking requirement is being lifted, all customers are strongly recommended to wear high quality and well-fitted masks for the length of their journey.



SPECIAL AIRFARES TO FRANKFURT

	Cabin	One-way fare starting from	Return fare starting from	Purchase Validity	Travel Validity
Frankfurt	Economy Class	USD 202	USD 327	till 15th December 2022	till 31st March 2023

SPECIAL AIRFARES TO PARIS

	Cabin	One-way fare starting from	Return fare starting from	Purchase Validity	Travel Validity
Paris	Business Class	USD 1,660	USD 2,580	till 10th November 2022	till 31st March 2023
	Economy Class	USD 202	USD 235	till 15th December 2022	till 31st March 2023





Accredited study degrees from Germany for your international career

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SRH Distance Learning University is a German university of applied sciences specialised in part-time distance learning and Germany's most popular online university (2019-2022). They are officially approved by the German government, permanently system-accredited and have received FIBAA's new premium seal "Excellence in Digital Education". They are a full member of EFMD Global, the largest international network of business schools and corporations, and they are one of few climate-neutral universities in Germany. SRH DLU offers both, high-quality education as well as excellent service and close support to their students.

Everything happens in their innovative online campus, which enables students to successfully complete their studies alongside their career, family, or other responsibilities – wherever they are, whenever they want. In optional live lectures, students can deepen their knowledge, get answers to all their questions, and communicate with their fellow students and professors. All live sessions are recorded and uploaded into the e-campus.

1. Global MBA (online, 2 semesters)

The Global Master of Business Administration is taught in English and fully online, allowing students to integrate the studies smoothly into their personal and professional life while remaining fully independent and flexible. The Master's programme is focused on application and highly relevant to real-life business practice. The programme will prepare students for a range of managerial business roles in the international job market.

SRH Distance Learning University also offers students the opportunity to take part in optional summer schools in Heidelberg, Germany and many other attractive locations worldwide. Plus, they offer optional and free online German language training and online career services for Global MBA students to prepare them for the German job market. After obtaining their German Master's degree, graduates are entitled to apply for a 6-month job-seeking visa to start their career in Germany and Europe. German language skills are not



required for the visa.

The part-time Global MBA is addressed to all students with a first university degree (Bachelor or equivalent, 3-4 years), two years of relevant work experience and sufficient English language skills. New Global MBA students are admitted every quarter (1st of April, July, October, January).

2. Bachelor in International Business (online & on-campus, 6 semesters)

The Bachelor in International Business is taught in English. The first year will be online giving students full flexibility as to time and place while staying in the job or keeping up to their other responsibilities. After the first year, students move to Germany and continue their study on-campus in Heidelberg, Germany for two years. The Bachelor's programme is addressed to all students with a university entrance qualification and sufficient English language skills. After obtaining the German Bachelor's degree, graduates can convert their study visa into an 18-month job-seeking visa to start their career in Germany and Europe (no German language skills required). New students are admitted every quarter (1st of January, April, July, October).

3. MBA in Healthcare Management (online & on-campus, 3 semesters)

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) in Healthcare Management is taught in English. The first year will be online giving students full flexibility as to time and place while staying in the job or keeping up to their other responsibilities.

After the first year, students move to Germany and continue their study on-campus in Berlin, Germany for the last semester. The Master's programme is addressed to all students with a first degree (Bachelor or equivalent, 3-4 years), two years of relevant work experience and sufficient English language skills. After obtaining the German Master's degree, graduates can convert their study visa into an 18-month job-seeking visa to start their career in Germany and Europe (no German language skills required). New students are admitted every quarter (1st of January, April, July, October).

4. Bachelor in Supply Chain Management (online & on-campus, 6 semesters)

The Bachelor in Supply Chain Management is taught in English. The first year will be online giving students full flexibility as to time and place while staying in the job or keeping up to their other responsibilities. After the first year, students move to Germany and continue their study on-campus in Hamm, Germany for two years. The Bachelor's programme is addressed to all students with a university entrance qualification and sufficient English language skills. After obtaining the German Bachelor's degree, graduates can convert their study visa into an 18-month job-seeking visa to start their career in Germany and Europe (no German

language skills required). New students are admitted every quarter (1st of January, April, July, October).

Further information & enrolment

If you want to boost your international career with a prestigious degree from Germany, visit these websites and learn more about their innovative study programmes:

- Global MBA: <http://www.mobile-university-global.com/>
- Bachelor International Business: <https://srh.iuli.ac.id/international-business/>
- MBA Healthcare Management: <https://srh.iuli.ac.id/health-care-management/>
- Bachelor Supply Chain Management: <https://srh.iuli.ac.id/supply-chain-management/>

On the websites, you also find the links, dates, and times for attending the monthly online information sessions on the programmes.

Contact:

If you are interested, please contact Ms Alyssa Colucci of SRH Distance Learning University's student service (alyssa.colucci@mobile-university.de).



About AHK Sri Lanka




About AHK Sri Lanka

AHK Sri Lanka is part of the German Chamber Network supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK). With 150 locations in 92 countries around the world, the members of the German Chamber Network (AHKs) offer their experience, connections and services to German and companies of the respective partner countries.

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