

Growing Trade in the Indo-Pacific Region

Next week, the U.S. Chamber will publicly announce its participation as a co-host of the 3rd Indo-Pacific Business Forum (IPBF), an annual event to promote trade, investment, and economic cooperation across the region. (As a Chamber Bulletin reader, you're the first to know!)

With the U.S. government working to advance its [strategy for a free and open Indo-Pacific](#), the Chamber has played an important role in bringing U.S. industry to the table—including hosting the first Indo-Pacific Business Forum at our headquarters in July 2018.

Why it matters: U.S. trade with the Indo-Pacific region—which spans dozens of countries adjacent to the Indian and Pacific Oceans—grew by 6% to a record \$2 trillion in 2019. That outstrips U.S. trade with countries in Europe and is nearly double our trade with Central and South America. For U.S. companies, public-private partnerships can help unlock new markets for investment and business expansion.

- With the global economy reeling from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IPBF will be an important opportunity for business and government leaders to discuss how industry and governments can work together to jump-start growth.
- The Forum is also a vehicle for major announcements from the U.S. government, which have included the [Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership](#), [Infrastructure Transaction and Assistance Network \(ITAN\)](#), and the energy-focused [Asia-EDGE](#).

Join the Discussion: Registration for the 2020 Indo-Pacific Business Forum, held virtually for U.S. viewers during the evenings of October 26-27 EST, is now open. [Register here.](#)

Dig deeper: Read the Chamber's 2019 [submission to the Department of Commerce](#) on the U.S. government's Indo-Pacific initiatives.

—Myron Brilliant, Executive Vice President and Head of International Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce