



Speaker Bios



Rebecca Ball
Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner
Austrade - Vietnam

Rebecca Ball commenced her posting to Vietnam – based in Ho Chi Minh City – in February 2021, returning to the market after first working in Ho Chi Minh City in 2000. Prior to her current role, Rebecca was the Executive Director, Invest and Trade Western Australia.

Previous leadership roles include A/CEO South West Development Commission (covering the wine regions of the Blackwood Valley, Geographe, Peel, Pemberton, Manjumup and Margaret River) and Austrade Trade Commissioner roles in both Indonesia and India.

With more than 20 years' experience across economic and industry development, trade, investment, tourism and education in both public and private sectors in Australia and overseas, Rebecca is passionate about representing Australia and supporting Australian enterprises succeed globally. A key priority for Vietnam will be to raise the profile of Australian wine with Vietnamese consumers to grow Australia's share of the wine market.



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Brent Moore
Senior Trade & Investment Commissioner
Austrade - Taiwan

Brent facilitates commercial engagement on behalf of Australian firms in a number of sectors, including health and biotechnology, financial services, renewable energy, agribusiness, education and training.

Brent has 15 years of public and private sector experience in international trade policy and promotion, including the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement and business consultations for the European Commission. Prior to his Taipei posting, Brent was Trade and Investment Commissioner in Shanghai from February 2014 to December 2019. He was responsible for e-commerce, food & beverage and agriculture initiatives and Australia's participation in the China International Import Expo in 2018 and 2019.

Brent holds bachelor degrees in International Business and Chinese.



Helen Oh
Trade and Investment Commissioner & Counsellor (Commercial)
Austrade - Seoul, South Korea

Prior to joining Austrade, Helen led the NSW State Government's market development and international engagement program for Korea and Japan. Helen was the onshore manager responsible for developing and maintaining \$1 billion investment pipeline and key accounts portfolio in Australia. Her clients included Korean and Japanese corporates such as Samsung, Hyundai, POSCO, LG, Hitachi, Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Softbank Group.

Helen is an active member of the Future Leaders Program facilitated by the Australia-Korea Business Council and the Australia-Japan Business Co-operation Committee. She represented Australia in amateur and professional golf from 2000 to 2010.





Hannah Wade
Trade & Investment Commissioner
Austrade - Jakarta, Indonesia

Hannah Wade is a Trade and Investment Commissioner to Jakarta, on behalf of the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade). In this role, Hannah is focused on supporting Australian agribusiness and food exporters, as well as services and technology firms, to identify opportunities and build partnerships in the Indonesian market. Previously at Austrade, Hannah has worked as part of the International Freight Assistance Mechanism (IFAM) initiative, and on attracting foreign direct investment into the Australian technology sector. Prior to her time at Austrade, Hannah was a corporate mergers & acquisitions lawyer at the international law firm Norton Rose Fulbright.

Hannah is an alumni of the Asialink Business Leaders Program and the United States Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program. Hannah holds a Bachelor of International Studies with a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) (Macquarie University, Sydney) and a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice (College of Law, Sydney).



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Karen Surmon
Trade & Investment Commissioner
Austrade - Bangkok, Thailand

Karen is Trade & Investment Commissioner at the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade), based at the Australian Embassy Bangkok. With a long-standing commitment to developing emerging female talent, Karen is also an active member of the Australian Thailand Chamber of Commerce Women in Leadership Committee.

Following early career opportunities at the University of South Australia, where she held roles in international relations, student recruitment and business development, Karen followed her passion for adventure and relocated to China in 2003. Since then she has spent fifteen years living and working in China, Singapore and Thailand, spanning roles in both the public and private sector.

Karen joined the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade) in 2013. She was Austrade's State Director for South Australia before commencing a five year posting in Shanghai as Trade and Investment Commissioner, before relocating to Bangkok in 2018. Over this time she has led business development teams in Infrastructure, Advanced Manufacturing, Tech & Innovation and F&B and Consumer sectors.

Karen's private sector roles in China include Brand and Communications Manager with China's largest wine importer and distributor, and Associate with Beijing Consulting Group, where she was co-founder of the Australia China Alumni Association.

Karen has a Graduate Certificate in International Marketing from the University of South Australia and a Bachelor of International Business from Flinders University. A fluent Mandarin speaker, her Chinese qualifications include Mandarin language certificates from the Beijing University of International Business and Economics (2004) and Beijing Second Foreign Languages Institute (1996), both under scholarships from the Australia China Council.

Karen is married to a wellness coach, and has two daughters - 10 and 12 - who were born in China. She loves traveling and recently got her PADI open water dive certificate.

