

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 2022-2023

As we approach another year as a Chamber, I am proud to reflect on the growth and accomplishments of GPCCI over the past year. When I was re-elected as president last year, I knew that we had a strong foundation and seeing the growth of GPCCI from that time I am happy to report that we are indeed going strong. Since then, we have worked tirelessly to strengthen our community, build new relationships, and promote economic growth and prosperity.

We have increased our membership, expanded our programs and initiatives, and established new partnerships and collaborations with organizations both locally and internationally. In this regard, I would like to extend my thanks to our Premium Partners for 2022 and welcome those for 2023. Your patronage and support for our organization is greatly appreciated.

Through our initiatives, we have provided around 100 events centered on valuable networking opportunities and resources for our members, helping them to grow their businesses and stay informed on the latest developments in our industry. With almost 5,500 participants of these events, we are happy to see that our activities are relevant and utilized by all. 2022 also saw the return of our beloved event, GPCCI's German Ambassador's Cup. It is nice to see our members and friends on the green field once again!

I am pleased to report that over the past year, we have had around 50 meetings with the government and other key stakeholders to advocate for policies that support our industry and promote economic growth. Last year, we held the first German-Philippine Business Forum featuring DTI Secretary Alfredo Pascual. His earlier meeting with German Minister Robert Habeck is a great indication of future economic collaboration of our countries. The recently established Policy and Advocacy Committee further reflects our active engagement in discussions on issues ranging from trade policy and regulation to infrastructure development and investment.

In addition, we have had over 120 media mentions, including coverage in major news outlets and industry publications, highlighting our efforts and initiatives. This exposure has helped to raise awareness of our organization and the important role that we play in promoting economic growth and development.

One of our key initiatives has been trade promotion between the Philippines and Germany. In this regard, we have organized delegations centering on Waste Management & Recycling and Cold Chain & Cold Storage to connect local companies with potential partners from Germany. These delegations have been highly

successful, with B2B meetings and site visits conducted during the week-long delegations as well as well-attended conferences.

In addition, we had been actively managing over 300 inquiries from foreign companies interested in doing business in the Philippines. We have been working closely with these companies to provide them with the information and support they need to make informed decisions about doing business in the Philippines.

Supporting Dual Education and Training activities in the Philippines, we continued our quality assurance and exam facilitation for the Porsche Aftersales Vocational Education Program, a partnership which has been growing since 2016. We have also been retaining our training portfolio through the facilitation of our standard Train the Trainer and Intercultural trainings. Furthermore, we have been exploring partnerships with educational institutions to ensure a pipeline of skilled workers here in the Philippines and abroad. We focus on equipping Filipinos with skills that support the renewable energy industry as technicians and researchers.

As we look ahead, I am excited about the opportunities that the coming year holds. We have a strong foundation to build upon, and I am confident that we will continue to grow and expand our reach.

I want to thank all of you for your support and dedication to our Chamber. It is because of your contributions and commitment that we have been able to achieve so much together. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you in the coming year to promote the growth and success of our business community as well as to celebrate our 15 years as the German-Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Salamat!

Mit freundlichen Grüßen / With Best Regards,



Stefan Schmitz  
President  
30 March 2023