



Newsletter

Embassy of Switzerland in Hanoi
Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City
July 2023

Ambassador's message

Dear Swiss Compatriots in Viet Nam,
Dear Friends of Switzerland,



In his recent meeting with our President of the Swiss National Council, Mr Martin Candinas, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh said that *the relationship between Viet Nam and Switzerland has entered into a new era*. While I understand this statement as a recognition of the 52 years-strong diplomatic relationship between both countries and an appreciation of what all of you have contributed in building bridges of friendship and cooperation between peoples, communities and companies, I also take this statement as a shared commitment to bring the relationship between both countries to a higher level in the coming years. We are looking forward to a strengthening of trade and investments, more tourism in both directions, as well as more cooperation between our universities and technical institutions.

During my first semester in Viet Nam, I have been privileged to meet many of you, to visit over a dozen Swiss companies invested in this country, and numerous cooperation projects funded by our State Secretariat for Economy (SECO). I am very proud of the important part that Swiss companies play in the Vietnamese economy. These encounters have inspired me for numerous courtesies

visits that I am making with national and provincial authorities. As I am quite active on social media, I encourage you to follow the activities of the Embassy on Twitter (@SwissAmbViet Nam) and on Facebook (SwitzerlandViet Nam).

Besides the very successful and strongly mediatized visit of National Council President Candinas at the end of June, this Newsletter gives you an account of other highlights in the Embassy's activities, including the visit by Christian Hofer, the Director of the Federal Office of Agriculture, a briefing with the Diplomatic Academy of Viet Nam (DAV) on the Mekong River Commission Summit held in April in Vientiane, as well as many exciting cultural activities.

Several members of our *Team Switzerland in Viet Nam* are moving on to new positions or new chapters in their lives. I am particularly grateful to Nicole Wyrsh and Nguyen Hong Ninh, who are retiring from Swiss government service after many years of commitment and engagement, but also to Martina Alkurdi, Simon Ritzmann and Sandro Pischedda who are leaving us for new assignments within FDFA.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that this year's 1st of August celebration organized by the Swiss Business Association will take place on Saturday, 5 August 2023 in Ho Chi Minh City with the presence of the Swiss Consul General, Mr. Werner Bardill and his team. The invitation will be sent out in due course by the Swiss Business Association.

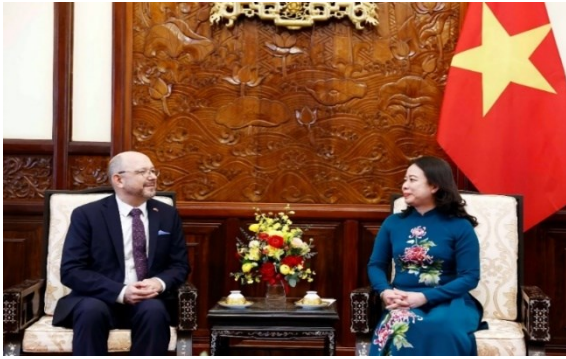
With warm regards,

Thomas Gass
Ambassador of Switzerland to Viet Nam



Accréditation de l'Ambassadeur Thomas Gass

Le 22 février 2023, S.E. M. Thomas Gass a présenté ses lettres de créances à la Présidente par intérim Võ Thị Ánh Xuân. La cérémonie s'est tenue solennellement au Palais présidentiel, en présence du Chef du Protocole d'Etat, de hauts représentants de l'Etat et du Gouvernement vietnamiens et de l'équipe de l'Ambassade.



À la fin de la cérémonie, l'Ambassadeur a eu un entretien de courtoisie avec la Présidente par intérim. Au cours de l'entretien, la Présidente par intérim s'est félicitée des relations excellentes entre les deux pays, qui remontent à plus de 50 ans et qui

présentent des perspectives de développement très prometteuses. Elle remercie à la Suisse pour le soutien précieux qu'elle a apporté au Viet Nam pendant la crise du Covid-19. Mme Xuan se réjouit aussi de voir que les échanges de hauts niveaux s'intensifient, que les deux pays se soutiennent mutuellement, tant au niveau bilatéral que multilatéral, tout en encourageant la Suisse à investir davantage dans le pays, en particulier dans les domaines de croissance verte, de la transformation numérique, de l'économie circulaire, de la banque et de la finance, ainsi que dans l'agroalimentaire de haute technologie, l'éducation et la formation. Elle espère également que les négociations sur l'accord de libre-échange entre le Viet Nam et l'AELE se verront accélérées et se concluront rapidement.

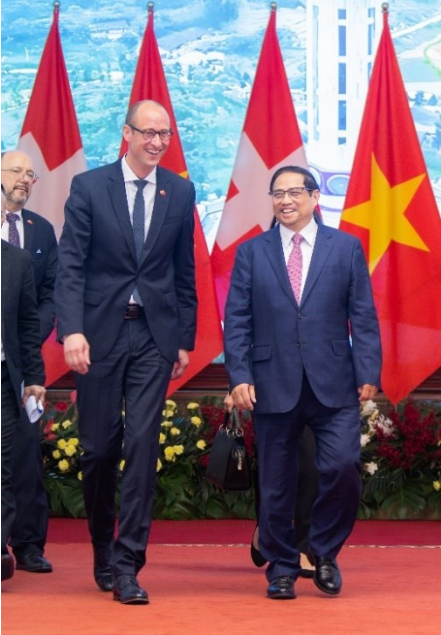
President of Swiss National Council Martin Candinas on official visit to Viet Nam

The President of the Swiss National Council and of the Federal Assembly Mr Martin Candinas and his delegation successfully concluded a three-day official visit to Viet Nam from 28 to 30 June 2023. The

purpose of the visit was to strengthen the partnership between both countries, particularly in the areas of economy and trade, to accelerate the negotiations of a free trade agreement between Viet Nam and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), and to gain insight on impact of Swiss economy development cooperation in this country. The visit also marked the resumption of high-level exchanges between the two countries after the Covid-19 pandemic.



In addition to President Candinas (The Centre/GR), the delegation included Mr. Eric Nussbaumer (SP/BL), First Vice-President of the Swiss National Council; Mrs. Maja Riniker (FDP, The Liberals/AG), Second Vice-President and Mrs. Ida Glanzmann-Hunkeler (The Centre/LU), Member of the National Council.



During the visit, the delegation held talks with the President of the National Assembly Vương Đình Huệ, and met with President Võ Văn Thưởng, Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính and Minister of

Industry and Trade Nguyễn Hồng Diên, who all warmly welcomed the visit of the President of the Swiss National Council as a demonstration of Switzerland's commitment to strengthening relations between the two countries and parliaments.

The leaders of the two parliaments agreed that the Vietnamese and Swiss legislative bodies should strengthen the role of the parliaments in promoting bilateral cooperation not only in the fields of economy and trade, but also in energy transition, sustainable development and digital transformation, and to step up efforts against climate change. They also expressed hope for the early signing of a free trade agreement between Viet Nam and EFTA countries (including Iceland, Norway, Switzerland and Liechtenstein).



While Viet Nam thanked Switzerland for supporting Viet Nam's efforts to modernise and upgrade its economy and improve living standards, Mr. Candinas praised Viet Nam's impressive achievements in this field and noted that there is still much untapped potential for cooperation, as Swiss investors are increasingly looking into opportunities in the country and Swiss technology and know-how can provide significant contributions in this field.



Highlights of the visit were the interactions between the Delegation and the representatives of the Swiss community as well as of the Swiss firms invested in the country.



To get an impression of the results of the economic development cooperation with Viet Nam, the delegation also visited the distribution center of Minh Thai Ltd Co and the Yen Bien market, as well as the Regent Garment Factory in Hải Dương City. The visit to Minh Thai Ltd. Co and Yen Bien supermarket showed



how both can benefit from facilitated access to working capital and financing from HDBank based on their longstanding ongoing business activities in the supply chain of Vinamilk and Unilever. This is possible thanks to the Swiss funded Supply Chain Financing (SCF) project with IFC - International Finance Corporation, which introduces movable asset-based lending mechanisms and supply chain-based financing with Vietnamese banks, making it easier for SMEs to access affordable financing.

The aim of the visit to the Regent Garment Factory was to demonstrate the impact of the "Better Work" project, which is co-funded by Switzerland and implemented by the International Labor Organization (ILO). This program contributed to the improvement of working conditions, the dialogue and the training of workers in the factory, with a focus on women's empowerment and equality. At the same time, during this visit, the delegation gained an insight into the textile sector, which continues to be one of the most important contributors to Vietnamese exports.



Viet Nam was the final destination to wrap up the delegation's South East Asia visit after Singapore, where they were on 26-27 June.

Development Cooperation – Switzerland engages in making tourism more sustainable

On the *first of April 2023*, work has begun on the new project "Swiss Tourism for Sustainable Development" (ST4SD). The Helvetas/CRED team in charge of the implementation has started the so-called inception phase to define the details of the work to be carried out over the next four years and, in particular, to identify the three destinations in Viet Nam on which the project will focus.

The ST4SD project aims to make Viet Nam's tourism sector more sustainable and inclusive. It aims to better adapt tourism to respective capacities, to flexibly respond to new trends and needs in sustainable tourism, and to explore ways to incorporate new sights in a sustainable way.

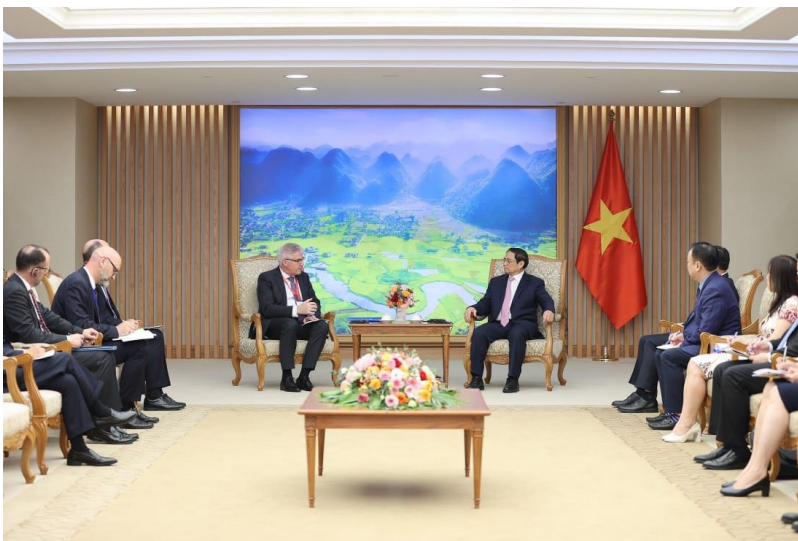
The Project supports the preparation of relevant policies and strengthens public-private dialogues at both national and sub-national levels. It will also establish a hospitality training program at an existing Vietnamese training institution in cooperation with the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL). In general, the exchange with Swiss expertise will play an important role. It is planned to draw on expertise from the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences (HSLU), as well as other Swiss experts.



Since the start of the work, significant progress has already been made in the final design of the project. Discussions with the Viet Nam National Administration of Tourism (VNAT), the main partner on the Vietnamese authorities' side, and with city administrations in various provinces have been fruitful and confirm the interest of Vietnamese authorities at all levels in improving the sustainability of tourism, not least to preserve the outstanding beauty of Viet Nam's diverse attractions.

Global Conference on Sustainable Food System, visit of Stst. Christian Hofer, FAO to Viet Nam

From *April 24 to 27, 2023*, the Director General of the Swiss Federal Office for Agriculture, Mr. Christian Hofer participated in the 4th Conference on Sustainable Food Systems (SFS) in Hanoi. Switzerland is the co-leader of this program since 2015, and co-organizer of the conference.



This year's conference focused on how food systems must be transformed to overcome multiple, deep-rooted and interconnected crises such as hunger, malnutrition, health, inequality, rising costs of living, climate, biodiversity, conflict and energy in order to achieve the SDGs. One of the most important objectives was to present transformational actions, tools and initiatives with a view to promoting their uptake and upscaling in national and local policy-making processes.

On the sidelines of the conference, Director Hofer also met with Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and Ag-

riculture Minister Le Minh Hoan, where the importance of sustainable food system was emphasized by both sides, for Viet Nam especially with regard to the increasing climatic challenges for agricultural production in the Mekong Delta.

Mr. Hofer took advantage of the opportunity to visit the Son Ha Spice and Flavorings Co., Ltd. factory close to Hanoi, which is supported by the Swiss- funded Biotrade project to comply with standards for socially, environmentally and biodiversity sustainable value chains. He highlighted the importance of this cooperation to facilitate access of products to international markets and contribute to more sustainable agricultural production in Viet Nam.



Briefing on 4th Mekong River Commission Summit and UN Water Conference

On Wednesday 10 May 2023, the Embassy of Switzerland in Viet Nam and the Diplomatic Academy of Viet Nam (DAV) jointly organised a briefing on the 4th Mekong River Commission (MRC) Summit held in Vientiane, Laos on 4-5 April 2023 and the Interactive Dialogue on Transboundary and International Water Cooperation held during the UN Water Conference in New York, USA on 23 March 2023.



The briefing attracted some 70 participants from the international community in Hanoi and interested Vietnamese stakeholders, including delegates from embassies, ministries, international organisations and DAV experts. Deputy Director of the Diplomatic Academy, Nguyen Hung Son, and Ambassador Thomas Gass co-chaired the event. Deputy Foreign Minister Do Hung Viet also attended and emphasised the mutual relevance of the international events.

The information session highlighted the importance of transboundary water management, and the Vietnamese participants reiterated Viet Nam’s long-standing commitment to transboundary and international water cooperation. Collaboration along the major transboundary waterways is key for sustainable development. Prerequisite is an awareness from the source to the mouth of the river of the importance and shared responsibility for these waterways for life along the entire watercourse.



Switzerland - as a country where important European rivers have their sources - is aware of the challenges to manage these waterways fairly and responsibly. It therefore supports the MRC as the main international forum for the management of the Mekong River.



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony & Grand Opening of Mister Loo's first premium toilet facility in HCMC

On 6 June 2023, Mister Loo celebrated the opening of its first premium toilet facility on Bui Vien Street in Ho Chi Minh City. The ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by Werner Bardill, Consul General of Switzerland in Ho Chi Minh City. In his remarks, he addressed the serious shortage of public toilets in the megacity of Ho Chi Minh City, and congratulated the company, in the presence of its co-founder Dominik Schuler, on this first premium toilet facility and its innovative toilet concept.

Founded in 2015, Mister Loo, which combines Swiss entrepreneurship and Swiss innovation, offers an "end-to-end" solution. Already operating successfully in many locations in Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines, with an impressive number of monthly visitors, Mister Loo designs, builds and manages public toilet facilities through its tech-enabled service platform.

The company has ambitious expansion plans for the coming years to open more toilet facilities in Ho Chi Minh City and other locations in Viet Nam in high footfall areas.

Mister Loo is another great example of innovative Swiss companies offering a sustainable business concept with an immediate impact on public health and better sanitation.



Grand opening of Cicor's expanded factory in Thuan An City



On 26 June 2023, Switzerland's Cicor Group, a globally active provider of full-cycle electronic solutions from research and development to manufacturing and supply chain management, celebrated the inauguration of its extended factory in Thuan An City, Binh Duong Province. With this expansion, Cicor doubles its electronics manufacturing space in Viet Nam and further strengthens its presence in Southeast Asia alongside its sites in Singapore and Batam (Indonesia).

Werner Bardill, Consul General of Switzerland in Ho Chi Minh City, joined guest of honor, Mr. Nguyen Loc Ha, Vice Chairman of Provincial People's

Committee of Binh Duong, on the invitation of Mr. Alexander Hagemann, CEO of Cicor Group, and Mr. Nguyen Trong Luat, Managing Director of Cicor Viet Nam.





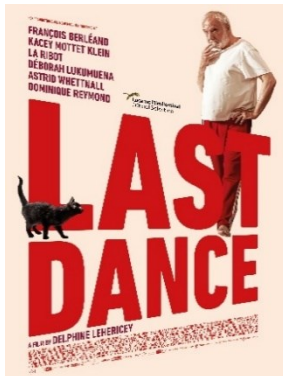
Schubert's "Winterreise" – composed interpretation

Alpha to Opera (Saigon Classical Music Group), in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut, Pro Helvetia and the Swiss Consulate General, dedicated the weekend of *February 18 and 19, 2023* to Schubert's "Winterreise".



The musical journey began on Saturday with a "Winterreise" recital. Selected songs were performed by chamber singers with live accompaniment and accompanied by an analytical lecture. The performance in German included, for the first time, a Vietnamese and singable rendition of Wilhelm Müller's poems commissioned by a polyglot expert. On Sunday, those interested had the opportunity to see "Winterreise" as a film on the big screen, staged by Ballett Zürich with music by Franz Schubert and Hans Zender and ballet choreography by Christian Spuck.

13^e Festival du Film Francophone 2023 à Hanoi et Ho Chi Minh ville



Le Festival du film francophone, organisé à Hanoi et à Ho Chi Minh Ville du *18 au 24 mars 2023*, est l'un des événements phares pour célébrer la Francophonie à l'occasion du 20 mars, Journée internationale de la Francophonie.

Pour cette 13^e édition, le film suisse "Last Dance" (2022) de Delphine Lehericéy a été choisi pour la soirée d'ouverture du 18 mars. A cette occasion, Monsieur Edgar Doerig, diplomate suisse, a prononcé un discours pour inaugurer le Festival et pour se présenter dans son nouveau rôle de Représentant régional de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie au Viet Nam. L'ambassade a également organisé un cocktail d'ouverture pour marquer l'occasion.

Organisé chaque année par le GADIF (Groupe des ambassades, délégations et institutions francophones au Viet Nam), le Festival rassemble un grand nombre de cinéphiles, francophones et non francophones. Une fois de plus, le film suisse a été l'un de ceux qui ont attiré le plus de spectateurs : les deux salles (Institut du film du Viet Nam à Hanoi et DCiné à Ho Chi Minh-Ville) où il a été projeté étaient presque pleines.



1^e Biennale internationale de la photographie Photo Hanoi'23



L'Ambassade de Suisse a participé à la première édition de la Biennale internationale de la photographie Photo Hanoi'23, qui s'est déroulée à Hanoi du 21 avril au 3 juin 2023. 4 photos du photographe suisse Yann Gross (<http://yann-gross.com>) ont été présentées dans le cadre l'Exposition de la photographie de mode autour du lac Hoàn Kiếm du 12 au 30 mai 2023, parallèlement à diverses activités culturelles mises en place par la ville de Hanoi et plusieurs Ambassades européennes, à l'occasion du Village de l'Europe 2023.

L'exposition vise à célébrer les nouveaux mouvements culturels et les nouvelles tendances de la mode actuellement

observés à travers le monde, tout en soulignant la diversité, l'originalité et la profondeur d'un genre photographique hautement médiatisé.

Photo Hanoi'23 en général et l'Exposition de la photographie de mode en particulier, ont attiré une très grande attention de la part du public, de la presse et des médias sociaux. La publication de plus de 200 articles de presse en l'espace d'un mois a fait de la Biennale un événement culturel majeur et incontournable pour de nombreux photographes, artistes, chercheurs et éducateurs... du monde entier, favorisant un dialogue multidimensionnel sur le langage visuel dans un contexte contemporain.



Vu sa grande qualité artistique, l'Exposition de la photographie de mode, qui réunit 10 artistes vietnamiens et européens, a été prolongée jusqu'en juillet 2023 à l'Ambassade de France. <http://www.facebook.com/hello.photohanoi>

Contest "European characters in Vietnam" 2023



The Embassy of Switzerland, a member of the EUNIC Group (European Union National Institutes of Culture), together with other members and Nguyễn Tất Thành School, organised the contest "European Characters in Viet Nam 2023". Participants were invited to draw and/or compose lyrics for 11 European literary characters, with little Heidi as the character for Switzerland.



Heidi was among the most inspiring European literary characters for young Vietnamese. Indeed, one out of every six participants of the Contest chose to draw Heidi. The top 5 drawings of Heidi, Don Quixote, Hungarian Person, Little Mole, Peter Pan, Pettson & Findus, Pinocchio, Roco & Oskar, Stas & Nell, The little Prince and Tintin were exhibited at Kim Đồng Publishing House (55 Quang Trung, Hà Nội) from May 14 to 21, 2023 on the occasion of the European Literature Days 2023.

Swiss National Day – Save the date



The Swiss National Day 2023 will be organized by the Swiss Business Association as follows:

Date: Saturday, August 5th, 2023

Location: Sofitel Saigon Plaza, 17 Le Duan, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City

Door opening: 18h00
Event start: 19h00

More details to follow, but in the meantime, mark your calendars!

SBA Board

Annual General Meeting - Swiss Business Association SBA



On May 9th, 2023, the Swiss Business Association held its annual general meeting at the Intercontinental Saigon. About 40 members attended the meeting.

Apart from approving budget and financial results of the Association, the board was re-elected for another year as follows:



President: Jean-Paul Haessig
Sponsors: Beat Schuerch
Events: Daniele Ghilardi
Treasurer: Pascal Nguyen
Secretary: Claudius Rueggegger



The Swiss Consulate General was traditionally represented by the Consul General. Werner Bardill informed the members about economic and trade topics, bilateral relations and consular activities.

SBA Board

Founded in 1999, the Swiss Business Association Viet Nam has been an integral part in connecting Swiss, be it long-term residents or new arrivals, as well as those with relations to Switzerland, be it of private or business nature.

The Swiss Business Association not only organizes special social events such as 1st of August, Wilhelm Tell Games or the monthly "Stamm" but also business events such as visits to factories and business luncheons and in doing so closely cooperates with the Swiss Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City as well as with the Swiss Embassy in Hanoi.

Visiting our Facebook and Instagram pages will give you a small overview of the events that we organize through some pictures and also videos:

www.swissvietnam.com -  [Swiss Business Association Vietnam](https://www.facebook.com/SwissBusinessAssociationVietnam) -  [sbavietnam](https://www.instagram.com/sbavietnam)

At present the association has about 100 members, individual and corporate, and we hope to welcome you, too, soon to the SBA.

For questions or membership registration please contact
Swiss Business Association
c/o Asian Cotton Traders
Floor 12, Agrex Tower
58 Vo Van Tan Street, District 3
Ho Chi Minh City
Phone +84 83 416 9374
office@swissvietnam.com



HANOI

RETIEREMENT

Nicole Wyrsch, (former deputy head of mission at the Embassy of Switzerland in Hanoi, August 2020-May 2023)

Dear Swiss/Swiss-Vietnamese Community in Viet Nam,

I am leaving Viet Nam with plenty of wonderful memories, images, encounters and impressions – some also related to you.

I wish you and your families all the very best here in Viet Nam. On my side, I will be looking forward to coming back as a tourist!



credit @Ha Dao, photographer

Nguyen Hong Ninh, Domestic Affairs Officer



I will retire in July 2023 after 10 years of working at the Swiss Embassy in Hanoi. I wish all Swiss citizens who are working, studying, spending holidays in Viet Nam successful business and a nice stay in the country.

DEPARTURE

Martina Alkurdi, Personal Assistant of the Ambassador

Sad but true, I have to say goodbye to beautiful Viet Nam and its lovely people who have grown very close to my heart. I will keep the unforgettable experiences in eternal memory and certainly come back again for a trip. Most probably my husband Ibrahim and I will not wait another 10 years, but return earlier.

This August our journey continues to Nairobi, Kenya, where the “Big 5” are waiting for us.

Wishing you all the very best, specially good health and we thank all who accompanied us on this lag of our journey.





ARRIVAL

Greetings! My name is **Aldo de Luca** and I have recently joined the Embassy of Switzerland in Hanoi as



Deputy Head of Mission. I am thrilled to be in Viet Nam, a country that is attracting more and more attention with its energy and dynamic growth. My wife Svetlana and I are delighted to have this opportunity to discover the fascinating and complex history and culture of this unique country. With numerous years of experience in the area of bilateral relations, I will do my utmost to usefully complement the amazing work of the Embassy team, who have welcomed me with much warmth and open arms. I very much look forward to meeting our compatriots living and working in Viet Nam, and I will be happy to assist them should they ever need my support.

Mirjam Uhlmann Bajrami, Botschaftsassistentin
(wird ab August 2023 in der Botschaft ihre Stelle antreten)

Seit Mai 2019 arbeite ich im Aussendepartement in der Direktion für Entwicklung und Zusammenarbeit DEZA, zunächst als Assistentin des Vizedirektors im Direktionsbereich Südzusammenarbeit, seit September 2022 in derselben Funktion in der Abteilung Subsahara Afrika. Davor war ich im Kunstmuseum Basel im Management tätig. Ich habe einen Master in Literaturwissenschaften und besuchte danach die pädagogische Hochschule. Mein Mann und unsere zwei Katzen begleiten mich.



HO CHI MINH CITY

DEPARTURE

Simon Ritzmann, Consular Attaché



After four wonderful years in Ho Chi Minh, my family and I are moving to our next exciting destination in Asia. I'll start my new job in July at the Swiss Embassy in Tehran. We got two new family members, met amazing new friends and discovered a diverse culture the last four years. Viet Nam will always remain in our heart forever. I would like to say goodbye and thank all my compatriots, my colleagues in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh and the Vietnamese people I have known. Thank you very much!



Sandro Pischedda, Consular Attaché

At the end of July it is time to say good bye to Viet Nam. My next posting will be at the Swiss Embassy in Bangkok so I will stay in the region and will be able to visit Viet Nam regularly. The last four years have been very enriching.

The work with my colleagues has been great and the exchange with people from the Swiss community has been rewarding. After the tough times of the pandemic it is great to see Viet Nam thrive again. I will always think back fondly of my time in Viet Nam and want to thank my colleagues, my compatriots and my new Vietnamese friends which I have got to know during the last four years.



ARRIVAL

Chiara Fenini Lemos, Consular Attaché



At the beginning of August I will take up the position as Consular attaché in Ho Chi Minh City. I am happy to be part of this great team. My home town is in Lugano TI, in the Italian speaking part of Switzerland. I am married and have two sons. I've joined the FDFA in 1998 and in my career I have held positions in the Swiss representations in Pretoria, Frankfurt, Toronto, Lima, Haiti, Bangkok, Santo Domingo and for the past 5 years in Barcelona. I will continue to devote my heart to the affairs of the Swiss abroad in the consular district. I look forward to your visit to the Consulate General and meeting you soon.

Consular Information



Neues Hochsicherheitsdesign für den Schweizer Führerausweis

Mitte April 2023 wurde ein neuer Führerausweis im Kreditkartenformat eingeführt. Dieser ist fälschungssicherer als der heutige Führerausweis und erhält ein moderneres Design. Die bisherigen Führerausweise im Kreditkartenformat bleiben weiterhin uneingeschränkt gültig. Wir möchten Sie darauf hinweisen, dass die Vertretungen diesbezüglich lediglich allgemeine Auskünfte erteilen können. Weiterführende Informationen finden Sie auf folgenden Webseiten:

- [Bundesamt für Strassen ASTRA](#)
- [Vereinigung der Strassenverkehrsämter \(asa\)](#)



Wer ins Ausland zieht, muss sich bei der bisherigen Behörde (kantonales Strassenverkehrsamt) abmelden ([Art. 26 der Verkehrszulassungsverordnung VZV](#)).

Bitte halten Sie sich an das lokale Gesetz und tauschen Sie Ihren Schweizer Führerausweis fristgemäss in einen nationalen Führerausweis um. Die Vertretung kann Ihnen dafür eine Übersetzung Ihres Schweizer Führerausweises machen. Folgende Modelle werden übersetzt:

- Kreditkartenformat, Ausstellung ab 15.04.2023
- Kreditkartenformat, Ausstellung 01.04.2003 bis 14.04.2023
- Blau in Papierformat, Ausstellung bis 31.03.2003 (Übersetzung nur noch bis 31.10.2024)

Blauer Führerausweis in Papierformat

Am 1. November 2024 verliert der blaue Führerausweis in Papierformat seine Gültigkeit. Inhaber sind gebeten, sich direkt beim ausstellenden kantonalen Strassenverkehrsamt zu melden. Die Vertretungen können in dieser Angelegenheit keine Unterstützung anbieten.

Nouveau design haute sécurité pour le permis de conduire suisse

Un nouveau permis de conduire au format carte de crédit a été introduit mi-avril 2023. Celui-ci est plus infalsifiable que le permis de conduire actuel et bénéficie d'un design plus moderne. Les anciens permis de conduire au format carte de crédit resteront valables sans restriction. Nous attirons votre attention sur le fait que les représentations ne peuvent fournir que des renseignements généraux à ce sujet. Vous trouverez de plus amples informations sur les sites web suivants :

[Office fédéral des routes OFROU](#)
[Association des services des automobiles \(asa\)](#)

Toute personne qui déménage à l'étranger doit annoncer son départ à l'autorité compétente (service cantonal des automobiles) jusque-là ([art. 26, ordonnance réglant l'admission à la circulation routière OAC](#)).

Veillez vous conformer aux dispositions en vigueur sur place et échanger votre permis de conduire suisse contre un permis de conduire national dans le délai imparti. Pour ce faire, la représentation peut vous fournir une traduction de votre permis de conduire suisse. Les modèles suivants sont traduits:

- format carte de crédit, émis à partir du 15.04.2023
- format carte de crédit, émis entre le 01.04.2003 et le 14.04.2023
- format papier bleu, émis avant le 31.03.2003 (traduction uniquement jusqu'au 31.10.2024)

Permis de conduire bleu au format papier

Le 1er novembre 2024, le permis de conduire bleu au format papier perdra sa validité. Les titulaires sont priés de s'adresser directement au service cantonal des automobiles qui l'a délivré. Les représentations ne peuvent pas offrir de soutien à cet égard.

Nuovo design ad alta sicurezza per la licenza di condurre svizzera

A metà aprile 2023 è stata introdotta una nuova licenza di condurre in formato carta di credito. Questa è più resistente alle falsificazioni rispetto al modello attuale e ha un design più moderno. Le licenze di condurre rilasciate in precedenza in formato carta di credito continueranno ad avere validità illimitata. Desideriamo sottolineare che le rappresentanze possono fornire solo informazioni generali su questo tema.. Ulteriori informazioni sono disponibili sui seguenti siti web:

[Ufficio federale delle strade USTRA](#)
[Associazione dei servizi della circolazione \(asa\)](#)



Chi si trasferisce all'estero deve annunciare la sua partenza all'autorità competente (Servizio della circolazione dei vari Cantoni) fino a quel momento ([art. 26 dell'ordinanza sull'ammissione alla circolazione OAC](#)).

Si prega di rispettare la legislazione locale e di convertire la licenza di condurre svizzera in una nazionale entro i termini di scadenza. A tal fine, la rappresentanza può fornire una traduzione della licenza di condurre svizzera. Vengono tradotti i seguenti modelli:

- ➔ Formato carta di credito, con data di emissione posteriore dal 15 aprile 2023
- ➔ Formato carta di credito, con data di emissione compresa tra il 1 aprile 2003 e il 14 aprile 2023
- ➔ Blu in formato cartaceo, con data di emissione anteriore al 31 marzo 2003 (traduzione proposta solo fino al 31 ottobre 2024).

Patente blu in formato cartaceo

Il 1° novembre 2024 la patente di guida blu in formato cartaceo non sarà più valida. I titolari sono pregati di contattare direttamente l'ufficio cantonale della circolazione stradale che l'ha rilasciata. Le rappresentanze non possono offrire alcuna assistenza al riguardo.

Ruhestand im Ausland

Damit der Ruhestand im Ausland gelingt: Informationen zur Rentenzahlung, ärztlicher Versorgung, Versicherungen, Krankenkassen sowie sozialer Integration.

[Was muss beim Ruhestand im Ausland beachtet werden?](#)
[Webinar «Aging Abroad» und AHV, ASO](#)

Prendre sa retraite à l'étranger

Pour bien préparer votre retraite à l'étranger: informez-vous sur le paiement des rentes, les soins médicaux, les assurances, les caisses-maladie et l'intégration sociale.

[De quoi faut-il tenir compte lors du départ à la retraite?](#)
[Webinaire « Aging Abroad » et l'AVS, ASO](#)

Pensionamento all'estero

Per i pensionati all'estero, informazioni sul versamento delle rendite, sull'assistenza medica, sulle assicurazioni, sulle casse malati e sull'integrazione sociale.

[Cosa c'è da sapere se si è in pensione?](#)
[Webinar su "Aging Abroad" e l'AVS, ASO](#)

Retiring abroad

Planning ahead for a successful retirement abroad: information on pension payments, healthcare, insurance, health insurers and social integration.

[What do you need to keep in mind when retiring?](#)
[Webinar "Aging Abroad" and OASI, ASO](#)

SwissIn Touch: Switzerland in your pocket!

SwissInTouch keeps Switzerland at your fingertips! The FDFA's new application that makes staying in touch even easier was recently launched. The modern platform enables the Swiss abroad to receive and find important information from their official representation, the various federal authorities and other institutional partners. For more information and to install the app, visit: www.swissintouch.ch
Verlinkung URL: <https://www.swissintouch.ch/login>



Swiss Alumni Association in Viet Nam SAAV



The Swiss Alumni Association in Viet Nam (SAAV) is the largest and most diversified network of individuals with a Swiss education background in Viet Nam.

With over 6'000 members including Vietnamese, Swiss, and many other expatriates currently living and working in the country, SAAV offers not only an extensive and supportive network, but also an exclusive and unique blend between the Swiss and Vietnamese culture.



If you are looking for business collaboration opportunities and advices, recruiting talents who understand the Swiss culture, or simply occasions to explore the city with new friends, check out SAAV at <https://www.facebook.com/vietnam.thuysi/> or contact us at external@saav.vn.

Grusswort des Botschafters

Liebe Schweizer Mitbürgerinnen und Mitbürger in Viet Nam,
Liebe Freunde der Schweiz,

Bei seinem jüngsten Treffen mit unserem Präsidenten des Schweizer Nationalrats, Herrn Martin Candinas, sagte Premierminister Pham Minh Chinh, dass die *Beziehungen zwischen Viet Nam und der Schweiz in eine neue Ära eingetreten sind*. Ich verstehe diese Aussage als Anerkennung der 52-jährigen diplomatischen Beziehungen zwischen beiden Ländern und als Würdigung dessen, was Sie alle dazu beigetragen haben, Brücken der Freundschaft und der Zusammenarbeit zwischen Völkern, Gemeinschaften und Unternehmen zu bauen. Ich verstehe diese Aussage auch als gemeinsame Verpflichtung, die Beziehungen zwischen beiden Ländern in den kommenden Jahren auf ein höheres Niveau zu bringen. Wir freuen uns auf eine Verstärkung des Handels und der Investitionen, auf mehr Tourismus in beiden Richtungen sowie auf eine engere Zusammenarbeit zwischen unseren Universitäten und technischen Einrichtungen.

Während meines ersten Semesters in Viet Nam hatte ich das Privileg, viele von Ihnen zu treffen, mehr als ein Dutzend Schweizer Unternehmen zu besuchen, die in Viet Nam investiert haben, sowie zahlreiche Kooperationsprojekte, die von unserem Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft (SECO) finanziert werden. Ich bin sehr stolz auf die wichtige Rolle, die die Schweizer Unternehmen in der vietnamesischen Wirtschaft spielen. Diese Begegnungen haben mich für die zahlreichen Höflichkeitsbesuche inspiriert, die ich bei nationalen und provinziellen Behörden mache. Da ich in den sozialen Medien sehr aktiv bin, möchte ich Sie ermutigen, die Aktivitäten der Botschaft auf Twitter (@SwissAmbVietnam) und auf Facebook (SwitzerlandVietnam) zu verfolgen.

Neben dem sehr erfolgreichen und medienwirksamen Besuch von Nationalratspräsident Martin Candinas Ende Juni berichtet dieser Newsletter über weitere Höhepunkte in der Tätigkeit der Botschaft, darunter der Besuch von Herrn Christian Hofer, dem Direktor des Bundesamtes für Landwirtschaft, ein Briefing mit der Diplomatischen Akademie Viet Nams (DAV) zum Gipfel der Mekong River Commission im April in Vientiane sowie viele spannende kulturelle Aktivitäten.

Mehrere Mitglieder unseres Teams Schweiz in Viet Nam wechseln in neue Positionen oder neue Lebensabschnitte. Mein besonderer Dank gilt Nicole Wyrsh und Nguyen Hong Ninh, die nach langjährigem Engagement aus dem Schweizer Staatsdienst ausscheiden, aber auch Martina Alkurdi, Simon Ritzmann und Sandro Pischedda, die uns für neue Aufgaben im EDA verlassen.



Schliesslich möchte ich Sie bei dieser Gelegenheit daran erinnern, dass die diesjährige 1. August-Feier des Schweizerischen Gewerbeverbandes am Samstag, 5. August 2023 in Ho-Chi-Minh-Stadt in Anwesenheit des Schweizer Generalkonsuls, Herrn Werner Bardill und seines Teams stattfinden wird. Die Einladung wird zu gegebener Zeit von der Swiss Business Association verschickt.

Mit freundlichen Grüssen,

Thomas Gass
Botschafter der Schweiz in Viet Nam

Message de l'Ambassadeur en français

Chers compatriotes suisses au Viet Nam,
Chers amis de la Suisse,

Lors de sa récente rencontre avec notre président du Conseil national suisse, Martin Candinas, le Premier Ministre Pham Minh Chinh a déclaré que *les relations entre le Viet Nam et la Suisse étaient entrées dans une nouvelle ère*. Si je comprends cette déclaration comme une reconnaissance des 52 ans de relations diplomatiques entre les deux pays et une appréciation de ce que vous avez tous contribué à construire des ponts d'amitié et de coopération entre les peuples, les communautés et les entreprises, je la considère également comme un engagement partagé à porter les relations entre les deux pays à un niveau plus élevé dans les années à venir. Nous attendons avec impatience un renforcement des échanges commerciaux et des investissements, une augmentation du tourisme dans les deux sens, ainsi qu'une coopération accrue entre nos universités et nos institutions techniques.

Au cours de mon premier semestre au Viet Nam, j'ai eu le privilège de rencontrer beaucoup d'entre vous, de visiter plus d'une douzaine d'entreprises suisses investies au Viet Nam, ainsi que de nombreux projets de coopération financés par notre Secrétariat d'État à l'économie (SECO). Je suis très fier du rôle important que jouent les entreprises suisses dans l'économie vietnamienne. Ces rencontres m'ont inspiré pour les nombreuses visites de courtoisie que j'effectue auprès des autorités nationales et provinciales. Comme je suis très actif sur les médias sociaux, je vous encourage à suivre les activités de l'Ambassade sur Twitter (@SwissAmbVietnam) et sur Facebook (SwitzerlandVietnam).

Outre la visite très réussie et fortement médiatisée du Président du Conseil national Candinas à la fin du mois de juin, cette Newsletter vous présente d'autres temps forts des activités de l'Ambassade, notamment la visite de Christian Hofer, Directeur de l'Office fédéral de l'agriculture, un briefing avec l'Académie diplomatique du Viet Nam (DAV) sur le Sommet de la Commission du Mékong qui s'est tenu en avril à Vientiane, ainsi que de nombreuses activités culturelles passionnantes.

Plusieurs membres de l'équipe suisse au Viet Nam vont occuper de nouvelles fonctions ou entamer de nouveaux chapitres de leur vie. Je suis particulièrement reconnaissant à Nicole Wyrsh et Nguyen Hong Ninh, qui quittent le gouvernement suisse après de nombreuses années d'engagement, mais aussi à Martina Alkurdi, Simon Ritzmann et Sandro Pischedda qui nous quittent pour de nouvelles missions au sein du DFAE.

Enfin, je profite de l'occasion pour vous rappeler que la fête du 1er août organisée par la Swiss Business Association aura lieu cette année le samedi 5 août 2023 à Ho Chi Minh Ville en présence du Consul général de Suisse, M. Werner Bardill et de son équipe. L'invitation sera envoyée en temps voulu par la Swiss Business Association.

Avec mes salutations les plus cordiales,

Thomas Gass
Ambassadeur de Suisse au Viet Nam



Messaggio dell'Ambasciatore in italiano

Cari compatrioti svizzeri in Viet Nam,
Cari amici della Svizzera,

Durante il suo recente incontro con il Presidente del Consiglio Nazionale Svizzero Martin Candinas, il Primo Ministro Phạm Minh Chính ha affermato che le relazioni tra Viet Nam e Svizzera sono entrate in una nuova era. Vedo in questa dichiarazione non solo un riconoscimento in occasione del 52° anniversario dell'instaurazione delle relazioni diplomatiche tra i nostri due Paesi e un apprezzamento per vostro contributo alla costruzione di ponti di amicizia e cooperazione tra le due nazioni, collettività e imprese, ma anche e soprattutto un impegno condiviso a portare le relazioni tra i due Paesi a un livello superiore nei prossimi anni. Contiamo dunque con un rafforzamento del commercio e degli investimenti, un aumento del turismo in entrambe le direzioni e una cooperazione più intensa tra le nostre università e istituzioni tecniche.

Durante i miei primi sei mesi in Viet Nam, ho avuto il privilegio di incontrare molti di voi, di visitare più di una dozzina di aziende svizzere che investono in Viet Nam e numerosi progetti di cooperazione finanziati dalla Segreteria di Stato per l'Economia (SECO). Sono molto orgoglioso dell'importante ruolo che le aziende svizzere svolgono nell'economia vietnamita. Questi incontri mi hanno ispirato per le numerose visite di cortesia che sto facendo presso alti rappresentanti delle autorità nazionali e locali. Poiché sono molto attivo sui social media, vi invito a seguire le attività dell'Ambasciata su Twitter (@SwissAmbVietnam) e Facebook (SwitzerlandVietnam).

Oltre alla visita di grande successo e impatto mediatico del Presidente del Consiglio nazionale Candinas alla fine di giugno, questa Newsletter vi espone altri momenti salienti delle attività dell'Ambasciata, come la visita di Christian Hofer, Direttore dell'Ufficio federale dell'agricoltura, un briefing con l'Accademia diplomatica del Viet Nam (DAV) sul Vertice della Commissione del fiume Mekong tenutosi in aprile a Vientiane, nonché diverse interessanti attività culturali.

Diversi membri del nostro Team Svizzera in Viet Nam sono in procinto di passare a nuovi incarichi o a nuovi capitoli della loro vita. Un ringraziamento speciale va a Nicole Wyrsh e Nguyen Hong Ninh, che si ritirano dal servizio presso l'amministrazione federale svizzera dopo numerosi anni di attività e operosità, come altresì a Martina Arkurdi, Simon Ritzmann e Sandro Pischedda che lasciano i loro rispettivi incarichi per assumere nuove mansioni all'interno del DFAE.

Infine, vorrei cogliere l'occasione per ricordarvi che quest'anno la celebrazione del 1° agosto organizzata Swiss Business Association Viet Nam si terrà sabato 5 agosto 2023 a Ho Chi Minh City alla presenza del Console generale Werner Bardill e del suo team. L'invito sarà inviato dalla Swiss Business Association a tempo debito.

Con i più cordiali saluti,

Thomas Gass
Ambasciatore di Svizzera in Viet Nam
