



CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

North Asia CAPE Information and Communications Technology Business Study Tour April 2019

Background

The North Asia Centre for Asia-Pacific Excellence (CAPE) is arranging a study tour to Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou as part of its core objectives. These include (a) preparing New Zealanders to build business relationships with Greater China, Japan, and Korea; and (b) supporting New Zealanders to deepen their knowledge and understanding of those cultures.

The programme focuses on the information and communications technology sector. The programme will appeal to practitioners and professionals working in IT, AR, AI, VR, big data, machine learning, smart city and associated sectors.

This is an invitation to qualified and experienced specialists in information technology to be involved.

The North Asia CAPE will subsidise the study tour. Participants will be required to:

- pay a participation fee of NZD\$250
- arrange their own travel to and from Hong Kong for the study tour period 13-18 April 2019 inclusive (i.e. arrive Hong Kong by the evening of 12 April and depart Hong Kong on the evening of 18 April 2019)
- cover their own meals and incidentals during the programme
- obtain China visitor visa

Overview

The study tour will allow participants to connect with IT companies from around the world via two Hong Kong expo events and connect with specific businesses in Hong Kong and Southern China in the IT space.

The study tour includes:

- Attendance at the International ICT Expo Hong Kong (500+ exhibitors)
- Attendance at the Hong Kong Electronics Fair Spring Edition (2,600+ exhibitors)
- Site visits in Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou to companies involved in various IT related businesses e.g. payment systems, drones, virtual and augmented reality, smart city development and more.

Objectives and Outcomes

Participants will:

- Visit events and sites above, receive presentations, product view, demonstrations and meet with managers of each site
- Discuss each facility and interact with local managers to discuss challenges, successes and experiences together with opportunities for collaboration
- Gain an insight of latest regional developments in IT
- Identify areas of opportunity where New Zealand can play a role in IT development
- Establish relationships for further liaison and possible collaboration between facilities in New Zealand, Hong Kong and Southern China

Hong Kong, Shenzhen and Guangzhou

Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. Hong Kong maintains its own executive, legislature, judiciary, currency, legal system (English Common Law), police force, etc. These operate under a "one country, two systems" principle to differentiate it from mainland China, while the Basic Law of Hong Kong is the regional constitution.

The city maintains a strong IT culture and has numerous industry support initiatives available to the sector, including innovation programmes, matching grants, access to various science parks and high capacity infrastructure.

Shenzhen, just across the border from Hong Kong is known as China's Silicon Valley. It hosts numerous brands such as Huawei, ZTE (mobile technologies) and Sensetime (facial recognition) and well as promoting a eco-green culture i.e. public transport (rail, bus and taxi) is powered by electric vehicles.

Guangzhou, as the capital of Guangdong Province and a sister city of Auckland, plays its part in innovation and IT development via various science parks. During the past ten years or so Guangzhou has undergone massive redevelopment to create an innovative and vibrant city which has taken advantage of smart city principles and technologies.

To register your interest in attending please email: I.bunting@auckland.ac.nz. Please include your name, company, contact details, brief biography and a statement about what you hope to gain from the tour if accepted as a participant.

Successful applicants will demonstrate the ability to realise the key learnings from this trip upon their return to New Zealand. They will also agree to share their successes/outcomes with the North Asia CAPE for internal evaluation and external promotion purposes.

The **North Asia CAPE** is committed to helping New Zealand build sustainable, future-focused economic and cultural relationships with Greater China, Japan, and Korea. Established in 2017, the North Asia CAPE is one of three CAPEs funded by the government and supported by a consortium of four of NZ's leading universities: Auckland, Waikato, Otago, and Victoria University of Wellington.

[Find out more about the North Asia CAPE](#)