

# PROGRAMME

**8.00am**     **Registration and refreshments**

**8.45am**     **Conference vision**

The co-chairman introduces the summit's vision and objectives, including The Economist's view of innovation as "fresh thinking that creates value" for customers, stakeholders and society at large.

Vijay V. Vaitheeswaran, China business editor and Shanghai bureau chief, **The Economist**

**9.00am**     **In conversation**

**Corporate innovation in Asia: Does the Silicon Valley model matter?**

With its established infrastructure and risk-capital markets, lenient bankruptcy laws and a culture that forgives failure, Silicon Valley is held up as the ideal model for creating innovation. But can those attributes be successfully imported into other jurisdictions? Do they make sense inside established organisations in other parts of the world?

Most businesses in Asia do not see themselves as the next Uber, yet innovation gurus still implore them to think like start-ups. Innovation comes in many forms, and in this session we will find out whether conglomerates in Asia need to innovate differently.

Cultural differences inside large businesses, especially those operating in diverse markets, are in many cases incompatible with the agile, early-adopter dynamism of start-ups. From flat organisational structures to desk-side ping-pong, can the start-up style be made to gel with corporate culture? Which lessons should business leaders take from Silicon Valley, and which should they ignore?

We ask global innovators whether the world should adopt the Silicon Valley model or if Asian businesses should avoid succumbing to "Silicon Valley envy".

Speakers

Michael Redding, managing director of strategic technology innovation,

**Accenture**

Dong Wu, head of innovation, **Johnson & Johnson Asia-Pacific**

Arman Zand, founding partner, **Red Lion Capital**

Moderator

Vijay V. Vaitheeswaran, China business editor and Shanghai bureau chief, **The Economist**

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## 9.40am **Disruption at the door: Intelligent machines and the future of work**

Until recently, many assumed that automation would only replace labour-intensive blue-collar jobs such as those in manufacturing. Now, the rise of smart machines also seems to threaten professional, middle-class jobs.

The list of jobs predicted to be replaced by technology grows constantly: we now foresee driverless transport, teachers pushed out by online learning, and customer-service and care workers supplanted by emotion-registering robots. Business managers today must consider the possibility that risk-analysis, recruitment and investment algorithms will usurp their roles.

In this keynote, we set aside techno-fearmongering to find out how intelligent machines will affect how we work and the jobs that will exist in the coming decades.

- Will these disruptions occur during our working lifetimes?
- Should business pre-empt these changes by creating new job structures and retraining staff today?
- How can societies prepare for the machine age's likely impact on education, training and welfare?

Speaker

Nigel Cameron, president and chief executive officer, **Centre for Policy on Emerging Technologies**

Moderator

Tom Standage, deputy editor, **The Economist**

## 10.10am **Reality check: The retreat of the robots**

Despite concerns discussed in the previous session about how intelligent machines will change work, in reality, progress toward the robotic revolution seems slow.

Today's most ubiquitous intelligent machines don't resemble the android-style human-replacers thought to be on the horizon. As yet, artificial intelligence (AI) can only regurgitate ideas people have already dreamt up. It seems machines are far from being able to innovate on their own.

In this session, we hear from businesses already using robots at work, to find out what value they bring to the organisation. We will find out where businesses are investing in intelligent machines and what the practical limitations of automation are today.

Speakers

Per Vegard Nerseth, senior vice-president and managing director, robotics, **ABB**  
Andy Pan, partner and vice president ecosystems, **Da-Jiang Innovations**  
Dmitry Kaminskiy, senior partner, **Deep Knowledge Ventures**

Moderator

Vijay V. Vaitheeswaran, China business editor and Shanghai bureau chief, **The Economist**

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**10.50am    Networking break**

**11.20am    The Tiger's Lair: Entrepreneurship challenge**

In this session showcasing some of Asia's most promising entrepreneurs, each of three finalists in the Tiger's Lair challenge will have three minutes to present their business idea to our judging panel of market-leading investors. Experts in making multi-billion dollar decisions that drive industries, markets and economies, these judges will decide which ideas they would invest in and which they think will flop.

We'll hear from our judges on:

- Which new products and ideas will disrupt businesses and markets in the coming years?
- Which industries have the most to gain?
- How quickly can these future trends be commercialised?

Head judge

John Rice, vice-chairman, **General Electric**

Judging panel

James Zhang, venture partner, **GRC SinoGreen Fund**

Arman Zand, founding partner, **Red Lion Capital**

Entrepreneurs

Nicole Chan, director of communications, **Bindo**

Yasir Naveed, chief executive officer, **Chefo**

Rajeev Krishnan, co-founder, **Playfiks**

Moderator

Vijay V. Vaitheeswaran, China business editor and Shanghai bureau chief, **The Economist**

**12.15pm    Solutions lab: Measuring and financing innovation inside businesses**

With competing claims on resources in most organisations, innovators must present a compelling case to secure backing for ventures that are inherently uncertain and risky. In this session, we will examine how measuring innovation can support the business case for freeing up budgets and investing in innovation, with the aim of converting CFOs into VCs.

We will hear from a business leader on his experience in financing and measuring corporate innovation, and explore his methodology for structuring budgets and internal goals to encourage innovation across an organisation.

Speaker

R. Gopalakrishnan, director, **Tata Sons**

Moderator

Tom Standage, deputy editor, **The Economist**

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**12.40pm**    **Networking lunch**

**1.50pm**    **Is the public sector more innovative than business?**

Much of the excitement around innovation focuses on commercial success in global markets, but in some places the public sector is thought to be more innovative than the private. In these cases, value is measured not by profit and market share, but in terms of improving the lives of citizens and stakeholders.

Economist Mariana Mazzucato takes this idea further, suggesting that it is not the private sector that has created an innovation revolution, but governments—who we should credit for investing in the risky advances that have produced growth.

In this session, we will find out just how innovative the public sector can be:

- What can businesses learn from the way social enterprise does innovation, often on a shoestring budget?
- How can leaders spur sluggish institutions to create value?
- How do heavily regulated sectors like health care, education and government incentivise innovation in the absence of market forces like competition?

Speakers

Frank Tong, chief executive officer, **Hong Kong Applied Science and Technology Research Institute**

Dato' Sri Dr. Noorul Ainur Mohd. Nur, secretary general, **Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, Malaysia**

David Miller, chief technologist, **NASA**

Mariana Mazzucato, RM Phillips professor in the economics of innovation, **University of Sussex** (by video link)

Moderator

Tom Standage, deputy editor, **The Economist**

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## 2.35pm **In conversation: The serious business of corporate innovation**

How to embed new ways of creating value in existing and sometimes out-of-date business models is a perennial question for many business leaders. In this session, we'll hear from some of Asia's leading executives about their experiences of innovating within businesses in a variety of sectors.

- How can executives balance shareholders' and investors' interest in short-term returns with the need for longer-term investment in innovation?
- How do they integrate innovative acquisitions or research and development satellites into established workforces?
- In what ways can an organisation's financial goals be realigned to support innovation initiatives?
- Can these executives also claim to be their organisations' chief innovators?

### Speakers

John Rice, vice-chairman, **General Electric**

Ong Chih Ching, chairman and executive director, **KOP Limited**

Anish Shah, group president strategy, **Mahindra Group**

### Moderator

Vijay V. Vaitheeswaran, China business editor and Shanghai bureau chief, **The Economist**

## 3.15pm **Networking break**

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## 3.40pm **The Economist debates: Can Asia's big firms survive?**

Economic conditions, social trends and new technologies are constantly changing the environment in which businesses operate, and many commentators argue that the pace of change is increasing. In this session, we pit the old guard against the new.

Established businesses arguably have more resources they can use to innovate and experiment with new ideas. But are they hungry enough to make the risky leaps ahead required for survival? A tide of start-ups and entrepreneurs is surging across Asia, not just in entrenched tech markets like China, India, Hong Kong and Korea, but also across South-East Asia, in Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam. Is there a chance for the new guard to improve on established firms' business practices, which can be cumbersome and expensive, to leapfrog their bigger competitors and take the lead?

*Motion to debate: Asia's established firms are also its most innovative.*

For the motion

Steve Monaghan, regional director and head of edge (group innovation), **AIA**

Against the motion

Cheryl Yeoh, chief executive officer, **Malaysian Global Innovation & Creativity Centre**

Moderator

Vijay V. Vaitheeswaran, China business editor and Shanghai bureau chief, **The Economist**

## 4.20pm **Winners' panel: The Economist's 2015 Innovation Award winners**

*The Economist* will present its annual innovation awards to world-class innovators whose successes are both fascinating and inspiring. In this panel session, winners will share the stories of their unique struggles to succeed, and talk about the challenges common to innovators in diverse industries.

Speakers

Michael J Sofia, chief scientific officer, **Arbutus Biopharma**

Shannon May, chief strategy and development officer, **Bridge International Academies**

Sam Gellman, North Asia general manager, **Uber**

Moderator

Tom Standage, deputy editor, **The Economist**

## 5.00pm **Co-Chairman's closing remarks**

Tom Standage, deputy editor, **The Economist**

## 5.10pm **Networking cocktail reception**

