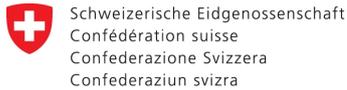


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N° 2
December 2021

Consulate General of Switzerland in Shanghai
瑞士驻上海总领事馆

Grüezi Shanghai



Message from Consul General Olivier Zehnder

Dear fellow Citizens,
Dear Friends of Switzerland,

Another year has passed and with the end of 2021 approaching, I would like to extend to you my warmest wishes for the upcoming holidays. We are going through challenging times and are well-aware that many of you won't be able to reunite with your dear ones for the festivities. While travel restrictions and quarantine bear heavy on us all, rest assured that the whole team of the Consulate General stands in solidarity with you in these trying times.



Consulate General, Swissnex and Pro Helvetia teams at the annual Team Outing
© CG

In this Winter's edition of Grüezi Shanghai you will find an overview of the activities of the Consulate during the second part of the year, as well as those of Swiss organizations active in Shanghai. In addition, important information concerning vaccination, COVID certificate and other regulations currently in vigor in Switzerland are to be found at the end of our newsletter.

While volatile COVID-related restrictions have had an important impact on the course of our activities in the Yangtze-Delta River region, the Consulate and its sections have continued promoting activities and events in the areas of sustainability, vocational training and inclusion.

The Economic and Culture section joined forces for the Swiss Sustainable

Construction Roadshow which toured in three major cities of the Yangtze Delta River: with the support of Swiss companies in the field of construction and the insight of Swiss and Chinese architects, the series of events explored the challenges and opportunities for the construction and building industry towards sustainable practices for the environment and society, as well as providing companies a great platform to advance economic partnerships.

In the past months, the Culture section has greatly supported the work of Swiss artists through exhibitions in Shanghai and hosted the screening of the documentary SOUS LA PEAU, in an effort to uphold Swiss values of diversity and inclusion. The Economic section, in addition to leading several economic missions in the YDR, has hosted various events in partnership with SwissCham and Swiss Center in occasion of the 4th edition of the China International Import Expo (CIIE): in particular, a panel discussion on vocational training was organized during the event, highlighting Sino-Swiss opportunities to advance this sector.

This October also saw the world-famous Montreux Jazz Festival making its debut in Hangzhou, China. Ambassador Bernardino Regazzoni and our Deputy Consul General Istvan Kocsis, along with other jazz lovers, enjoyed the program of Chinese and foreign musicians. We are looking forward to next year's edition!

On behalf of the Consulate, I wish you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Olivier Zehnder
Consul General

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Economic Section

Enhanced Visibility of a reliable Partner for Sustainable Construction



The Swiss companies who supported the Swiss Sustainable Construction Roadshow

Despite mobility restrictions, a series of activities have been organised in the Yangtze Delta Region which renewed the trusted brand of Switzerland as a reliable partner for sustainable development.

Themed with architecture and construction, the Swiss Sustainable Construction Roadshow is touring in four cities in Jiangsu and Zhejiang province. The events are organized on the occasion of the “Constructive Alps” exhibition, the prize-winning works on sustainable architecture projects in Switzerland and the Alpine region. With the support of

local authorities in Changzhou, Ningbo, Nanjing and Suzhou, the Consulate in Shanghai, in cooperation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Swissnex in China and SwissCham Shanghai, launched the campaign to promote Swiss sustainable architecture designs and technologies as well as concrete solutions provided by Swiss companies.

Swiss and Chinese architects with extensive experiences participated in panel discussions and interaction with audience to address topics of energy efficient and sustainable buildings, as well as the role of architecture in the process of urban renewal. Leading Swiss companies in the related fields showcased their best practice and innovative solutions with local officials, industry associations and professional visitors.

The roadshow in Nanjing also celebrated and exhibited the achievements of the 10-year partnership and cooperation between Canton Luzern and Jiangsu Province. Please follow the link to find more information about the Roadshow in [Changzhou](#), [Ningbo](#) and [Nanjing](#), and stay tuned for the last stop and closing ceremony in Suzhou.

Culture

Culture industry bounces back from pandemic with active Swiss participation

Traditionally, the cultural agenda in Shanghai is very rich and diverse, especially during the second semester. The Consulate General had regularly informed about its activities on social media (WeChat) in these last months.



Deputy Consul General at the art exhibition of Swiss artist Renato Tagli © ZHU

The following events were among the highlights:

Screening of Swiss Documentary SOUS LA PEAU

The screening of this Swiss-French documentary was successfully held on the evening of August 18th, at the British Center. Co-branding the event with the British Consulate General in Shanghai, this Consulate invited around 60 guests to that evening. The documentary is about three teenagers in transition and humanizes their struggles at school, family and society at large. Both the British Consul General and the Deputy Consul General of Switzerland delivered welcome speeches. A guest speaker from the LGBTQ+ community was invited to share personal experiences and answered questions from the audience.

The 1st Montreux Jazz Festival China

The MJFC 2021 was launched in Hangzhou from October 5th to 8th. Being scaled down to a boutique version, this first edition of the Festival in China has shown Switzerland and Hangzhou at its best and presenting Montreux in particular to the Chinese public. During the festival, 9 bands from 6 countries held their live performances. Swiss Ambassador Bernardino Regazzoni paid a visit to the Festival accompanied by the Deputy Consul General, Istvan Kocsis. Swiss TV SRF reported about the Festival.

Glimpses of Swissness in the art exhibitions

Around 40 pieces of work from Swiss artist Renato Tagli were shown in Suzhou Hanshan Art Museum in August. With a profound interest in art and nature, Renato Tagli has turned his passion into an admirable form of "Land Art". The artist also worked with Chinese designers and developed exciting products in which his philosophy was conceptually implemented. Deputy Consul General Istvan Kocsis delivered a speech at the opening.

Two artworks by the Swiss artist duo AATB were exhibited at the APSMUSEUM in Shanghai from mid-August to the end of November. Alongside the playful work "Soap Opera", the interactive robot installation

"Handshake" was on display. Both artworks address and question the future of robotics and human interaction.

In August, the Consulate supported an art talk by Swiss artist Nici Jost (via Zoom) and Wan Qiong on their group exhibition called "the Sixth Sense". Based in Switzerland, Nici Jost is a conceptual and multimedia artist, as well as a photographer. Both artists shared with audience their own reflections on the sixth sense, its implication and influence on their respective creative processes. The art talk took place at ArtCN Gallery in Shanghai.

Staged at the Fosun Art Center in Shanghai until December 31st 2021, the exhibition "Body in Time" seeks to explore time through the presentation of the body, citing our ancient past, present and future through the work of several international sculptors including Not Vital from Switzerland. His sculpture is exhibited on the art center's rooftop terrace.

An outlook for 2022

Sport-related Swiss films will be shown during the Francophonie. The highly anticipated WorldSkill Shanghai 2022 will take place in October. Young people around the world including a Swiss delegation will come to Shanghai to compete in 63 skill competitions.

Pro Helvetia

Swiss Artist Cinema | Autumn Screening



Ursula Biemann talked with Yuan Fuca after the screening of her works at Fosun Foundation.

Pro Helvetia Shanghai and Centre for Experimental Film (CEF) have commissioned three curators from China and gave them free rein to select Swiss artists for this exhibition built upon their personal research interests and curatorial sensibilities. The pairs are presented as: Yuan Fuca x Ursula Biemann (Theme: Indigenous Scientist), Wang Shuman x Uriel Orlow (Theme: Lingering En Route), Huang

Wenlong x Maria Iorio & Raphaël Cuomo (Theme: La Mémoire Brûle).

While these featured artists have previously been shown in major biennials and other exhibitions around the world, this event marks the first time they are being presented as a group to the Chinese public. On October 22nd and 24th, Pro Helvetia has hosted a screening event at Fosun Foundation. Audiences

had the chance to interact with the artists in real-time. Between October 25th and December 23d, twelve video works by the three artists and long essays by the curators are available through CEF's online platform.

Register to watch the videos: <https://h5.artfilmonline.com/#/>. Three curatorial statements are ready for view on: <https://prohelvetia.cn/en/dossier/swiss-artist-cinema-autumn-screening/#tab-overview>

Initiator: Pro Helvetia Shanghai, Swiss Arts Council

Co-Organizers: Centre for Experimental Film (CEF); Fosun Foundation, Shanghai

Date: Until December 23d, 2021, online

Swiss Business Hub

The third Swiss Education Fair (SEF) China Successfully Held in Guangzhou Amid the Pandemic



Alumni sharing at SEF China 2021

Organized by Switzerland Global Enterprise and the Swiss Business Hub China, and greatly supported by Consulate General of Switzerland in Guangzhou, the third Swiss Education Fair (SEF) China 2021 was successfully held in Guangzhou on December 4th.

Since the first edition in 2018, SEF China has been highly appreciated by the participating institutions, especially this year's edition amid the pandemic of COVID-19. Despite travel restrictions and other challenges caused by the pandemic, a total of 11 Swiss educational institutions managed to participate in the fair, including Swissnex in China that represents Swiss higher education, major hotel management schools and renowned private schools.

Consul General in Guangzhou Mr. Philippe Praz gave a welcome speech at the beginning of the fair, followed by the pitches of 11 participating institutions. Four alumni shared their interesting experiences in Switzerland and the impact on their lives. Generous support of numerous in-kind sponsors including Switzerland Tourism have made the event more interesting.

SEF China aims to build a platform for Swiss educational institutions to promote Swiss excellence in education, and provide channels for Chinese students and parents to meet and speak directly with representatives, alumni and delegates from Swiss schools, universities and other educational

organizations to learn about the educational system and latest teaching programs in Switzerland.

Swissnex in China

Swissnex in China: Ongoing Innovative & Interdisciplinary Events



China Education Expo © Swissnex in China

In October, as the Innovation Partner of Montreux Jazz Festival China, Swissnex hosted an online talk for the Zhejiang Conservatory of Music on EPFL's Montreux Jazz Digital Projects. At the Sino-Swiss Business Award in Beijing, the hydrogen storage startup STOR-H was presented with the Swissnex Award for Most Innovative Startup.

In November, Swissnex represented Swiss public universities at China Education Expo and provided prospective students insights into studying and living in Switzerland. This was complemented with a virtual Einstein Day which brought together high-level representatives and alumni of top Swiss universities to share first-hand information about study programs to an engaged audience.

Following the success of the swisstech Pavilion at the Consumer Technology & Innovation Show in June, 19 ambitious Swiss startups are now preparing to showcase their groundbreaking solutions at the China Hi-Tech Fair in Shenzhen.

Swissnex's webinar series continues to explore a wide range of trending and emerging topics, from elderly care robotics, wildlife management, green mobility to polar science and art. Join us for [Café des Sciences lecture](#), which provides Swiss scientists, startups and artists a public platform to present their projects; [Art x Science Dialogues](#), which looks into new interdisciplinary initiatives and trends; and the [nexFrontier](#) series, which introduces the most cutting-edge research advancements in Switzerland and China.

Stay tuned for more exciting news and activities: visit the [website](#), follow Swissnex on [LinkedIn](#), WeChat (ID: swissnex), [Weibo](#), [Twitter](#) or sign up to our [monthly newsletter](#) and our bi-monthly [Science-Switzerland newsletter](#)!

Upcoming Swiss Machining Seminar April 2022

After the successful launch in Spring 2021 in Beijing with 200 attendees, SwissCham Shanghai has decided to launch the second edition of the Swiss Machining Seminar. It will be held on April 12th, 2022 in the Kerry Hotel in Shanghai. The event will

offer the visitors a great network of over 20 companies that will present themselves during the day with expert speeches and dedicated booths. The theme of the 2022 edition is “Swiss Innovation Day” and will focus on the latest technological developments of Swiss industrial companies present in China. Speaker companies are coming from the tooling, machining, software, coating and coolant industries and include Fraisa, Urma, Utilis, Dixi, Rego-Fix, Mikron Tool, Diametal, Schaublin, Fehlmann, Agathon, Starrag, GF Machining Solutions, Tornos, Turbo, United Grinding, Wintool, Open Mind, Imoberdorf, Platit, Erowa and Heule. The event is kindly supported by Swissmem. For more information, visit: www.swissmachiningseminar.com.



Event poster "Swiss Machining Seminar April 2022" © SwissCham Shanghai

Swiss Centers China

Swiss Centers at the 4th CIIE 2021

The Swiss Centers are proud of having participated at the China International Import Expo (CIIE) for three times in a row and was able to provide a platform for Swiss SMEs. This year, the largest Food and Agricultural Products Pavilion, with a total area of 234 sqm and 26 exhibitors and 35 Swiss brands, was organized with the support of the Swiss Chinese Chamber of Commerce in Zurich (SCCC) and SwissCham chapters both in Beijing and Shanghai.



Left to right: Bernardino REGAZZONI (Ambassador), Zhen XIAO (CEO, Swiss Centers), Kuno Gschwend (DGM, Swiss Centers), Danny QI (GM, Läderach China) at Swiss Centers Cluster Booth, 4th CIIE 2021 © Swiss Centers

Watch the [Xinhua News Report](#) or check out the collection of [Photos](#) taken on the 1st & 2nd day in the Swiss Centers Cluster Booth.

Consular Affairs

New procedure for the AHV/IV Lebensbescheinigung / AVS/AI certificate de vie

The procedure for the annual life certificate will be adjusted as of 01.01.2022. The certificates will no longer be sent to citizens who are registered in the Swiss Abroad Register since the data will be reported automatically of this register. The persons concerned will be informed by letter by the relevant authority.

Entry requirements and COVID Certificate in Switzerland

Below you will find a summary of current information on entering and staying in Switzerland.

Entry into Switzerland

Entry into Switzerland is possible for Swiss citizens, EU/EFTA citizens, persons with a valid Swiss residence permit, as well as for fully vaccinated Chinese (or other third country nationals) with a valid Schengen visa.

Information on the visa process can be found on our [website](#). For non-vaccinated Chinese nationals entry into Switzerland is only possible in [situations of extreme necessity \(hardship cases\)](#).

All travellers over the age of 16 must present a negative PCR test result (72 hours prior to departure) at boarding. Non-vaccinated travellers and those without proof of recovery from Covid-19 must take another PCR test or rapid antigen test carried out within 4 to 7 days after arrival in Switzerland. Detailed information can be found on the website of the Federal Office for Public Health [FOPH](#).

Every person entering Switzerland must present a completed [entry form](#). It is important to complete the electronic entry form within 48 hours before departure.

Please note that each airlines carries out the check-in and boarding process at their own discretion. We therefore recommend that you contact the airline beforehand to check the requirements and use direct flights whenever possible.

Further information on entry requirements can be found on the website of the State Secretariat for Migration ([SEM](#)) and the [FOPH](#).

Vaccinations for Swiss citizens living abroad

Swiss citizens living abroad and their close family members of foreign nationality (must be living in the same household) can now be vaccinated during their stay in Switzerland. The implementation of the vaccination is regulated by the cantons. Please contact directly the [competent authority of the canton](#) in which you will spend your next stay in Switzerland.

Covid certificates for persons vaccinated abroad

Swiss citizens living abroad who have been vaccinated with Sinopharm (BIBP) or Sinovac can apply for a Swiss COVID certificate when visiting Switzerland. You should contact the [cantonal office](#) of the canton in which you will be living during your next stay in Switzerland. Chinese family members travelling with you can fill in the online application form of the [National COVID Certificate Application Platform](#) directly.

Since 20.12.2021, the Swiss COVID certificate is mandatory for entering most indoor places and events, including private events with more than 9 attendees (dinners, weddings etc.). At these places, people must additionally wear a facemask (there are few exceptions, for example at the table in restaurants). For certain places, vaccinated attendees need show in addition a negative Covid test result (for example night clubs, public indoor pools etc.). The Swiss COVID certificate is not required in areas of everyday life such as public transport, shops, hairdressers, etc. or for outdoor events.

Please check the detailed regulation on the FOPH website on the [COVID certificate](#).

Travelling back to China

For more information on the requirements of the Chinese authorities to return to China after your stay in Switzerland, consult the webpage of the [Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Switzerland](#) or the [Consulate General of the People's Republic of China in Zurich](#). In principle, Swiss travellers must return to China on a direct flight from Zurich to Shanghai.

Rotation of personnel in the Chancery

After having worked for more than two years at the Swiss citizens service desk, Mr. Martin Baier will change to the Visa section with the start of the new year. From January 3d onwards, Mrs. Daniela Rey Aponte will take over his duties and is looking forward to attend to your requests (shanghai.consular@eda.admin.ch / +86 21 6270 0519).

Welcome to the new colleagues

Ms. Tina La, Assistant to the Consul General



© LAT

Born in Locarno in Canton of Ticino, Tina is a ti-cinese with Chinese origins who later moved to Geneva to pursue her higher education at the University of Geneva. She holds a Bachelor degree in International Relations, a Master in Asian Studies and a Master in Innovation, Sustainability and Human Development. With a keen interest on societal developments and their impact on the economy and the environment, Tina has carried out several research projects in Beijing, Jakarta and Geneva, both academically and professionally. Drawing from her own cultural background, she is particularly interested in deepening her understanding of Sino-Swiss relationships and international politics.

In her free time, Tina enjoys playing the violin and has joined various semi-professional orchestras across Switzerland and China. Arrived in August 2021, she succeeded Sophie Baumgartner as the assistant of the Consul General and looks forward to further connect with the Swiss community in

Shanghai.

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