

#PartnerForTrade

## New Publication on the Singapore–Germany Strategic Partnership – A Business Perspective

### What is the Singapore-Germany Strategic Partnership?

The **Singapore–Germany Strategic Partnership** is a bilateral cooperation framework formalised in November 2024. It provides a structured basis for closer collaboration between both countries across a range of areas, including trade and investment, digitalisation, sustainability, research and innovation, connectivity, and people-to-people exchange.

The partnership is supported by a **Joint Work Plan** that outlines priority areas and intended forms of **cooperation across five pillars**:

(1) Political, Defence, (Cyber) Security, and Intelligence Cooperation; (2) Trade, Investment, Transport, Digital; (3) Climate, Green Economy, Energy Transition; (4) Research, Science, Technology, and Innovation; and (5) Multilevel Cooperation for the Future.

It aims to strengthen economic ties and deepen political dialogue between the two countries.

### Why did we write this publication?

The **publication was developed to complement** the Strategic Partnership document and its adjacent Joint Work Plan **with a structured business perspective**.

While the official document defines the overarching areas of cooperation, many companies are still asking practical questions: What does this mean for us? Where are the concrete opportunities? How can we engage?

The aim of the publication is therefore to bridge the gap between political ambition and business reality. It seeks to identify where the Strategic Partnership can create tangible value for companies, highlight practical constraints, and outline possible approaches to strengthen its implementation.

In addition, it aims to **identify potential gaps** in terms of topics and industries, **support the prioritisation** of cooperation areas, contribute to **the operationalisation of the Joint Work Plan**, and provide **suggestions for concrete action packages**.

At its core, the publication is intended as a constructive contribution. It builds on the strong foundation created by both governments and focuses on how the next phase can be shaped in a way that enables more effective and practical cooperation.

### How did we do it?

The publication is based on a structured and evidence-based approach combining **qualitative and quantitative inputs** from the business community and relevant stakeholders.

Between August 2025 and March 2026, we conducted **27 in-depth interviews** with representatives from industry, research institutions, and public sector organisations. These were complemented by targeted inputs from **SGC committees** across key sectors, as well as a **member survey with 55 respondents**.

The analysis is based on a structured review of the inputs collected, ensuring that the publication reflects the perspectives shared by companies while also highlighting recurring themes and areas for further development.

The result is a consolidated and structured set of insights that provides a robust basis for discussing the future implementation of the Strategic Partnership.

### What are some of the key findings?

The findings of the publication show that the Strategic Partnership is broadly welcomed by the business community and is regarded as a relevant and timely framework for strengthening bilateral cooperation.

At the same time, several cross-cutting themes emerge:

#### **First, implementation structures matter.**

Many stakeholders emphasise that the impact of the Strategic Partnership will depend less on the breadth of its agenda and more on the clarity of its governance and delivery mechanisms. Clear responsibilities, defined leadership for specific initiatives, and structured coordination are seen as essential for effective implementation.

#### **Second, stronger prioritisation is needed.**

While the broad scope of the Strategic Partnership is valued, there is a clear call for focusing efforts on a limited number of high-potential areas. Concentrating resources on selected flagship initiatives could help generate visible results and build momentum.

#### **Third, practical cooperation formats should be strengthened.**

Stakeholders underline the importance of developing concrete cooperation formats with clear objectives, timelines, and deliverables. Dialogue alone is welcome but not sufficient; it needs to be linked to tangible workstreams and projects.

Apart from input on framework conditions and the institutional setup, the **publication introduces a set of potential activities** and suggestions on the topics of:

- Regulation, Compliance and Market Access
- Talent Mobility, Skills and Workforce Development
- Information Access, Investment Visibility and Market Awareness
- Digital Administration and Trade Facilitation
- Decarbonisation and Industrial Transformation
- Advanced Manufacturing and Semiconductors
- Healthcare and Life Sciences
- Logistics, Mobility and Infrastructure

### What are the next steps?

Building on these insights, the publication outlines several areas that could support the further development of the Strategic Partnership.

A key priority is to **strengthen the operational dimension** of the framework. This includes clearer governance structures, more defined responsibilities, and mechanisms

for monitoring progress. Establishing dedicated coordination formats or structures could help ensure continuity and effective follow-up.

Another important step is the **joint identification of priority areas and potential flagship initiatives**. Aligning government, industry, and research perspectives in this process can help focus efforts on areas with the highest potential for impact.

In parallel, **expanding structured platforms for stakeholder engagement** will be crucial. This includes formats that enable companies to contribute their expertise, develop projects, and engage more directly with relevant counterparts.

Finally, **continued dialogue on framework conditions** will be important to ensure that companies are able to participate effectively in bilateral and regional cooperation.

Overall, the Strategic Partnership provides a strong foundation. The next phase will be defined by how effectively it is operationalised and how successfully it can deliver concrete value for businesses in both countries.

## **Publication Document**

The **publication is now available**. We look forward to continuing the dialogue with our members and partners on how to further strengthen Singapore–Germany economic cooperation.

Please find the document here:

[\*\*The Singapore–Germany Strategic Partnership –  
A Business Perspective on Implementation and Opportunities\*\*](#)

## Authors

**Kai Neuber** – Head of Centre of Competence for Trade Policy (Asia/ASEAN)

If you have any questions about this publication or the usage of Free Trade Agreements in the Asia-Pacific region, please contact Mr Kai Neuber.

E-Mail: [kai.neuber@sgc.org.sg](mailto:kai.neuber@sgc.org.sg)

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