



NICCT

The Netherlands India
Chamber of Commerce & Trade

Annual Report 2021 - 2022

Index

1.	Preamble	3
2.	The Executive Board	3
3.	Programs	5
	Netherlands India Business Meet 2021	
	Round Table Doing Business with India	
	Event with Embassy on 18th of November 2021	
	INBCB International Sustainability Event	
	NICCT New Year's Reception	
	NICCT Online & EY – Indian Budget 2022	
	State Visit President of India to The Netherlands	
	Patron member dinner	
	NICCT Round table doing business in India for Dutch start ups	
4.	Members	13
5.	Financial Situation of NICCT	13
6.	Partners	14
7.	Thanks	14

1. Preamble / Executive summary

This NICCT-Annual Social report covers NICCT's activities between the previous General Council Meeting (GCM), which was held on the 17th of June 2021, and, the GCM held on 28th of June 2022.

This report shows the activities performed in the aforementioned period.

NICCT had its 20th anniversary in September 2021. Unfortunately, due to the additional government Covid-restrictions, the planned celebrations had to be cancelled.

The mission of NICCT is to Inform, to Inspire and to Influence its members within the NL-India corridor.

The original mission is still as relevant today as it was then. Today NICCT is the leading bilateral chamber of commerce representing the Netherlands-India business community in The Netherlands as well as India.

In the year 2021 and 2022 the NICCT board strengthened the position within the Indo-Dutch corridor.

The pandemic has taught us that the mobility of people, services and goods cannot be taken for granted. At the same time, it is of great importance, especially when doing business with India, that the entrepreneur can see and follow how things really are in India – also from home in the Netherlands.

Reliable partners are essential in this respect, and so are eyes and boots on the ground. Without that, continuing and especially setting up business is not possible.

This is why NICCT has been working on the possibilities to provide reliable eyes and boots on the ground.

The tangible results of these efforts will manifest themselves end of 2022. NICCT will inform its members about the progress made along the way.

The new NICCT website already shows the ambitions and approach towards this extensive plans.

2. The Executive Board

Between 17th of June 2021 and 28 June 2022, NICCT board meetings were held 12 times.

2021: 6 July, 3 August, 7 September, 5 October, 2 November, 7 December

2022: 4 January, 1 February, 2 March, 5 April, 3 May and 7 June

A number of NICCT Strategy sessions were organized as well in where the board of NICCT came together to discuss the future of NICCT and the strategy to be implemented.

On Sunday evening 22nd of August 2021, on Thursday evening 16th of December 2021, Sunday evening the 9th of January 2022, Wednesday 11th of May 2022 and 2nd of June 2022 these meetings took place.

These board meetings were mainly focused on the subjects legal, members, finance, programs, co-operations, marketing and communications and NICCT India.

Apart from the formal board meetings, there have been numerous meetings with (potential) members, with colleagues from within the board to support hands-on activities such as NICCT events, as well as partner/supported events and meetings with commercial and governmental organizations.

The board members during the 2021-2022 are:

MEMBER'S NAME		COMPANY NAME
Edith Nordmann	Chairman	ACG International
Sudip Lahiri	Vice Chairman	HCL Technologies
Rajiv Mehra	Executive VP, Program/Events/NICCT India	Mehra Holding
Vidhya Sampath	VP Programs and Liaison to Advisory Board	Tata Consultancy Services
Namita Krul	Vice President Finance	Meri Body
Elbert Waller	Vice President Networking	KPMG Meijburg & Co
Jelke Schippers	Board Member	Smartshore
Erwin Sieders	Board Member	Ernst & Young NL

3. Programs

From June 2021 until June 2022 NICCT organized various programs (on its own and in partnership) to promote business relations within the Indo-Dutch business corridor.

Due to COVID-19, NICCT was still partly forced to organize her programs in an online environment in the whole year of 2021, until the first half of 2022.

NICCT Online programs can be divided into three categories:

1. NICCT Online – Debate in where a small panel of speakers address a topic significant to the NICCT Community.
2. NICCT Online – Conversations with Leaders in which a one-to-one conversation takes place with captains of industry and prominent leaders in the Indo-Dutch business corridor.
3. NICCT Online – Digital Drinks where members can network with each other in an informal setting. Often this program component is combined with a Master Mind Quiz.

NICCT could not realize her events without the great support of their partners within the Indo-Dutch Business Corridor. NICCT especially wishes to extend her gratitude to her partners with whom co-operations took place in the term June 2021-June 2022:

- Amsterdam inBusiness
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- Embassy of India in The Netherlands
- Embassy of The Netherlands in India
- Ernst & Young
- Gateway Group
- HCL Technologies
- INBCB (India Netherlands Business Circle Bangalore)
- KPMG Meijburg
- NLinBusiness
- Tata Consultancy Services

Throughout the year NICCT helped in promoting the programs of several organisations amongst others, CII, the Indian Embassy in The Hague, India Netherlands Business Circle Bengaluru (INBCB) and Invest India. During some of these events NICCT also addressed the participants.

A summary of the activities within NICCT from June 2021 - June 2022 is presented below.

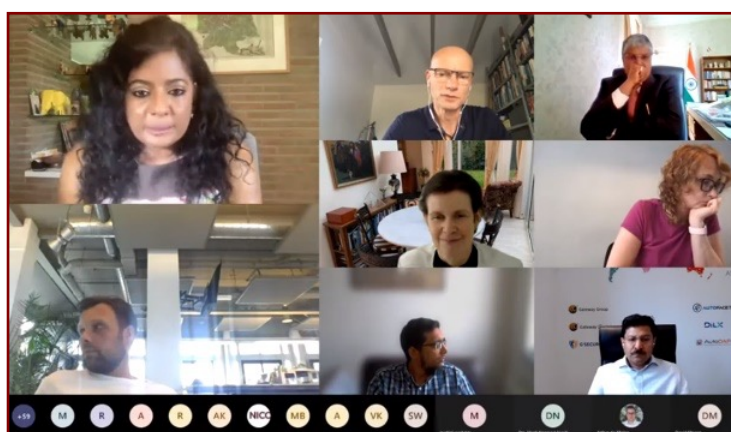
Netherlands India Business Meet 2021

When: 17 June 2021
Where: Online
Initiated by: NICCT

On 17th of June 2021, NICCT organized the Netherlands India Business Meet with the theme '**Towards a Sustainable Planet through Netherlands – India Collaboration**' with 16 guest speakers divided over a keynote opening session, industry panel discussion session and sustainable scale-up discussions.

Distinguished speakers were amongst others Henk Ovink (Special Envoy for International Water Affairs & Sherpa to the UN/WB High Level Panel on Water), Soren Gade (MEP, Chair EU-India Parliamentary Committee, Europe India Business Council Chair), H.E. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rawat (Ambassador of India to The Netherlands), H.E. Mr. Marten van den Berg (Ambassador of The Netherlands to India), Christina Herden (Global Head Sustainability of HCL), Michele Lemmens (Head of Business Sustainability & CTO Asia Pacific & Singapore of TCS), Jan Niewold (Head Climate Change & Sustainability Services of EY), Vipin Moharir (Group CSO – Gateway Group).

During the industry session Mrs. Seema Arora (Deputy Director General – CII and Head CII Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development), Arindom Datta (Executive Director and Head of Rural Development Banking / Advisory of Rabobank), Santosh Jayaram (Partner & Head Climate Change, Sustainability and CSR Advisory of KPMG India) and Sarah Woodhouse (General Council Europe & General Counsel Food and Refreshment of Unilever) expressed their thoughts regarding "building and implementing a sustainability mindset" during an interactive online discussion.

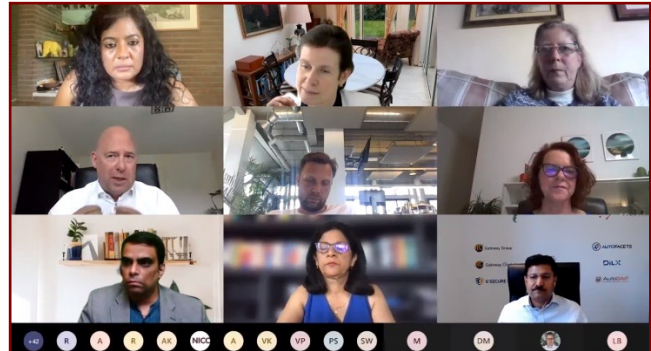
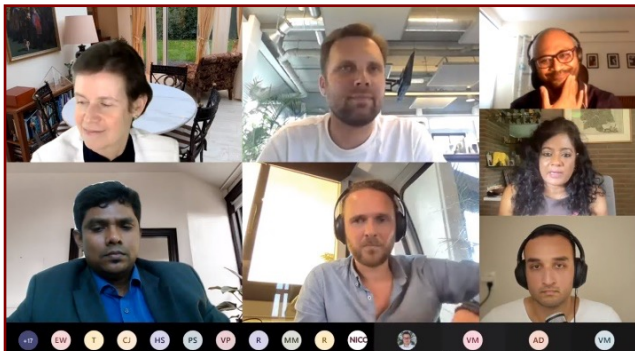


During the sustainability scale up discussions, scale ups like Mesbah Sabur (Co-Founder of Circularise), Lennard Kruseman (Co-Founder of My Carbon Tree), Nitin Vishwas (Co-Founder and Benevolent Overlord of Moonshine Meads) and Shyam Kumar Datta (Country Advisor of SmartFarmingTech) presented their ideas "how to build a greener world".

To ensure the attention of the participants was optimum, NICCT ensured that sufficient interactive moments were inbuilt in the program. Scale – up videos and polls with interactive questions were presented throughout the NIBM. Rinay Prasad (Indias first runner up in the 'Hit like a Girl'-contest in the 13-17 years category from a field of over 60 drummers and under 18 champion) opened and closed the NIBM.

In total more than 240 participants registered for the NIBM.
An overall 120 participants joined the online program.

In case you missed the NIBM, please click: <https://nicct.nl/nibm-2021-archive/>



Round Table Doing Business with India

When: 2 November 2021
Where: Deventer
Initiated by: MKB Deventer. NICCT joined as speakers.

NICCT was asked to jointly organize the Round Table Doing Business with India organized by Ondernemershuis en MKB Deventer on the 2 November 2021.

The round table took place in Deventer and was the only hybrid program allowed to be organized in the year 2021.

In total around 20 entrepreneurs joined the program and shared their thoughts, experiences and questions regarding doing business in India. It was a very interactive session with good network opportunities.



Event with Embassy on 18th of November 2021, NICCT Patron Member Dinner and Member Event in December 2021

NICCT board was in full preparations to above mentioned programs. Unfortunately the programs had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

INBCB International Sustainability Event

When: 22 January 2022
Where: Exclusive digital session
Initiated by: INBCB. NICCT joined as a speaker

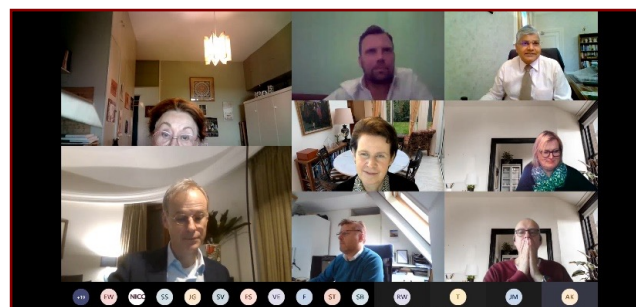
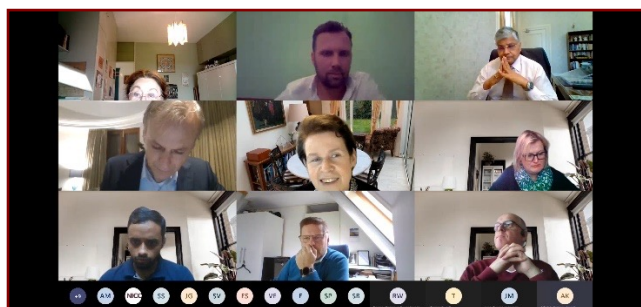
On Saturday 22 January 2022, India Netherlands Business Chamber Bangalore (hereafter INBCB) organized a program on international sustainability. Leaders from business, industry and academia addressed the participants from 13.00-17.40hrs IST. Namita Krul – VP Finance NICCT, Board Member NICCT & Owner of Meri Body addressed the participants during the opening and gave global context to the topic.

NICCT New Year's Reception

When: 27 January 2022
Where: Online
Initiated by: NICCT

On the 27th of January 2022, the NICCT New Year's Reception took place in an online environment. During the one hour program H.E. Mr. Marten van den Berg (Ambassador of The Netherlands to India), H.E. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rawat (Ambassador of India to the Netherlands), Mr. Jelke Schippers (CEO Smartshore) and Mr. Suneet Khanna (Client Partner at Fractal) shared their thoughts on the business developments in the year 2022. The Chairman (Edith Nordmann) moderated the program. Over 60 participants joined the online program.

In case you missed the online reception, please click here: <https://youtu.be/3nDPINY5x8k>.

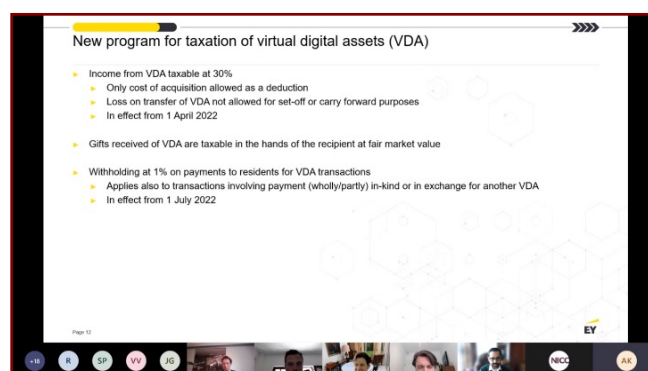
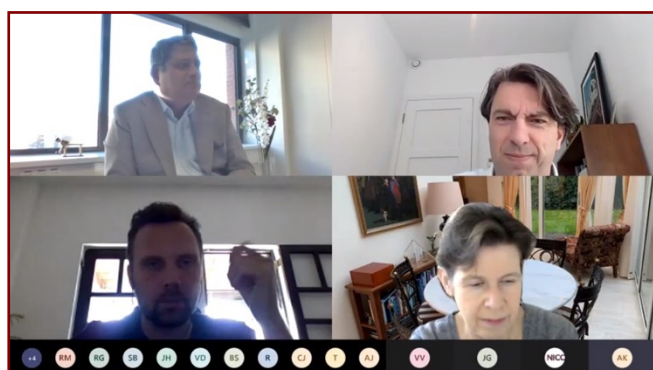


NICCT Online & EY – Indian Budget 2022

When: 17 February 2022
Where: Online
Initiated by: NICCT & EY Netherlands

On Thursday the 17th of February 2022 EY together with NICCT organized a webinar on the Indian budget 2022. The program informed the participants on some of the key investment opportunities in India for European companies. Some topics addressed were: key policy announcements around sunrise sectors and climate change/clean energy, incentives for attracting investments, measures around ease of doing business, tax incentives for new set ups.

In case you missed the online program, please click here: https://youtu.be/T5y_THVWZIM



State Visit President of India to The Netherlands

Where: Amsterdam
When: 5 April – 7 April 2022
Initiated by: The Embassy of India to The Netherlands

At the invitation of King Willem Alexander, the President of the Republic of India, Ram Nath Kovind and his wife Savita Kovind made a state visit to The Netherlands from Tuesday 5th of April to Thursday 7th of April 2022. In 2019 the King and Queen Máxima paid a visit to India. The Indian President's trip to the Netherlands reaffirmed the strong bilateral ties between the Netherlands and India. The visit was to highlight this year's commemoration of 75 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

On the 5th April the official state banquet took place at the Palace on the Dam square in Amsterdam.

On the 6th of April many were invited by the Embassy of India for the Indian Community and Friends of India Reception to meet the President at the Hotel Krasnapolsky in Amsterdam.

To celebrate 75 years of Diplomatic Relations in a festive way, an invitation was sent by the Embassy to join for the Ramayana dance performance by the renowned Kalashetra Foundation at Muziekgebouw Amsterdam. H.E. Mr. Ram Nath Kovind together with H.M. King Willem-Alexander and H.M. Queen Máxima were present as well.



Patron member dinner

When: 12 June 2022
Where: Amsterdam
Initiated by: NICCT

After a successful kick off of the new year on the 27th of January, and after almost 2 years of being in a strict lock down, it was NICCT's great pleasure to invite the NICCT patron members for a Patron Member Dinner at Bolenius in Amsterdam. Ernst & Young Netherlands, Gateway Group, HCL Technologies, KPMG Meijburg & Co, Tata Consultancy Services which are the true pillars of the community as well as from NICCT, were thanked for their continuous support.

The Indian ambassador, H.E. Mrs. Reenat Sandhu was invited for the occasion as well. This gave the patron members and their guests a wonderful opportunity to interact with H.E. in a private setting.



NICCT Round table doing business in India for Dutch start ups

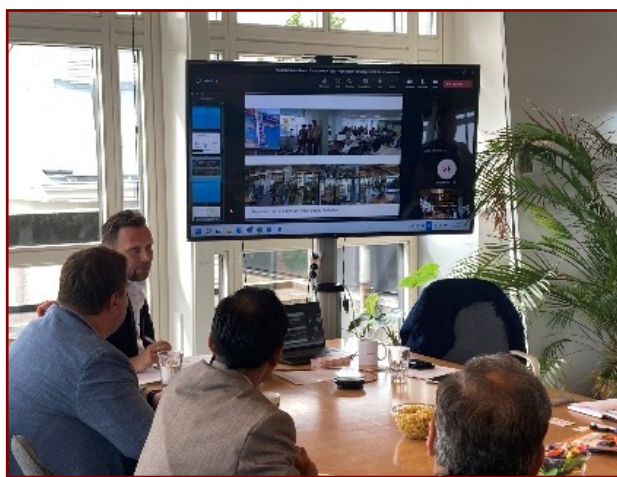
When: 24 May 2022

Where: Utrecht

Initiated by: NICCT

On the 24th of May, NICCT organized its first live round table program after two long COVID-years. The program was attended by a number of participants which are interested in doing business in India, or setting up a stronger presence in India.

The setup of the program is such, that all participants felt free to share their thoughts and their experiences. After the formal part, the informal networking contributed to even better opportunities to build strong connections between Netherlands and India.



4. Members

In 2020, NICCT had 73 members, 4 patron members and 4 youth members.

In 2021, NICCT had 66 members, 5 patron members and 5 youth members.

We are happy to inform you that NICCT received 9 new members in the year 2021. Despite the fact that NICCT received 9 new members, NICCT faces a decline in membership. This decline is coming from the fact that some members have permanently ceased their India operations during the pandemic and due to that also terminated their membership.

We wish them well and hope that as soon as circumstances permit, we will be able to welcome them back as members.

The Patron Members at NICCT in 2021 are:

1. EY
2. Gateway Group
3. HCL Technologies
4. KPMG Meijburg & Co
5. Tata Consultancy Services Netherlands

NICCT has two honorary members: Mr. Ram L. Lakhina (founder and chair- man emeritus NICCT), Mr. Eric Niehe (former ambassador of The Netherlands to India).

5. Financial Statement NICCT

The financial position of NICCT remains solid and we are pleased to share that year 2021 ended with a net surplus of approximately €5000,-. We also welcomed EY as our new patron member.

The COVID-situation still holds a grip on our business and personal situations. 2021 has been once again absolutely challenging for businesses all around, including the India-Netherlands corridor. Business operations in 2022 are even more effected by the impact, on-going constraints and after effects of COVID. In 2021 NICCT had a decline in memberships for the same reasons as mentioned earlier.

Some members have had to shut down their businesses while others are still struggling financially to make ends meet. Others have re-evaluated their strategies and decided to discontinue their business practices in India. This too led to a resignation of their regular membership with NICCT.

We regret to see the members leave but understand their choices. NICCT's efforts to enhance long term relations with various organisations including Start-ups, SME's and Multinationals continue to be our focal point.

6. Partners

NICCT strongly believes that working together with various organizations in the Netherlands as well as in India enhances the cooperation, improves the mutual trade spirit and stimulates cooperation between the trade partners. On top of that it optimizes the service to our members. Eventhough the year 2020-2021 COVID-19 was limiting our travel and ability to meet face to face, the bilateral relations became stronger than ever.

We are extremely grateful that both the Netherlands Embassy in India and the Indian Embassy in the Netherlands have always given their full and undivided support to the NICCT and its members to successfully promote trade between the Netherlands and India and vice versa.

A special thanks also goes to our Patron Members who have been supporting NICCT through thick and thin for years, not only financially but also in word and deed.
We are very grateful to them.

A big thank you also to our loyal members who are the backbone of our organisation. We look forward to seeing all our members and friends in live meetings again from now on.

7. Thanks

NICCT is grateful to all our members, patron members and partners for their continued support and for the confidence that is placed in NICCT.

The board wishes to place on record its gratitude to all members, patrons members and partners for their contribution to the NICCT.

For questions or comments, please contact the secretariat:

Send mail to;

WTC The Hague / Prinses Margrietplantsoen 33

2595 AM The Hague

Call us at +31-889909100

E-mail us at nicct@nicct.nl

Website www.nicct.nl

