

COMMISSION AGENDA

Item No: 3B

Meeting: 09/10/2020

DATE: September 1, 2020

TO: Port Commission

FROM: Eric Johnson, Port of Tacoma Executive Director
Sponsor: Evette Mason, Government Affairs Manager
Presenter: Tom Pierson, President and CEO Tacoma Pierce County Chamber
Mike Fowler, Senior Trade Consultant for WTCT

SUBJECT: BRIEFING - World Trade Center Tacoma Annual Update

A. BRIEFING ITEM

This presentation is intended to provide the Commission with an update on the World Trade Center Tacoma prior to action on the 2021 budget. No action is requested of the Commission at this time.

B. BACKGROUND

The Port of Tacoma purchased the franchise license for the World Trade Center Tacoma (WTCT) in 1979, and continues to work closely with the WTCT on the shared goal of promoting international trade in the south Puget Sound area. The World Trade Center Tacoma's mission is to help grow trade by providing assistance in trade research, providing targeted trade counseling and by connecting its members with local and global partners.

The Port's Local Economic Development Policy authorizes the Port to enter into contracts between the Port and federally-registered non-profit organizations that seek to promote Washington-state based international trade or business retention and recruitment efforts in Pierce County. The Port's contract with the World Trade Center of Tacoma is one example of this.

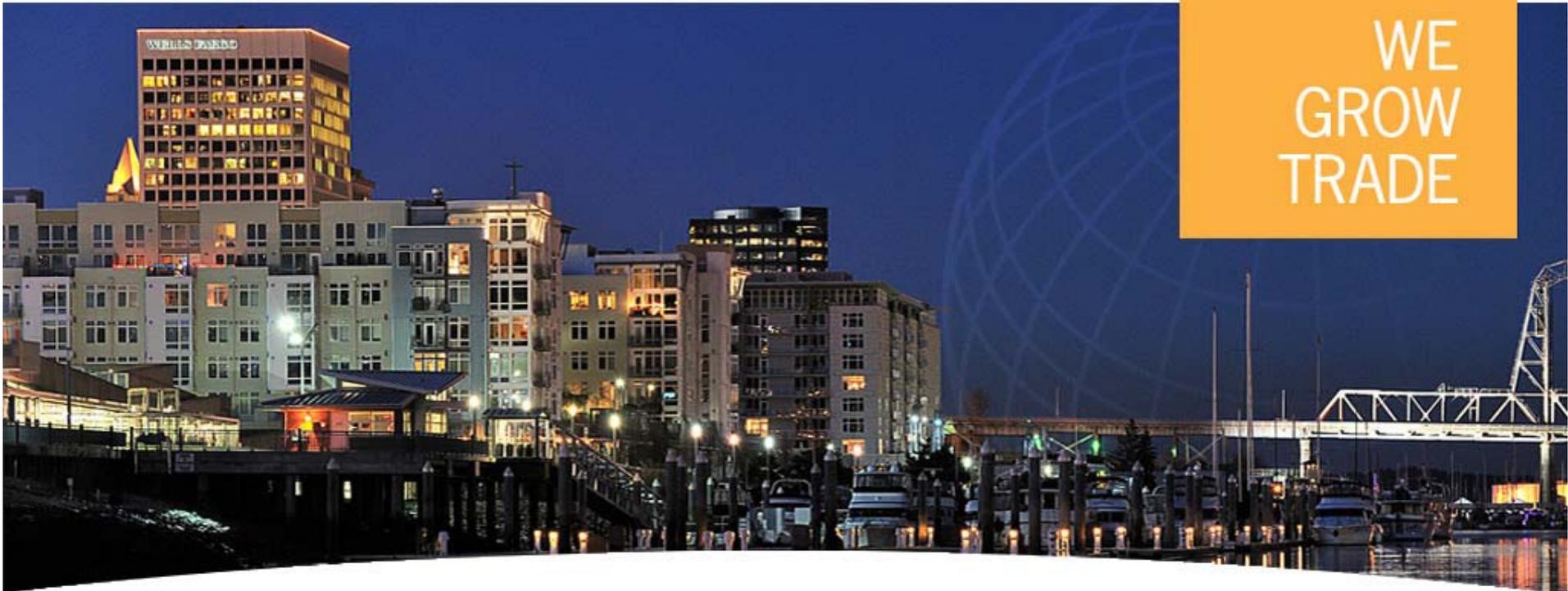
In February 2017, the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber expressed interest in contracting for the management of the WTCT. The proposal was accepted by the WTCT Board and the Executive Committee negotiated and executed a management agreement with the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber.

C. NEXT STEPS

If the 2021 budget includes funding support for the WTCT, a professional services agreement will be prepared and executed between the Port and the WTCT Executive Committee.



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WTC TACOMA UPDATE

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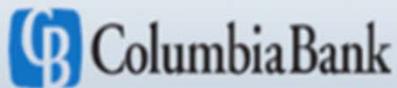
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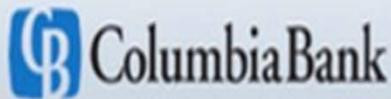


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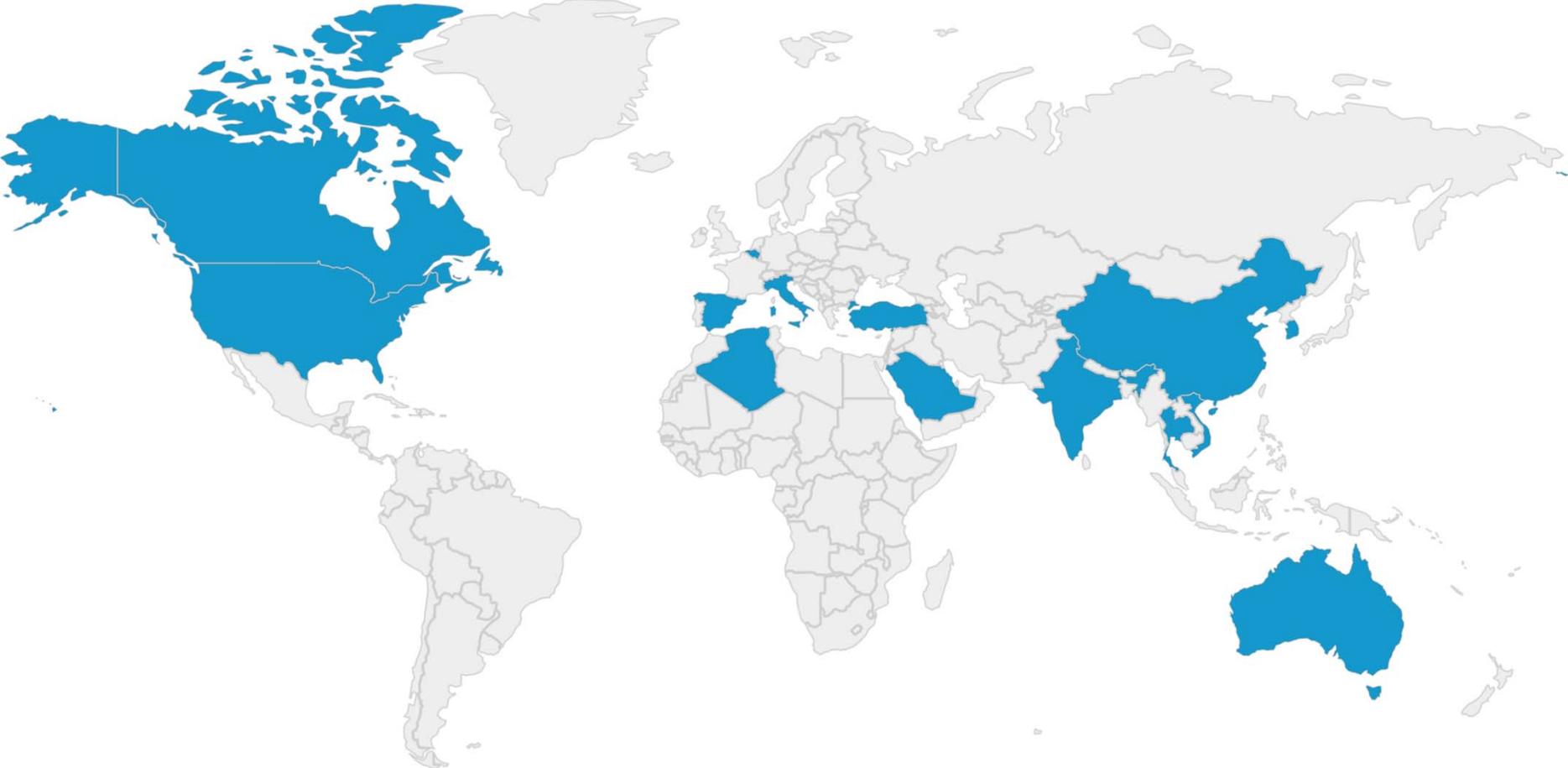


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2020 VIRTUAL EVENTS REACH

14

States

15

Countries

86

Cities

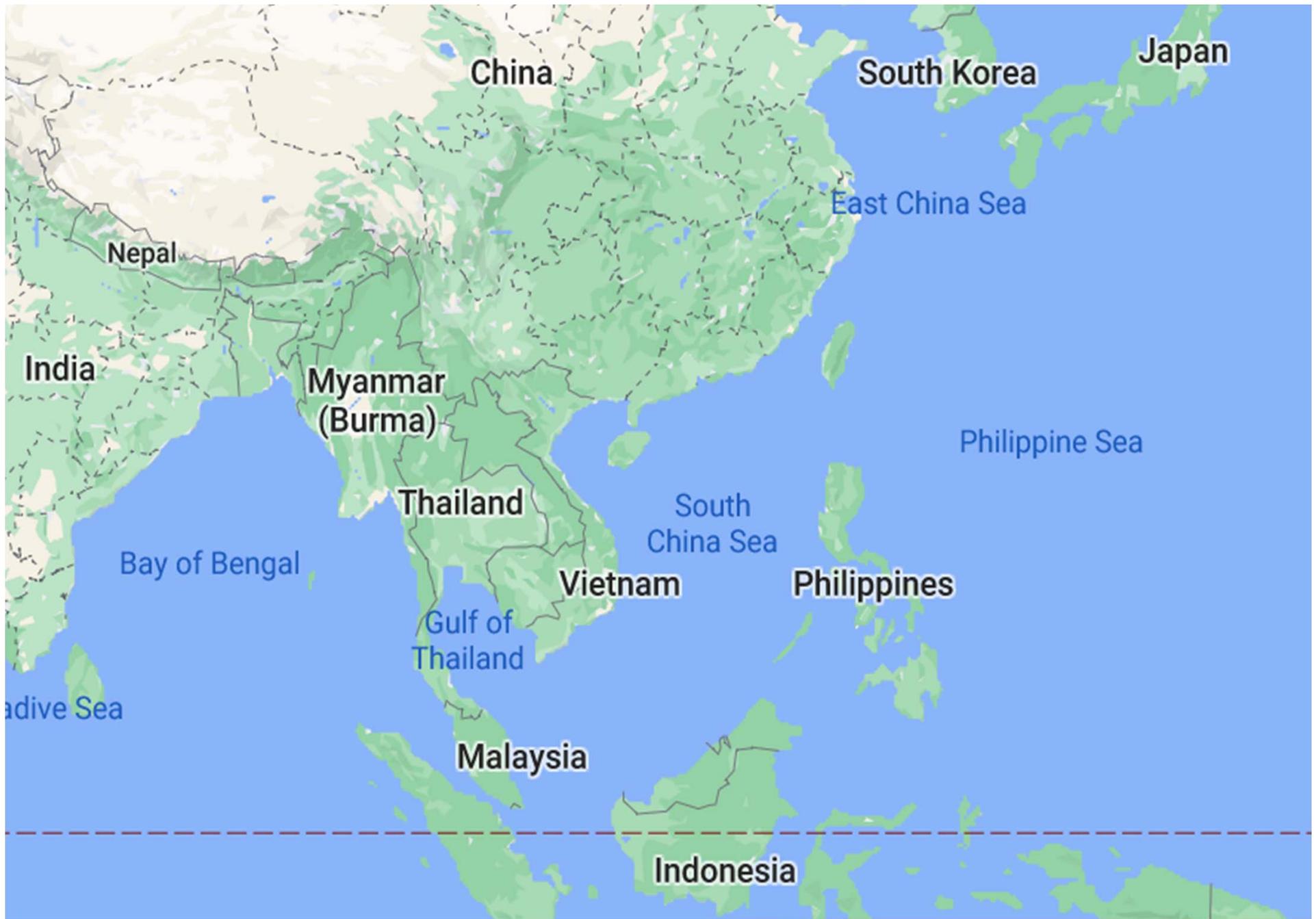
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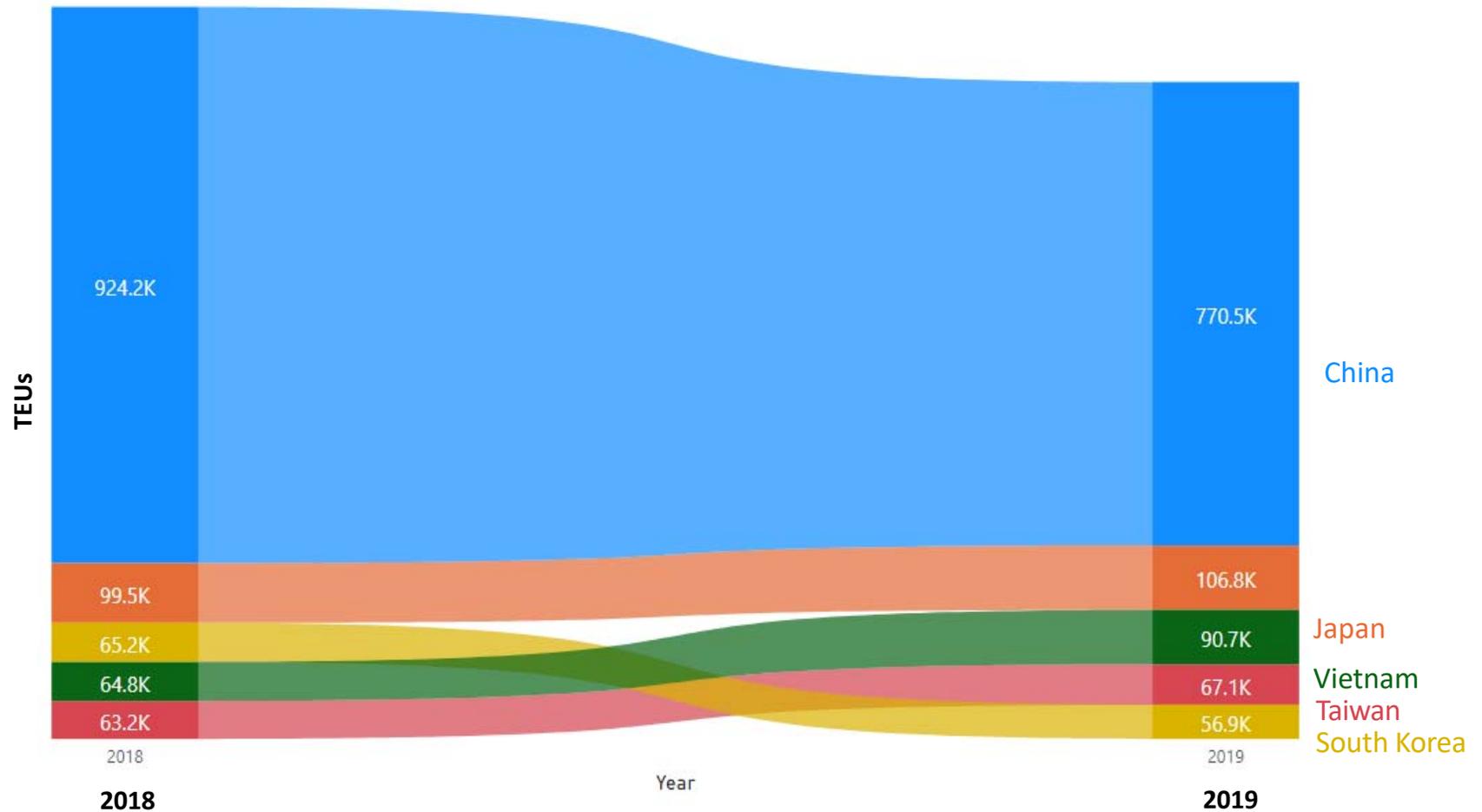




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Increasing Share of Trade with Vietnam: Imports



Source: Northwest Seaport Alliance



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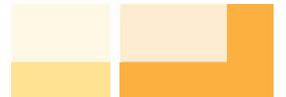


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