



Ashutosh Srivastava
VEROS VENTURES
(SAPMENA)

A BIT ABOUT MY JOURNEY

30+ YEARS

Media | Retail | Data & Tech | Consumer Experience CPG | QSR | Financial Services | Auto | Media Platform





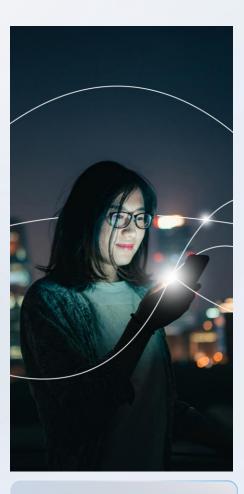
A REGION ON THE RISE



ECONOMIC GROWTH AND MOMENTUM



FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS



TRANSFORMATIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY



RISE IN CONSUMER
SPENDING AND
ASPIRATIONS



RETAIL AND
ECOMMERCE
EXPLOSION AND
INNOVATION











ECONOMIC GROWTH AND MOMENTUM

FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS

TRANSFORMATIVE
DIGITAL
ECONOMY

RISE IN CONSUMER
SPENDING AND
ASPIRATIONS

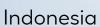
RETAIL AND
ECOMMERCE
EXPLOSION AND
INNOVATION

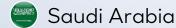
EXPECTED GROWTH WILL GATHER MOMENTUM

G20

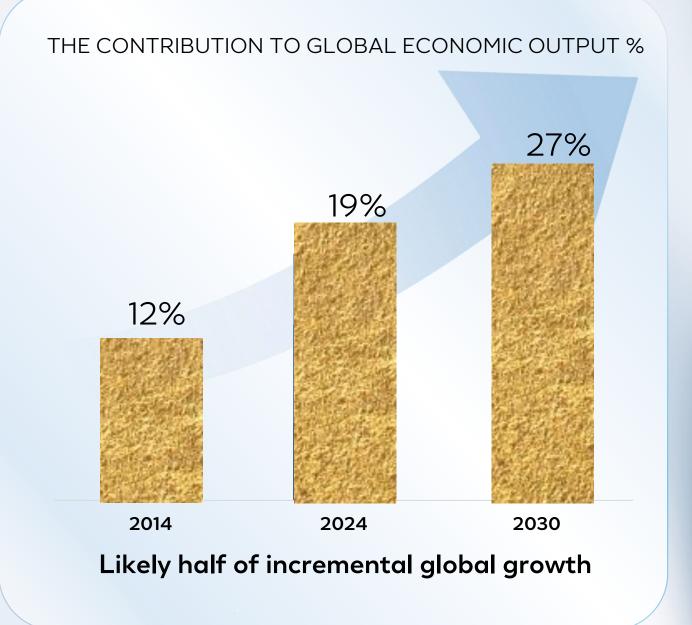








A VISION FOR TRANSFORMATION TOWARD SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

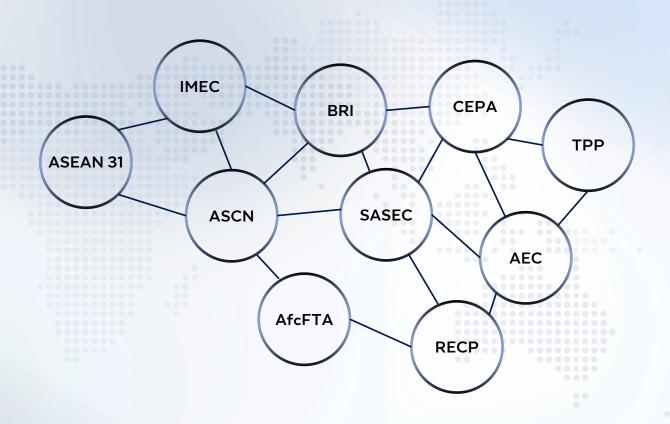




COUNTRY VISIONS AND REGIONAL INITIATIVES TO DIVERSIFY THE ECONOMY

NATIONAL VISION AND STRATEGY

COMPLEMENTED BY REGIONAL INITIATIVES



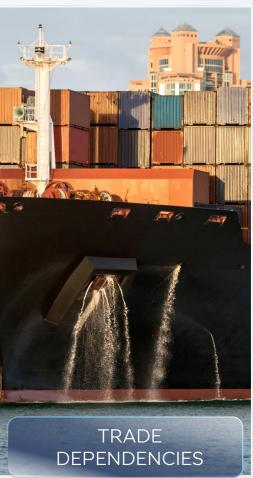
SCALING PHYSICAL & DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE



POTENTIAL HEADWINDS

MANAGING CHALLENGES TO FUTURE GROWTH











GEOPOLITICAL TENSIONS



Climate resilience

Renewable energy capacity growth

Physical infrastructure, SMART cities

Robust digital public infrastructure(DPI)

THIS CAN ADD

\$2-3TN

MORE TO GDP

BY 2030

Consumer market expansion

E-commerce & digital trade

Employment creation, workforce skilling

Economic diversification, new revenue streams, reduced resource dependency

Inclusive, equitable development goals











ECONOMIC GROWTH AND MOMENTUM

FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS

TRANSFORMATIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY

RISE IN CONSUMER
SPENDING AND
ASPIRATIONS

RETAIL AND
ECOMMERCE
EXPLOSION AND
INNOVATION

FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS

40% WORLD POPULATION

HALF MILLIENNIALS & GEN Z

LOW DEPENDENCY RATIO

URBANIZING AROUND MEGACITIES

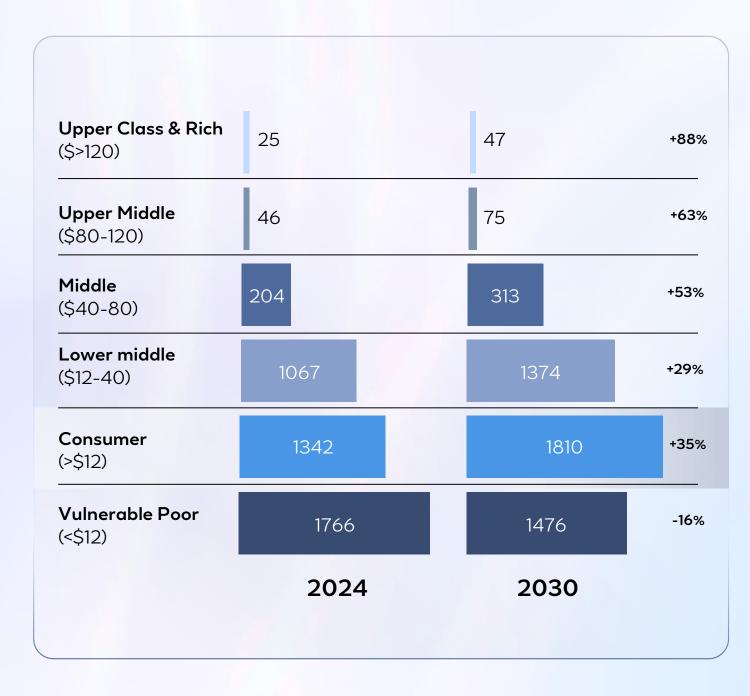
	MENA	S Asia	SE Asia	Global
Population Growth %	1.7	1.6	1.5	0.9
Urban Population %	65	35	50	57
Disposable Income growth %	2.5	3.5	4	2
Consumer Spending Growth %	3	4.5	5	2.8

FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS

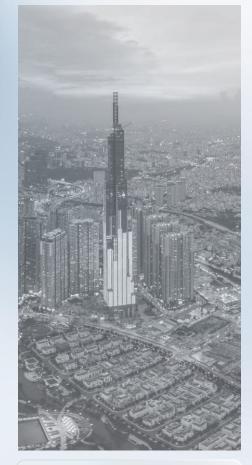
468MN NEW CONSUMERS BY 2030

UPWARDLY MOBILE, ASPIRATIONAL

MOBILE FIRST, SOCIAL, E-COMMERCE SAVVY



Source: WDL







FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS



TRANSFORMATIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY



RISE IN CONSUMER
SPENDING AND
ASPIRATIONS



RETAIL AND
ECOMMERCE
EXPLOSION AND
INNOVATION





CREATING UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES

LOCALIZED E-COMMERCE PLATFORMS

MENA: Noon and Souq regional languages, preferences, payment systems.

South Asia: Flipkart (India) vernacular interfaces.

Southeast Asia: Lazada, Shopee dominate, localized marketing campaigns.

CROSS-BORDER E-COMMERCE

Booming in SE Asia, with integrated digital payments like GrabPay

SOCIAL COMMERCE LEADERSHIP

ID Indonesia: Social commerce (TikTok, Instagram, WhatsApp) ~45% of e-commerce, support over 10mn small businesses

IN India: Social platform Meesho empowers entrepreneurs, enabling DTC

TH Thailand: Live streaming e-commerce, LINE live shopping features.

TRANSFORMING ACCESS **AND INCLUSION**

RAPID ADOPTION OF PAYMENT SYSTEMS

MENA GCC

INDIA

BANGLADESH

bkash

bKash enables

rural mobile.

driving financial

SEA

Mobile wallets GrabPay, GCash, MoMo widely adopted

ANZ



Mature economy with high adoption of ApplePay, GPay, **BNP**

pay

Lead in digital wallets likes STC Pay 15 billion UPI transactions

monthly in 2024

inclusion

SUPER APP ECOSYSTEMS INSPIRED BY WECHAT



Messaging **Payments** Food delivery E-Commerce



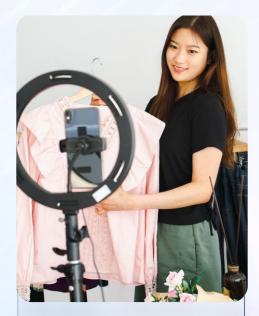
Messaging Government services **Payments** Live shopping



Ride Hailing Food delivery Payments E-Commerce



IMPACTING LIVES BEYOND SOCIAL AND COMMERCE



SMALL BUSINESSES

10 MN+ small businesses sell via TikTok, WhatsApp, Instagram, Lazada, Shopee In Indonesia



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Meesho empowers 15Mn+ women entrepreneurs with DTC



EDUCATION

Ruangguru (Indonesia): delivers digital learning to millions.



HEALTHCARE

Halodoc (Indonesia), Practo (India) connect patients & doctors virtually



TRANSPORT

Gojek, Grab, and Careem provide integrated urban transport solutions.

LEADING THE REST OF THE WORLD, WITH UNIQUE INNOVATION

SE Asia: Integration of video commerce as a dominant channel in e-commerce.

India: World leader in scalable DPI (UPI, Aadhaar) leading DPI implementations.

MENA: Pioneering regulatory frameworks for crypto and data privacy.

ANZ: Highly developed digital payment ecosystem with strong consumer trust in fintech solutions, setting global benchmarks





FUELING CONSUMPTION GROWTH

SAPMENA

Scale of Digital Economy \$900B GMV, 15-25% YoY growth

E-commerce Adoption

10-15%, driven by video commerce. Vernacular, regonal platforms

Digital Payments

Cashless.QR codes, e-wallets, UPI 15b transactions and rising

Al Integration

Al Infra investment, Smart Cities, fintech, Governance, E-services

Social Commerce

Indo/SE Asia lead, Mena emerging, small businesses

Consumer Behavior

Mobile first, social media driven, urban centric adoption, luxury booming.

Quick commerce

Challenges

Competitions, Infrastructure gap, digital divide

THE DIGITAL ECONOMY TODAY

Metric	MENA	South Asia	Southeast Asia	ANZ
Internet Penetration (%)	~75%	~43%	~75%	~90%
Mobile Penetration (%)	~110%	~85%	~90%	~95%+
Social Media Users (Mn)	~300	~700	~450	~20
Digital Payment Transactions (2024)	\$100B+ (STC, GCC)	\$250B+/month (UPI)	\$50B+ (GrabPay, etc.)	\$30B+ (PayPal, BNPL)
Super App Users (Mn)	~40 (Careem)	~500 (Paytm, Phone Pe)	~250 (Gojek, Grab)	N/A (No super apps)









FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS



TRANSFORMATIVE
DIGITAL
ECONOMY



RISE IN CONSUMER
SPENDING AND
ASPIRATIONS



RETAIL AND
ECOMMERCE
EXPLOSION AND
INNOVATION

MEGACITIES, THE CATALYSTS FOR CONSUMER SPENDING AND ASPIRATIONS



Concentration of disposable income



e-commerce and digital payment systems



Efficient omnichannel marketing, seamless last mile delivery, localized targeting and products



Reduced logistics costs, efficient transportation, centralized warehousing



Vast consumer touchpoint data, Al driven insights, heat maps



Modern retail systems with emerging retail technologies



Greater adoption of premium and luxury brands and experiences



Evolving ecosystems for collaboration and innovation

FUELING DEMAND FOR **PREMIUM PRODUCTS AND EXPERIENCES**



MENA

Luxury Goods Growth: GCC sales up 19% in 2023, UAE and Saudi Arabia lead spending on luxury watches, perfumes, and fashion.

High-End Services:

Premium travel, dining, wellness sectors **expanded by 25%** in the last two years.



South Asia

Premium Beauty Growth:

India's premium beauty sector, estimated at \$1bn, growing at 14% CAGR, driven by urban millennials.

Luxury Spending:

Projected to grow 3.5 times by 2030 to \$85-90bn. Fastest growing, with surge in demand for luxury homes and cars



Southeast Asia

Luxury Consumption: 20% YoY growth in luxury goods sales, with Thailand and Singapore leading.

Premium Skincare:

Regional preference for **K-beauty and J-beauty** highlights aspirations for high-quality products.



ANZ

Sustainability-Focused
Premium Products:
Clean beauty and eco-friendly
goods dominate, reflecting a
shift towards responsible
consumption.

GROWING MATURITY AND SOPHISTICATION



YOUTHFUL
DEMOGRAPHICS
+
STRONG
ECONOMIC GROWTH



RAPID DIGITAL ADOPTION



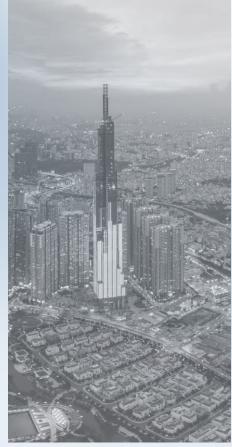
MOBILE FIRST CONSUMER BASE AND SHOPPING BEHAVIOUR



TRUSTIN SOCIAL PROOF



PREFERENCE FOR PERSONALISED AND LOCALIZED PRODUCTS









FAVOURABLE DEMOGRAPHIC DYNAMICS



TRANSFORMATIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY



RISE IN CONSUMER SPENDING AND **ASPIRATIONS**



RETAIL AND **ECOMMERCE EXPLOSION AND** INNOVATION

EVOLVING NEW MODELS MOBILE SOCIAL E-COMMERCE

GEN Z AND MILLENNIALS LEAD BEAUTY TREND CONSUMPTION

Account for 40% of TikTok's global audience.

Spend over 3 hours daily on social media, watching videos and transacting online.

FOLLOW TRENDS AND FAVOR 'INSTAGRAMABLE' PACKAGING

Prefer brands with compelling stories that signal status.
Highly influenced by peerdriven recommendations.
Brand fickle, demanding instant deliveries.

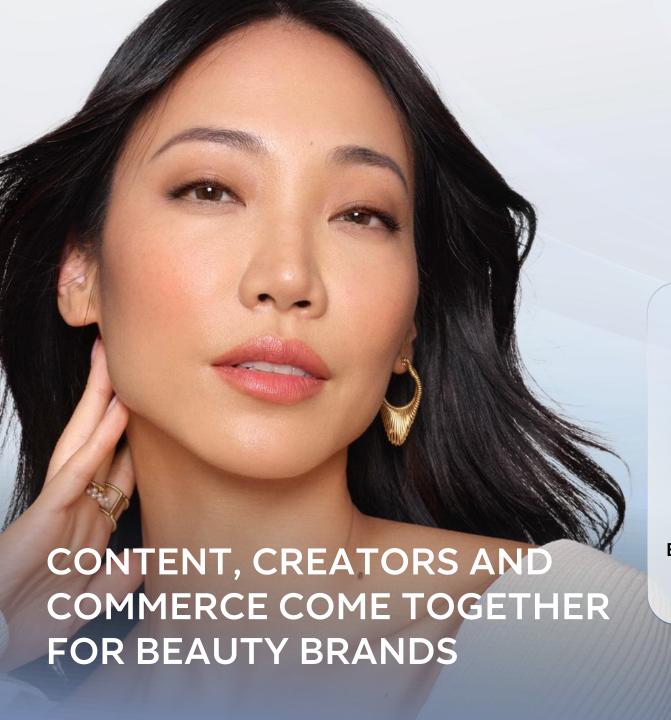
SEARCH BEGINS ON MOBILE ACROSS DIVERSE SOURCES

40-60% shop on marketplaces (e.g., Shopee, Lazada, Nykaa).

30-40% transact through social media (e.g., TikTok, Instagram, YouTube) or retailer websites.

IMPACT ON E-COMMERCE GROWTH

Prefer brands with compelling stories that signal status.
Highly influenced by peerdriven recommendations.
Brand fickle, demanding instant deliveries.



CONTENT



CATERING TO EVERY SEGMENT

COMMUNITY



INFLUENCER MODEL SCALING

BEAUTY INFLUENCERS'
CONTENT OUTSIZED

COMMERCE



AFFILIATE MODELS
AND STORES



MORE PLATFORMS BECOMING RELEVANT FOR DISCOVERY

- Snapchat **AR filters** for beauty aware, Snapchat **Star** to connect brands with creators (200mn MAUs in India)
- Pinterest **mood boards** as a virtual discovery and experimentation hub

PLATFORMS INCORPORATING SOCIAL COMMERCE AND BUILDING AN ECOSYSTEM

TikTok shops and **TikTok Shop** partners

Instagram shops and the **Meta** ecosystem

Live streaming on Lazada and Shopee, Line and Zalo

Affiliate programmes (e.g. NAP from Nykaa engaging users through creator communities)

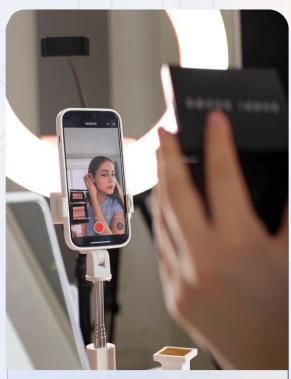
Agency/tech partners/content **studios** to produce video content on scale, and analyse performance in near real time



GROWING USE OF AI / TECH FROM MARKETERS



PERSONALIZATIONOF USER JOURNEYS



CONTENT CREATION



AI POWERED SEARCH FOR PERSONALIZED RECOMMENDATIONS, USING SKIN ANALYSIS TOOLS



REAL STORE EXPERIENCE
WITH MOBILE VIRTUAL
TRY ONS



SYNERGIES FOR MARKETERS

BIG GROWTH AHEAD, DESPITE VOLATILITY

UNIFIED STRATEGIES, WITH LOCALIZED NUANCES, ADAPTED TO REGIONAL INNOVATIONS

MORE **EFFICIENT MARKETING ORGANIZATION**AND A STRONGER **TALENT MAGNET**

