

ALLEN & OVERY | 朗悦
LANG YUE | 安理国际律师事务所

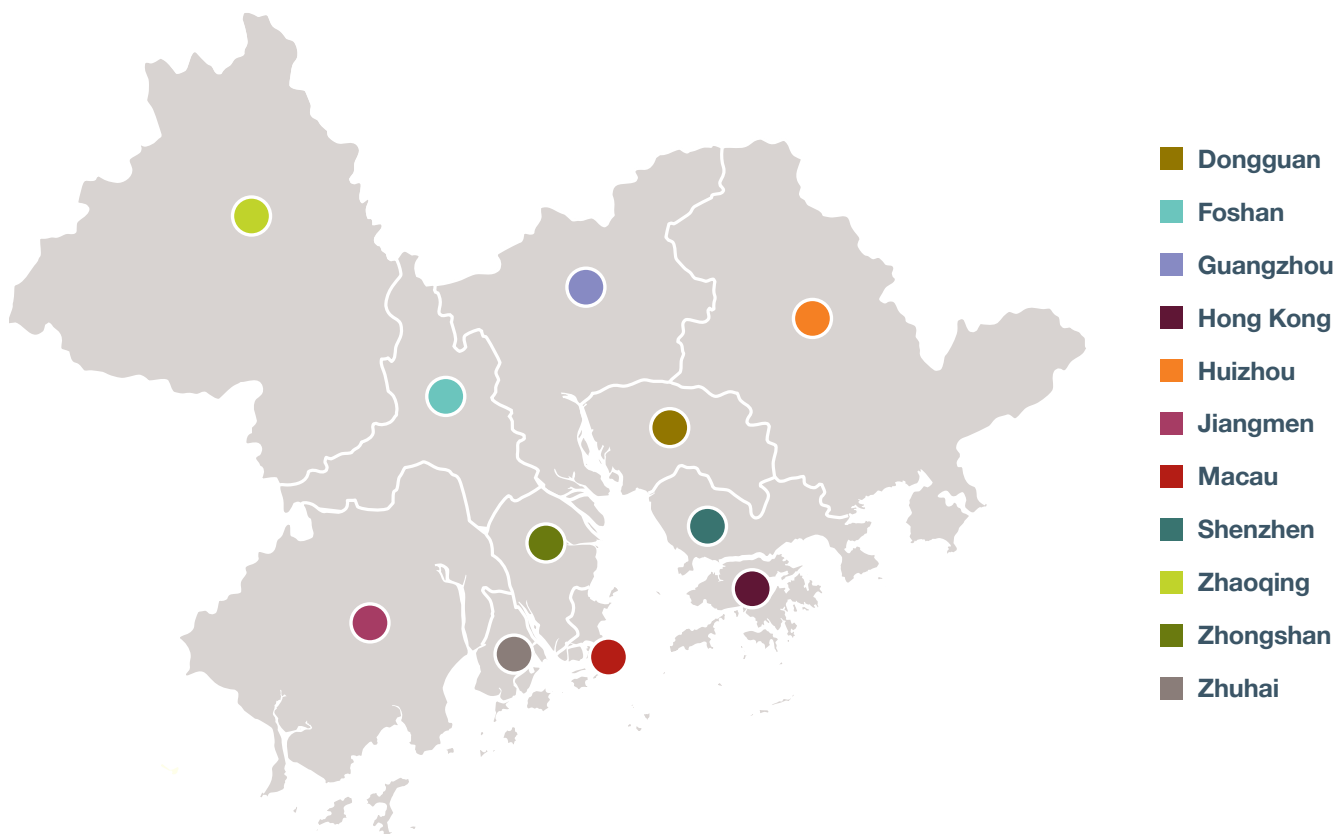
Your legal advisors in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA)



Your advisors in the GBA

This is an exciting time to capitalise on the many opportunities that await you in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (**GBA**).

As one of China's most significant, high-profile economic regional growth initiatives, the GBA is a global economic, innovation and technology hub comprising nine Chinese municipalities of Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Foshan, Huizhou, Dongguan, Zhongshan, Jiangmen and Zhaoqing in the Guangdong Province and two Special Administrative Regions (Macau and Hong Kong).



The total population in the Greater Bay Area is over 86 million and the GDP is USD1,668.8 billion in 2020.

About us

We are here to help you understand and unlock those opportunities ahead.

We offer publicly and privately owned entities based in, or seeking to do business in the GBA access to seamless PRC and international legal services, by bringing together the technical expertise and legal know-how of Lang Yue's PRC law capability with Allen & Overy's reputation for superior quality and an unrivalled global footprint.

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The Allen & Overy Lang Yue (FTZ) Joint Operation Office (**Allen & Overy Lang Yue**) is a joint operation in the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone between Allen & Overy LLP and Shanghai Lang Yue Law Firm, established after approval by the Shanghai Bureau of Justice in 2019.

Through **Allen & Overy Lang Yue**, you have full access to professional PRC law and international law advice across multiple practice areas and sectors globally.

ALLEN & OVERY

Allen & Overy (**A&O**) is a global law firm that helps the world's leading businesses to grow, innovate and thrive. With approximately 5,600 people across more than 40 offices globally, we have built a reputation for thinking ahead and bringing original solutions to our clients' most complex legal and commercial challenges.

With over 30 years' on-the-ground experience in China, A&O has one of the most experienced and developed China practices globally. We were one of the first international law firms to obtain official approval from the PRC Ministry of Justice to register an office in Beijing in 1993 and established our Shanghai office in 2002. Our China practice offers clients extensive experience of the practical and legal issues that foreign investors and local clients face in China.

朗悦律师事务所
LANG YUE LAW FIRM

Shanghai Lang Yue Law Firm (**Lang Yue**) was founded in 2014 and provides both international and Chinese clients with PRC law expertise.

Lang Yue is a fast-growing, ambitious law firm with over 20 highly skilled PRC-qualified lawyers across Beijing and Shanghai, comprising partners and associates who are all graduates of top domestic/international law schools and have experience in cross-border transactions. The Lang Yue team has extensive practical experience in dealing with China-related transactions or matters involving PRC law. Through its on-the-ground experience, Lang Yue stands at the forefront of PRC regulatory developments and uses its insights to help local and multinational organisations operate their business in China effectively.

Supporting you in the GBA

We have the team to support your business activities, whether in China or globally, via the capabilities and practical legal expertise offered by our highly experienced legal teams. Here is how we can support you in the GBA.



Technology and Innovation: Our dedicated regional team of technology and digital experts have built a strong track record of guiding market participants through business and legal issues in the rapidly evolving technology sector in the Asia Pacific region and globally. This team, which comprises specialist technology lawyers is able to bring real value-added insights to deals through their in-depth understanding, know-how and extensive sector technical expertise.

- Our **Data practice** advises leading corporations and financial institutions on all aspects of compliance with China's cybersecurity and data privacy laws, internal investigations and trade secrets.
- Our **Digital Assets** group offers strategic advice to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets. We are frequently called to advise on legal issues regarding the characterisation and nature of digital assets. Our capabilities include advising on the technology, corporate structure, intellectual property (IP) and regulatory issues that companies must address when working with blockchain-based platforms and digital assets, such as virtual currencies, CBDC and NFTs.
- **Intellectual Property:** Our dedicated IP lawyers across Lang Yue and Allen & Overy have the requisite legal experience, language skills and technical backgrounds to assist clients in protecting, licensing and enforcing IP rights in China, as well as to provide IP-related advice on strategic transactions. This expertise benefits clients in sectors such as TMT and life sciences/biotech where we regularly advise a range of clients on issues of this specialist nature. We have assisted some of the most competitive Chinese companies in their international IP disputes, whether it be IP arbitration or patent litigation in the US and Europe. Allen & Overy's cross-border capability and expertise in all major IP jurisdictions puts us in the strongest position to handle strategic litigation and commercial IP deals around the world.



Capital Raising: We advise on the full range of equity financing structures including initial public offerings (IPOs), rights issues, secondary offerings, equity bridge financing, private placements and reverse takeovers. In particular, we have been at the forefront of SPAC developments in Asia Pacific and have advised on a number of first local SPAC listings in the sectors of technology, healthcare and industrials.

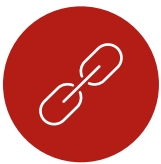
Our **Debt capital market** experts advise issuers and underwriters on the full spectrum of debt capital market transactions, including standalone bonds and debt programmes, tier 1 and hybrid capital, equity-linked instruments, liability management, private placements, warrants, high yield and Islamic structures. Our China team has been involved in numerous landmark transactions including pioneering RMB-bond issuances, such as the Shenzhen Municipal Government's first offshore bond offering which was also the first time a PRC municipal government issued RMB-denominated offshore bonds in Hong Kong.



Funds and Asset Management: We advise on all stages of the fund life-cycle including fund establishment, investments, restructuring of investor and sponsor ownership and management arrangements, through to wind-down and exits. Our team has significant experience across a wide range of funds and asset classes including real estate, credit, private equity, infrastructure and public markets funds.



M&A: We find innovative new ways to deliver our services and exceed expectations on public takeovers, private M&A, equity capital markets, private equity, joint ventures and commercial partnerships, disposals and corporate reorganisations. Combined with our transactional expertise, we also cover the full range of specialist areas including antitrust and competition, employment and benefits, intellectual property and corporate governance. Moreover, we work hand in-hand with banking and finance, capital markets and litigation teams to cover the full spectrum of business law advice and ensure a level of service and quality of advice that very few other firms can match.



Regulatory and Compliance: We have developed in-depth relationships with the key regulators across the GBA including CBRC, CSRC, SAFE, NDRC, MOFCOM, HKMA and SFC. Our Regulatory team works closely with regulators, keeps track of the ever-changing legislation and advises regulated entities and corporations on the full spectrum of regulatory issues to manage and minimise operational and business risks. We help our clients navigate the maze of legislation across the GBA and provide compliance advice on the legal issues which most regularly impact their businesses. We advise on licensing related matters, including assisting with the application for various types of SFC licenses required for carrying out regulated activities in Hong Kong.



Employment and Benefits: We pride ourselves in offering a unique streamlined employment practice which is capable of handling contentious and non-contentious matters in China with local language capability. Our China Employment Practice advises on a wide range of employment aspects covering the whole employment cycle as well as other forms of labour arrangements and employment issues arising out of mergers and acquisitions and HR data related privacy compliance projects.



Anti-trust and Competition: We provide an expansive range of services and regularly represent our clients on merger control, cartel and abuse of dominance/monopolisation, antitrust disputes including judicial review and private damages, compliance and counselling, sector regulation and market investigations, public procurement and competitive tendering.



Dispute Resolution: Our team specialises in advising on the resolution of high-value, complex and cross-border disputes and regulatory investigations. The team's capability and experience cover all dispute resolution methods, including litigation, arbitration and mediation. This enables us to produce effective solutions in any dispute in which our clients may find themselves involved.

A proven track record

We leverage our full service offering to advise clients on their critical and landmark matters in the GBA. Some of our recent work includes:

Advising **Shenzhen Municipal Government** on the issuance of RMB5 billion (USD775 million) offshore multi-tranche RMB bonds. This was the first time a PRC municipal government issued RMB-denominated offshore bonds in Hong Kong.



Advising clients on products that cater for purchases by onshore investors via **Southbound Bond Connect**.



Advising the joint lead managers and joint bookrunners of **Bank of China Macau branch** on a dual-currency senior SME-themed (COVID-19 Impact Alleviation) social bonds issuance. This is the first social bonds issuance from a Chinese issuer in the international capital markets.



Advising **Vivere Lifesciences**, a SPAC backed by VMS Asset Management and I-Mab as its key promoters on its proposed listing on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.



Providing regulatory advice on a number of **Fintech matters** involving the GBA.



Representing various PRC clients in their **acquisitions** from MNCs of businesses in the GBA.



Advising on **Immunotech Biopharm's** global offering and listing on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.



Advising the **Greater Bay Area Homeland Development Fund** in a number of its investments.



Advising a **PRC technology company** on a number of matters including corporate, IP (both contentious and non-contentious), antitrust, disputes, taxation, banking and regulatory matters.



Advising on the issuance of MOP2.1bn notes by **ICBC, Macau Branch** under ICBC's USD20bn MTN programme. This marks the first MTN drawdown cleared through and listed on the Chongwa (Macao) Financial Asset Exchange.

We subsequently advised on ICBC's multi-branch green bond issuance. The bonds are listed across a number of international stock exchanges including the Chongwa (Macao) Financial Asset Exchange



IFLR Asia-Pacific Awards

International Law Firm of the Year (2021)
– Allen & Overy



China Law & Practice

China International Firm of the Year (2019)
– Allen & Overy

Contact us

If you would like to know more about how we can support you in the GBA, please contact a member of our team or email GBA@allenoverly.com

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Legal 500 China

Tier 1 across: Banking & Finance, Dispute Resolution – Arbitration, Projects & Energy, Real Estate and Construction, Regulatory/Compliance (2022)
– Allen & Overy



Chambers China

Band 1 across: Banking & Finance, Debt Capital Markets, Derivatives & Structured Products, Competition/Antitrust, Projects & Infrastructure (2022)
– Allen & Overy

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Technology



Top 10 China Law Firms to Watch

Asian Legal Business (2021) – Lang Yue

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Shanghai Lang Yue Law Firm is a general partnership formed under the laws of the People's Republic of China with law firm licence number 23101201410592645 whose registered office is at Room 1514 – 1516, 15F, Phase II, IFC, 8 Century Avenue, Shanghai 200120. It was established after approval by the Shanghai Bureau of Justice. A list of the partners and lawyers of Shanghai Lang Yue Law Firm is open to inspection at its registered office or via the Shanghai Bar Association.