





PRESS-CUT

Week 3&4 May 2024



27 May, 2024 **SUMMARY**



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DPPA

- Vietnam EU relationship



- Direct purchases
- Rooftop solar power
- ESG practices
- · Renewable energy projects



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- Waste treatment
- Circular economy
- A draft Law on Water Supply and Drainage
- Water treatment in Mekong Delta
- Wastewater
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- Wastewater treatment
- Subsidence in HCM City





- USAID and Ho Chi Minh City
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CITIES & BUILDINGS . Energy transition

Ways for businesses go green



7. OTHERS

- Ecnomic development
- CFA programme
- Green development in Mekong Delta
- New Regulation on waste shipments
- EU and Vietnam



- 3 GGSC highlighted events in May
- 6 other events
- 6 upcoming events on sustainability





1. POLICY & LEGAL

DPPA decree may require supplements

May 16, 2024 - Vietnam Investment Review

In the first days of May, the Ministry of Industrial and Trade (MoIT) completed a draft decree on direct power purchase agreements (DPPAs) between renewable energy generators and customers via private transmission lines and the national grid.

Tran Viet Hoa, director general of the MolT's Electricity Regulatory Authority, said that the draft decree aimed to support businesses with flexibly and proactively negotiate competitive prices, and meet their specific needs. The ministry will build a clear legal and regulatory framework, ensuring openness, transparency, and protecting the interests of participating parties.

About 24 wind and solar power schemes with 1,770MW want to participate in the mechanism, and 17 projects with nearly 2,850MW are considering participation conditions and signing contracts with customers.



EU continues to strengthen multifaceted cooperation with Viêt Nam

May 20, 2024 – Vietnam News

Marking the 74th anniversary of Europe Day, the European Union Ambassador to Vietnam, Julien Guerrier, spoke about the growing relationship between Vietnam and the EU.

In an interview with a Viet Nam News reporter, he said that cooperation between Vietnam and the EU on infrastructure projects would increase sustainable transportation options for Hanoians. The project is supported by funding from the European Investment Bank, France, and other European sources. It also showcases European technologies and aims to accelerate Hanoi and Vietnam's sustainable development. Mr. Julien Guerrier also noted that Vietnam is one of the EU's first trading partners in ASEAN, the first beneficiary of official development assistance (ODA) from Europe, and Europe is the first provider of ODA grants to Vietnam.

He also highlighted the collaborative climate action efforts through the Just Energy Transition Partnership, which enjoys strong support within the European Parliament.

PM hailed World Bank's \$11b loan for Việt Nam in next five years

May 27, 2024 - Vietnam News

PM Phạm Minh Chính hoped that the WB would continue assisting Việt Nam in accessing the global carbon credit market, creating new avenues to finance Việt Nam's climate commitments and goals.



DPPA draft decree submitted to the Gov't for consideration

May 27, 2024 - Vietnam News

A draft decree on direct purchase agreement (DPPA) has been submitted to the Government for approval.

The latest draft decree has 5 chapters with 30 articles, detailing two options for buying electricity directly from generators, with two options: using separate lines or the national grid. While customers must have an average consumption of 500,000 kWh per month. Large buyers and solar/wind power plants above 10MW can participate. The price is based on the market price plus service fees.

Vietnam, AFD strengthen cooperation, promote energy transition

May 17, 2024 – Vietnam Plus

Deputy Prime Minister Tran Hong Ha said that Vietnam wanted to deepen the traditional reliable relations and strategic partnership with France, particularly the French Development Agency Ha said that besides institutionalizing mechanisms and policies on green transition and just energy transition. Vietnam needs advice techniques, institutional improvement, technology selection, governance models, and financial resources in the fields of energy, transportation, agriculture, and urban areas. He also said that the Government of Vietnam was discussing with partners to pilot several offshore wind power projects soon. AFD and its partners are ready to provide technical advice and support Vietnam with the legal framework and financial sources to implement important socioeconomic development programmers and projects.



2. RENEWABLE ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Rooftop solar power in production: an important solution towards net zero

May 15, 2024 - Vietnam News

Rooftop solar power is an important solution for manufacturers to "greenise" production, however, the installment and the use of it is still struggle because of the lack of detailed regulations and incentive policies.

Mr. Hoàng Quang Phòng, Vice Chairman of the Việt Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) said that rooftop solar power was a clear trend in the international integration progress towards green production.

According to Nguyễn Anh Thu, Vice Principal of University of Economics and Business - Vietnam National University, the eighth national power development plan (PDP8) currently only encourages the development of rooftop solar for households and offices, excluding large electricity users such as manufacturers. Thu suggested the sector needs a policy to promote the development of rooftop solar power, focusing on improving the legal framework and policies to encourage investments.

Trương Văn Cẩm, Deputy Chairman of the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association, believes rooftop solar power is a good fit for industrial parks. However, a lack of clear mechanisms for installation in industrial

parks is deterring investment.

VN wants to develop renewable power sources by using 'direct purchases'

May 20, 2024 - Vietnam Net

Deputy Prime Minister Tran Hong Ha on May 14 presided over a meeting discussing a draft decree on regulations for DPPA (direct power purchase agreements). Ha said the state had set orientations for the development of the energy sector, including a competitive power market. However, implementation of policies has been going slowly because the legal framework and business models do not work well together.

Under the draft decree, direct purchases, not using national transmission and distribution lines, are applied to clients near electricity generation sources. The direct purchase model has been applied in industrial zones. Meanwhile, direct purchases via the national grid will be applied to clients far from electricity generation sources.

The decree on DPPA is expected to boost clean energy, attract investment in renewable energy, and prepare for the establishment of a competitive power market in Vietnam.





Absence of legal regulations prevents rooftop solar power systems from development

May 27, 2024 - VnEconomy

Rooftop solar is a good option for industrial parks (IPs) in Vietnam for both environmental and economic reasons. However, its development faces challenges.

Opportunities there for businesses embracing strong ESG practices

May 23, 2024 - Vietnam News

Twenty-nine renewable energy projects connected to national grid

May 24, 2024 – Vietnam News

Twenty-nine renewable energy projects with a total capacity of more than 1,577 MW have been supplying energy to the national power grid, according to Việt Nam Electricity. To date, these projects have generated a total of 2,597 kWh to the national grid.

EVN said that 81 out of 85 renewable energy projects with a total capacity of more than 4,500 MW have submitted documents for electricity pricing negotiations. Seventy-two projects temporarily proposed prices at 50 per cent of the ceiling prices regulated by the Ministry of Industry and Trade, out of which 63 received the ministry's approval.



3. CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Businesses in Vietnam boost production of recycled goods

May 25, 2024 - Tuoi Tre News

Many businesses in Vietnam are increasing the production and export of recycled products.

However, manufacturing recycled products is more expensive. Green products always fetch higher prices than conventional products. Additionally, Vietnam often imports recycled materials, adding another layer of complexity. Another challenge is that Vietnamese businesses have to import recycled and green materials.

Despite these challenges, some businesses, like Nestlé, are willing to convert from plastic straws to paper straws, even though paper straws are three times more expensive than plastic ones. Additionally, large companies are expressing interest in recycled plastic orders, offering a potential future market.

Beyond production, businesses in Vietnam are collaborating to improve recycling infrastructure and decrease emissions, paving the way for a greener future. For example, FrieslandCampina in Vietnam signed a cooperation agreement with Dong Tien Packaging and Paper Co. Ltd. and Truong Thinh Construction Investment & Trading JSC. commit to recycling 100 percent of its packaging waste by 2030.

<u>Circular economy plays important role in net-zero plan</u>

May 25, 2024 - VietnamNet

Vietnam government has vowed to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050, which will curb the temperature increase on Earth by 1.5oC by the end of this century. To achieve this, the government and businesses community has applied measures to develop a circular economy, which minimizes waste and reuses materials. To date, ministries and agencies have submitted some programs and national action plans to fulfill the committee on implementing Vietnam's commitments at COP26.

The circular economy helps reduce emissions by removing waste in buildings and measuring in agricultural production. It is estimated to contribute up to 45% of emission reduction goals (according to Ellen Macarthur Fund).



School recycling competition collects nearly 9,500 kilos of cartons

May 28, 2024 - Vietnam News

A school recycling competition in Binh Duong Province collected nearly 9,500 kilos of used beverage cartons. Organized by Tetra Pak Vietnam along with local partners, the competition aimed to promote carton collection and sorting among students and families.

Over six weeks. schools competed in two categories: collecting the most cartons and creating the best collection corner. The program resulted in over 1.2 million cartons being collected and instilled recycling habits in participants. "We hope sets a foundation for expanding carton collection across Bình Dương," said a Tetra Pak Vietnam representative. Building on past successes in other cities, Tetra Pak aims to implement the program in all Bình Dương schools, further promoting a circular solution.



Bình Định: Boat-to-shore plastic waste collection proves effective\

May 15, 2024 - Vietnam News

Binh Dinh has implemented a boat-to-shore plastic waste collection model since 2023. This project has attracted 200 fishing vessels so far. the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) funded a 2022-24 project on solid waste and fishery waste management in Quy Nhơn City. It required boat owners to sign a commitment to not discharge plastic waste into the sea. They agreed to install mesh bags on their boats, declare the types of beverages. food. and packaging used during their sea trips before departing, and confirm the amount of plastic waste brought back upon arrival.

By 2030, the province aims to have 100 per cent of fishermen educated and trained on ocean plastic waste management and reduction.

Vietnam's timber, wood product exports post positive growth in the first five months

(May 23, 2024 – Vietnam Plus



Mekong Delta provinces seek ways to fight drought and saline intrusion

VOV World – May 20

Soc Trang province is having trouble supplying enough water for daily use. Dang Van Ngo, General Director of the Soc Trang Water Supply Company, said as the province is expected to face even greater difficulties caused by surface and underground saltwater intrusion, the company has proposed the construction of a surface water treatment plant with a capacity of 200,000 cubic meters a day, doubling the combined capacity of all plants it is operating currently. In addition, once the Cai Lon-Cai Be sewer is in operation, it

In addition, once the Cai Lon-Cai Be sewer is in operation, it will help regulate water and prevent salinity throughout the region.

By the middle of this year there will be bridges connecting Tien Giang, Ben Tre, and Tra Vinh, creating a coastal belt which will run to Ca Mau via Kien Giang, said Ngo.



Northern Vietnam's irrigation canal poisoned by pollution

VnExpress – May 28



Continue to finalize the draft Law on Water Supply and Drainage to soon promulgate the Law and resolve difficulties

VWSA - May 18

On May 17, 2024, in Hanoi, the Ministry of Construction organized a consultative workshop on the draft Law on Water Supply Drainage. Deputy Minister Construction Nguyen Tuong Van attended and delivered a speech at the Conference. Contributing their opinions the conference, delegates made comments and shared experiences in the field of water supply and drainage. In particular, the delegates proposed that the Drafting Committee need to explain and clarify terminologies; to align the Law on Water Supply and Drainage with the Law on Environmental Protection in terms regulations related to sewage sludge management; as well as the need for clearer regulations on water supply connection points for fire prevention and fighting...

<u>Pig farm discharges wastewater into national landscape in Vietnam's Central Highlands for years</u>

Tuoi Tre News – May 19

Quang Binh: Investing in wastewater treatment systems at industrial zones faces difficulties

Cong Thuong – May 18

Several difficulties and challenges remain. According to Mr. Nguyen Quoc Khanh, due to limited budget resources, technical infrastructure and environmental protection works in industrial parks and economic zones have not been built synchronously, affecting investment attraction and environmental protection activities. To date, only Hon La Seaport Industrial Park has received investments for the completion of a centralized wastewater treatment plant with phase 1 capacity of 500m3/day and night.

Accelerating the progress to put Yen Xa wastewater treatment into operation

Chinhphu.vn - May 20

Hanoi sets a target by 2025 to ensure the rate of urban wastewater treatment reaches 50% - 55%, and only half of which has been met at present. The figure will increase significantly if the Yen Xa wastewater treatment system project is put into operation.



Experts warn of subsidence in HCM City below sea level

Vietnamnet – May 21



5. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND BUILDINGS

<u>Vietnam</u> <u>sees</u> <u>increasing</u> <u>demand for electric vehicles</u>

May 27, 2024 – VNEconomy

Vietnam has turned into a potential market for the growth of the automobile industry in general and electric vehicles (EVs). The Automobile Vietnam Manufacturers Association (VAMA) predicts that the EVs in Vietnam will reach 1 million units by 2028. The market share is predicted to reach 15% by 2024. Due to low car ownership rates (at 50 cars per 1,000 people), however, current sales are low.

The domestic consumption vehicles electric accounted for only 0.7% of the entire Southeast Asian region. Therefore, it is an opportunity for automobile companies to invest and develop products in Vietnam. Meanwhile, policies government promoting environmental protection are expected to further boost EV adoption.

Hai Phong in green transition

May 18. 2024 - VnEconomy

Hai Phong prioritizes green industries and eco-industrial parks, encouraging renewable energy and sustainable practices. The city boasts impressive economic growth and high investment rankings. Among the 14 industrial parks (IPs) in Hai Phong, covering 6,080 ha, the DEEP-C and Nam Cau Kien IPs are to be developed into eco-IPs. Invested in by a Belgian business, DEEP-C has been operating for 25 years and has attracted \$5 billion in investment capital to date.

Hai Phong plans a Southern Economic Zone and additional eco-industrial parks, which will include more than 25 IPs and 26 industrial clusters. They aim to attract foreign investors who use green technology and reduce emissions.

Urban railway projects in Hanoi and HCMC are to be accelerated

May 19, 2024 - VnEconomy

At the first meeting of urban railway projects in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, Deputy Prime Minister Tran Hong Ha emphasized the importance of selecting advanced urban railway technology for the projects.

Under the Deputy Prime Minister's directive, the MoT will promptly build mechanisms, policies and legal frameworks for the management and operation of the urban railway system.

According to Hanoi's master plan, the capital city will have 10 urban metro lines with a total length of 417.8 km, while Ho Chi Minh City targeted to construct 11 lines stretching around 229.1 km.



Energy transition to help aviation sector realize net zero emission goals

May 20, 2024 - Saigon News

Vietnam Airlines will start opening wide-body aircraft on routes (Airbus A321) between Hanoi and Shanghai and Beijing from June; and wide-body aircraft for all flights between Ho Chi Minh City and Shanghai from July this year.

The new-generation aircraft are environmentally friendly because of the technological integration that helps reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

Vietjet has added new-generation environmentally friendly aircraft, including wide-body A330s which can save up to 20% in fuel consumption, and reduce environmental emissions by up to 50% and noise levels by up to 75%. Additionally, VietJet allocates VND5,000 (less than US\$0.2) from each flight ticket sold to Fly Green Fund.



6. SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

<u>USAID funds \$11 million to help Ho Chi Minh City achieve net-zero emissions goal</u>

Vietnam Investment Review - May 20

The project has helped mobilise \$4.2 million for clean energy developers and startups working on projects involving green hydrogen, battery energy storage systems, electric motorbikes, and electric transportation systems.

In addition, more than 500 staff from key financial institutions have received training on advanced financial instruments like green bonds and clean energy investments to facilitate lending for clean energy projects. The project has also trained nearly 200 government officials, energy managers, and technical managers to promote the adoption of energy efficiency policies and measures.



Investment flows towards enterprises with sustainable development

WTO Center - May 20

It is estimated that over 700 billion USD of investment for sustainable development has been brought to Vietnam, and investment is increasingly growing.

Global Carbon Pricing
Revenues Top a Record \$100
Billion – from World Bank
Report: State and Trends of
Carbon Pricing 2024

World Bank – May 21



The 2024 Vietnam ESG Investor Conference: Building A Resilient Future For Vietnam Requires Strategic, Innovative, And Inclusive Partnerships

Vietcetera - May 20

"ESG is no longer just an offshoot of CSR or a marketing strategy for corporate image. It is now an integral part of business operations, legal partnerships, accreditations, and investment prerequisites. Vietnamese enterprises are especially called to strengthen their ESG policies to align with international due diligence laws and unlock opportunities for growth and expansion.

The Vietnam ESG Investor Conference was founded upon the principles of impactful business practices as key to a resilient future," emphasized Van Ly, Partner at Raise Partners.

Promoting sustainable finance in Vietnam through green bonds

Nhan Dan – May 21

In Vietnam, green bond is currently a new field in its early stage of development, and there may be some additional costs associated with issuing these bonds. Therefore, according to Mr. Jeffrey Lee, the Vietnamese Government needs to develop subsidy programs similar to those in Singapore, Japan, Korea and China to reduce the financial burden for participating enterprises as they access the green bond market. At the same time, Vietnam also needs to focus on developing infrastructure for businesses and issuers to promote the green bond market in general.

Solutions to avoid falling back in the development of the green bond market

VnEconomy - May 21

Ways for businesses to go green

VnEconomy – May 28



7. OTHERS



A balance between ecnomic development and environment protection

May 28, 2024 - VnEconomy

UK pledges additional funds for CFA programme in Vietnam

May 24, 2024 - Vietnam Net

Renewables - key to green development in Mekong Delta

May 27, 2024 - Vietnam Net

New Regulation on waste shipments enters into force

May 20, 2024 - European Commission

Global Gateway: EU and Vietnam strengthen their partnership to boost sustainable mobility

May 30, 2024 - European Commission

EU interested in supporting Việt Nam's growth as a sustainable partner

May 28, 2024 - Vietnam News

ESG becoming mandatory criteria for sustainable development of business

May 21, 2024 - Vietnam Investment Review



8. EVENTS



May 15th:
Mr. Stuart Livesey, Cochairman of Green Growth
Sector Committee (GGSC) EuroCham Vietnam,
participated DxHub event.



May 16th:

Mr. Nguyễn Công Minh Bảo, VC of GGSC, introduced the sector committee and its 4 working groups and highlighted GGSC's activities quite aligned with GGGI in policy.



May 21st: Mr. Khuất Quang Hưng, VC of GGSC, participated the EUVietnam Research & Innovation Community Meeting



8. OTHER EVENTS



May 23- Rise.er 24 Conference: ESG Motivation & Breakthroughs



<u>May 13th – 17th The Global Climate</u> <u>Partnership Workshop 2024</u>



Business forum on green transformation, green finance towards the target of net zero by 2050



May 16th - 17th 2024 Vietnam ESG Investor Conference,



May 21st ESG Series Masterclass



May 23rd - Promoting Green and Digital Transformation -Towards Sustainable Development

Upcoming Events in June

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|--|---|---|-----|-----|
| 30 | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 Decarbonising Logistics and Supply Chains in The Climate Crisis: Solutions, Challenges & Opportunities | 5 NATURE WORLDI GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | וו | HCMC: 3 Faces of ESG: how to start your green transition? Networking eventwater:social | ESG Forum "From Ideas to Action" & Green Morning Vietnam! | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 Green Drinks Vietnam Hanoi (tentative) | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |











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