





PRESS-CUT

Week 1&2 June 2024







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- Draft decree on land reforms
- Green productivity



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1. POLICY & LEGAL

<u>Việt Nam among ASEAN leaders in green</u> <u>transition</u>

June 1, 2024 - Viet Nam News

Vietnam has set ambitious climate targets and made progress in reducing emissions and expanding renewable energy. The country is developing legal frameworks to support the green transition, including a carbon pricing system and an emissions trading scheme.

Power Development Plan VIII (PDP8), introduced in May 2023, outlines a comprehensive strategy to phase out coal by 2050, while significantly increasing the contribution of solar, wind and hydroelectric power to the national grid.

Another critical component of Viêt Nam's strategy is the Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), which plans to draw in US\$15.5 billion in investment. This partnership emphasizes the importance of public-private collaboration in accelerating the green transition.

Despite requiring a capital investment of \$34 billion for its green transition, Việt Nam secured only \$200 million in private investments in 2023.



All eyes are on 500kV transmission line to keep the lights on

June 1, 2024 - Vietnam Economics News

To solve the electricity shortages in the north during peak summer month, the Quảng Trạch - Phố Nối 500kV transmission line will help to increase power transmission capacity from 2,200 MW to 5,000MW. The construction of the line started in October 2023.

Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính asked the resources to be raised to put the transmission line into operation by the end of June. He also asked the Ministry of Industry and Trade to speed up the transmission projects to import electricity from Laos. To ensure a power supply, he also asked for accelerated efforts to diversify power sources and focused on making the most of domestic sources.

The eighth national power development planning (PDP8), which is opening a new era for Việt Nam's energy industry. Vietnam also will need around US\$1.48 billion (about \$5 per person in the US) per year to upgrade the grid infrastructure in the 2021-30 period.

Vietnam, France cooperate towards net zero goal

June 6, 2024 - Vietnam Plus

On the workshop "Toward Vietnam net-zero goal" on June 6th, Olivier Brochet, French Ambassador to Vietnam, said that France was ready to work with Vietnam to promote cooperative activities in green development and reduce net emissions by providing advanced technical solutions. The workshop was an opportunity for countries to explore the potential for cooperation in green development.

Vice Chairman of municipal People's Committee Vo Van Hoan said that HCM City was a major hub for economy, finance, commerce, culture, science-technology, innovation, and education-training in Vietnam. Hoan emphasized that building green economy and circular economy were inevitable choices to meet growth requirements for the city's residents.

HCM City has approved a plan for the implementation of the national strategy for green growth for the 2021-2030 period, and a plan for circular economic development for the 2022-2025 period, with a vision until 2030.

Việt Nam, Switzerland strengthen economic, trade collaboration

June 5, 2024 - Viet Nam News

The Vietnamese Embassy in Switzerland and the Swiss-Viet Economic Forum (SVEF) jointly organized the 2024 Việt Nam-Switzerland Economic Forum themed "Strengthening Ties, Building Futures"

The forum highlighted four strategic topics, including economic policies supporting trade, investment and development in key sectors; Việt Nam-Switzerland cooperation; opportunities for bilateral cooperation in financial sector; and potential for bilateral collaboration in start-up investment.

Dr. Philipp Rösler, former Managing Director of the World Economic Forum (WEF) and SVEF President, delegated views on policies to promote trade & investment relations between Việt Nam and Switzerland, shared the potential, strengths and needs for cooperation, and benefits from signing EVFTA.

The participants also discussed policies for sustainable investment, innovation & renewable energy, then tackled financial technologies & legal aspects of business cooperation. Startups showcased their innovations to conclude the forum.

<u>Green productivity brings benefits to enterprises:</u> <u>expert</u>

June 1, 2024 - Vietnam Plus

<u>Draft decree scrutinised to ensure early</u> <u>implementation of land law</u>

June 12, 2024 - Viet Nam News





2. RENEWABLE ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Concerns surrounding zero-dong pricing for rooftop solar power

June 1, 2024 - Sai Gon Gia Phong

Vietnam's Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) is proposing a policy to promote rooftop solar power for residences and public offices. The draft Decree developed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade allows unrestricted off-grid rooftop solar but offers no payment for excess electricity fed back to the grid.

Deputy Minister Nguyen Sinh Nhat Tan shared that the policy to encourage the installation of rooftop solar power in residential houses, public offices, and industrial zones aligns with the development direction of the National Power Development Plan for the period 2021-2030, with a vision to 2050 (Power Plan 8). This plan aims for 50 percent of public office buildings and 50 percent of residential houses nationwide to use self-produced, self-consumed rooftop solar power by 2030.

Conference shares experience in offshore wind power development

June 3, 2024 - Sai Gon Gia Phong

On June 3, Ba Ria-Vung Tau and the Danish Embassy in Vietnam co-organized a knowledge-sharing conference on developing offshore wind power in the locality.

The Vice Chairman of the People's Committee of Ba Ria-Vung Tau said that the renewable energy development, particularly offshore wind power, was one of the breakthrough measures in energy transition and national energy security.

At the event, experts analyzed challenges in the development of offshore wind power and gave opinions on the feasibility of electricity projects and expected prices. Businesses emphasized the need for supportive policies to create favorable conditions for them.

Mr. Stuart Livesey, General Director of Copenhagen Offshore Partners Vietnam, underlined the role of seaports in the offshore wind power industry and other marine energy and marine sectors.





Demand escalating for solar power purchasing

June 13 - Vietnam Investment Review

Vietnamese manufacturers want a new way to buy solar power directly (DPPA). This would allow them to install solar panels or help others do the same. The government used to support rooftop solar but that expired in 2021. If the DPPA would be approved, the minimum power usage of organizations and individuals with an average monthly consumption of 1MW, instead of 500,000 kWh. Local governments are waiting for official rules so they can approve businesses that want to use solar power.

Pham Khac Nam, deputy director of the Department of Industry and Trade of the northern province of Bac Ninh said: "We are also receiving many documents and recommendations from businesses wishing to install solar power. However, because the government does not have an official policy, local state management agencies cannot give the green light to businesses to deploy anything".

Assurances made from EU to support Vietnam's renewables

June 6, 2024 - Vietnam Investment Review

The EU is one of major supporter of Vietnam's shift to renewable energy. They are providing financial aid (loans and grants) for projects like the Bac Ai pumped storage hydropower facility.

This project will help Vietnam integrate more solar and wind power into their grid. The EU's total support for Vietnam's energy transition is over €1 billion (\$1.08 billion). Vietnam needs \$134.7 billion from domestic and international sources to achieve its energy goals by 2030.





3. CIRCULAR ECONOMY

<u>Domestic waste classification at source needs a</u> roadmap

June 5, 2024 - Vietnam Economic News

Classifying waste into different types: recyclables, organics, and other trash is general but it's not effective in Vietnam.

People need clear instructions and motivation to make it a habit. Sorting waste helps the environment by reducing landfill waste and pollution and creates a clean source for compost production. However, many households haven't adopted these practices. There's a critical knowledge gap, with some residents lacking understanding of waste classification.

The Vietnamese government has mandated waste sorting nationwide starting in 2025, with penalties for non-compliance. Despite these regulations, public awareness of the program and its associated fines remains low.



Eco-IPs to help boost the circular economy

June 8, 2024 - VnEconomy

Eco-industrial parks (Eco-IPs) are seen as key to promote circular economy, where businesses exchange resources and reduce waste. Examples include Pepsi and Green Energy at Amata IP reusing biomass, and DEEP C IP and Flat Glass Group recycling glass for construction.

UNIDO's expert highlights Eco-IPs' role in reducing pollution, conserving resources, and They achieve this using renewable energy. through collaboration between businesses, optimizing resource use, and focusing on industries like garments and electronics. UNIDO proposes training businesses and raising Eco-IP consumer awareness Vietnam's development plans and products. policies actively support Eco-IP development.

Joint effort underway to tackle plastic waste challenges

June 3, 2024 - Saigon Giai Phong

Deputy Director Nguyen Thi Thanh My of the HCMC Department of Natural Resources and Environment informed that HCMC had been launching various joint campaigns and activities with businesses to reduce the use of plastic bags and recycle plastic waste.

Unilever Vietnam stressed that it has committed to environmental protection by collaboration with functional agencies and other organizations to solve environment-related problems.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has collaborated with Nestlé Vietnam to launch the project 'Neutralizing plastic waste by 2025', focusing on raising public awareness and promoting responsible plastic waste management practices.

Businesses play key roles to reducing plastic waste. They can adopt innovative solutions to reduce plastic use and follow environmental regulations. Nestle Vietnam, for example, switched to paper straws and reduced plastic by 2,400 tonnes in just two years.



Workshop highlights Việt Nam's potential for developing circular economy from rice by-products

June 7, 2024 – Vietnam News

Investors eye Waste-to-Energy projects

June 6, 2024 – VietnamNet

Towards net zero

June 3, 2024 - VnEconomy

More support needed from the government in building a green and circular economy

June 8, 2024 - VnEconomy

<u>Việt Nam promotes circular economic</u> development

June 12, 2024 - Vietnam News





Minister Dang Quoc Khanh: Only 17% domestic wastewater is treated

4 June, 2024 - VOV

The Can Tho City National Assembly Delegation proposed the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment to align with relevant ministries and industries to issue a circular providing guidance on investment activities in public-private partnership mechanism in the field of sewage, waste and wastewater treatment. The delegate requested the Minister to provide the expected issuance date of the circular.

In response to the delegate, Minister Dang Quoc Khanh said that only 17% of domestic wastewater in Vietnam is treated, which is a very low rate. Public-private cooperation activities and socialization of investment in urban wastewater treatment plants are very of great significance, as public investment is concerned with collection work, and treatment needs to be socialized, since the wastewater treatment should be in line with operations; and if this can be accomplished, the wastewater treatment rate will be increased.

The Minister also mentioned trying to issue the mentioned circular by the end of the year to ensure the enhancement of urban wastewater treatment.



More solutions needed to resuscitate dead rivers: Vietnamese minister

4 June, 2024 - Hanoi Times

He said localities and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) have implemented a series of measures to reduce pollution and clean rivers nationwide.

"However, the solutions implemented so far have not been effective, as industrial parks and artisan villages have been dumping more and more waste into polluted rivers. The pollution situation is getting worse, affecting the country's landscape and the public's health," Khanh said.

<u>Cần Thơ supplies clean water to more households</u>

3 June, 2024 - Vietbao

More households in Cần Thơ are getting clean water as the Cửu Long (Mekong) Delta city expands investment in water supply to rural and remote areas.

VN's paradox: rivers galore, yet water security a challenge

2 June, 2024 - Vietnamnet

Calculating the total groundwater reserves across the entire territory of Việt Nam, the amount of water from outside the territory and the additional water from rainfall, the average amount of water per capita in Việt Nam is about 8,610 cu.m/person/year, which is higher than the regional and global standards. However, if you consider only internal water sources, the picture is worrying, as the average amount of water per capita is only 3,280 cu.m/person/year, lower than the Southeast Asian average of 4,900 cu.m/person/year and the global average of 4,000 cu.m/person/year.

HCMC promotes PPP cooperation in wastewater and waste treatment

8 June, 2024 - Sai Gon Giai Phong

Intending to reach a wastewater treatment rate of 40.2 percent by 2025, the city is also promoting the call for investment in seven projects with a total capital of about VND 31,740 billion (US\$1,249,326,027).

Besides, Deputy Director Huynh Van Thanh of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment of Ho Chi Minh City, informed that to call for investment in household solid waste treatment in the form of PPP, the city has assigned the Mechanical and Electrical Joint Stock Company to prepare a pre-feasibility study report for building a solid waste treatment and energy recovery plant at the Northwest Solid Waste Treatment Complex in Cu Chi outlying district.

9 billion USD is needed to meet the targets of water supply and sewage by 2030 in Vietnam

5 June, 2024 - Vietnam Water Supply and Sewerage Association

Mekong Delta faces severe drought, salinity concerns

3 June, 2024 - Vietnamnet





Farm with 5,600 sows and 54,000 market pigs recycles 100% of wastewater

9 June, 2024 - Vietnam Agriculture

With a scale of 5,600 sows and 54,000 market pigs, the Xuan Thien Thanh Hoa 1 high-tech livestock production project, owned by Xuan Thien Group, commits to refraining from discharging water into the environment.



5. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND BUILDINGS

Industrial parks in green transition

June 3, 2024 - VnEconomy

Vietnam is shifting towards developing green industrial parks (IPs) and eco-industrial parks (eco-IPs) to meet environmental goals and attract high-quality foreign investment.

The government is actively supporting this transition by providing financial incentives and technical assistance to existing IPs converting to eco-IPs. Pilot projects have shown success in reducing energy and water consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

There are some challenges such as a lack of clear regulations on waste treatment and reuse, and the high cost of implementing green solutions. However, Vietnam is committed to establishing a legal framework that promotes sustainable development in industrial zones.

This shift towards green IPs positions Vietnam as a responsible and forward-thinking player in industrial development, attracting investment in various sectors like manufacturing, logistics, and technology.



<u>Green construction standards become popular again in Vietnam</u>

June 7, 2024 - Vietnam Net

Green building standards are gaining traction again in Vietnam after a slowdown. Driven by government pledges for net-zero emissions and investor demand for sustainability, green certifications like EDGE and LEED are becoming more popular.

EDGE, focusing on energy, water, and materials, is a favorite for its affordability and alignment with green financing.

Over 9.7 million sqm of green space has been certified, with EDGE leading the pack at 39%, followed by LEED at 35%. This trend is accelerating, with 5 million sqm registering for LEED certification in just the first two months of 2024.

Green is the new standard for Vietnamese real estate, driven by global supply chain demands, investor preferences, and operational benefits.



From gridlock to green cities: Vietnam's urban transport challenge

June 4, 2024 - Sai Gon Giai Phong News

Traffic congestion plagues Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. To solve these problems, both cities are limiting personal vehicles and investing in public transportation.

Hanoi plans a road pricing zone within Ring Road 3, which will serve as the boundary between the inner and outer city. It will also develop a metro rail system as its public transportation backbone. By 2030, the metro aims to handle 7-8% of public transportation ridership despite its high financial cost.

Ho Chi Minh City is simultaneously adopting two projects: promoting public transport, limiting personal vehicles, and improving its traffic infrastructure. The goal is for its public transport system to satisfy 30% of city dwellers' travel demands by 2030. At that time, the city will develop major metro stations into green transportation hubs. These hubs will include facilities such as parking spaces and charging stations for environmentally friendly vehicles



New Surge in Vietnam's Electric Vehicle MarketJune 10, 2024 – Vietnam Insider





6. SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

7 solutions promoting green credit suggested by an expert

5 June, 2024 - Vietnam Banks Association

Speaking at the discussion, Ms. Hoang Thanh Nhan, Chief Editor of the Banking Times, stated that as of March 31, 2024, there were 47 credit institutions with outstanding green credit debt of nearly 637,000 trillion VND, accounting for 4.5% of total outstanding debt of the entire economy.

Previously, at the end of 2015, when the green credit program started, the outstanding debt was only 71 trillion VND.

The 637,000 trillion VND of green credit is mainly focused on renewable energy sectors which accounts for 47%, green agriculture taking up 32%, clean water for rural urban areas taking up 11% and the rest is for forestry.



Pioneering sustainability reporting increases value for businesses

7 June, 2024 - Vietnam News

During a workshop on reporting practices held on Thursday in Hà Nôi, Deputy Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) Đào Minh Tú said international organisations and governments of countries are increasingly interested in a company's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) standards. So the bank wants to promote standardisation of regulations and policies within agencies, financial institutions and banks and get them to publish such information within a sustainable development report.



ADB greenlights \$80 million loan package for LPBank to finance woman-owned businesses

13 June - Vietnam Investment Review

BIDV and MUFG co-promote sustainable development

3 June - BIDV



Financial markets in green transition

11 June, 2024 - VnEconomy

The issuance and share of ESG bonds in the Asia-Pacific region increased from less than 5 per cent of total bond issuances in 2019 to about 14 per cent in 2024. Mr. Jeffrey Lee, Regional Manager of Sustainable Finance for the Asia-Pacific region at Moody's, predicts that this figure will continue to rise, potentially reaching levels comparable to Europe, where ESG bonds account for about 50 per cent of all bond issuances. Large corporations in Asia are also actively investing in sustainable finance, focusing on areas such renewable energy, green building construction, and improving energy efficiency. Therefore, investing in sustainable finance is playing a strong catalytic role in the issuance of green bonds in the Asian region.

An effective transition towards becoming net-zero powerhouse

2 June - Vietnam Investment Review

Secondly, it's crucial to prioritise the establishment of a strong pipeline of bankable projects. The success of GSS+ bonds relies heavily on nurturing projects that can attract both domestic and international investors. To instil investor confidence. these guarantee projects need to returns and deliver tangible environmental benefits.

Banks roll out separate sustainability reports

8 June - The Leaders





7. OTHERS



Vietnam actively engages in regional green transition

June 7, 2024 - VOV

Southeast Asia Economy: Waiting for Green Investments

June 11, 2024 - Energy tracker Asia

EU climate policies could be slowed in future after rightward shift in election

June 10, 2024 – Reuters

European Commission puts brake on green transition

June 12, 2024 – China daily

Australis willing to invest \$1 billion to advance sustainable development in Vietnam

June 12, 2024 – Vietnam Investment Review





8. EVENTS









13th June: Mr. Erick Contreras, Co-Chairman GGSC, Mr. Bao Nguyen, Vice-Chairman GGSC cum Head of Comunications, Ms. Betty Pallard, Vice-Chairwoman GGSC cum Head of event and Mr. Sergio Pereira da Silva, Vice-Chairman GGSC cum Head of SC&B working group, participated ESG Forum 2024 "From Ideas to Action"



11th, June: Co-Chairman Green Growth Sector Committee (GGSC) Erick Contreras and Vice-Chairman of the GGSC's Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Working Group Đính NGUYEN-PHAN had first official meeting with HCMC People's Committee Chairman Phan Van Mai, focused on potential collaborations for our upcoming Green Economy Forum & Exhibition 2024



8. OTHER EVENTS



June 1st: The launch ceremony of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Viêt Nam Forum



June 3rd: <u>Green Hanoi promoted</u> on World Environment Day



June 5th: Kick-off Workshop for the Programme for Benchmarking and Announcing Sustainable Companies in Vietnam 2024



June 7th: Enterprises Pioneering ESG and Circular Economy Practices

Upcoming Events in June & July

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	тни	FRI	SAT
16	17	18	19	20 GBA Business Luncheon 'Profiting from the Green Circular Economy' Workshop "ESG - The key to sustainable development: Solutions to support businesses in practicing ESG effectively"	21	22
23	24	25 GGSC Green Drinks Series - On The Way to GEFE 2024	26 Vietnam Greenovatio n Forum	27 2024 Asia Forum - Hybrid Business Luncheon: Harnessing Digital And Esg Innovation For A Future Fit Business	28 International CSR Sustainability (Ics) Summit 2024	29
30	1	2 EuroCham Brussel trip	3	5	5	6
7	8	9	10 Innovative water Solutions In Green Building The Future Energy Show - Solar & Storage Live Vietnam 2024	11	12	13













Green Growth Sector Committee <u>GreenGrowthSC@eurochamvn.com</u> and Sustainable Finance Sector Committee sf@eurochamvn.org









For any feedback on the E-bulletin or our communication channels, please contact Nguyen Cong Minh Bao at: minhbao1973@gmail.com