BUSINESS FORUM MAGAZINE

VIETNAM Business Forum

THE VIETNAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY - VCCI

VOL.06, NO.15 (1509), SEP 10 – OCT 9, 2025
ISSN 1859-0632

VIETNAM-CHINA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Toward High Quality, Sustainability, and Harmonized Interests

CONTENTS

Cover photo: *During Chinese Premier Li Qiang's visit to Vietnam in October 2024, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and Premier Li Qiang viewed a showcase of Vietnamese agricultural exports to China*

VIET NAM-CHINA ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Toward High Quality, Sustainability, and Harmonized Interests

Vietnamese Ambassador to China Pham Thanh Binh emphasized that, after 75 years of diplomatic relations, Viet Nam–China economic and investment cooperation has entered a new phase, opening extensive opportunities for the business communities of both countries. From strategic infrastructure connectivity and the promotion of balanced trade to the attraction of high quality FDI and deeper cooperation in technology, digital and green transitions, these areas constitute the foundations for sustainable growth and the harmonization of long term mutual interests. To learn more, our reporter interviewed Ambassador Pham Thanh Binh.

THU HUYEN

What are the priorities in Viet Nam-China economic and investment cooperation?

Implementing the common perception of the leaders of the two parties and two countries on building a Viet Nam-China Community with a shared future that carries strategic significance under the "6 more" framework, economic and investment cooperation has recently been actively promoted in recent years, becoming a highlight in bilateral relations. On that basis, the two sides have identified the following priority directions for economic and investment cooperation:

First, deepening pragmatic cooperation through major, emblematic projects and strengthening alignment of national development strategies. Priority will be given to infrastructure connectivity — notably standard-gauge railways, expressways, and border-gate facilities. At the Viet Nam–China Business Forum in Tianjin (June 2025), Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh emphasized that the Lao Cai–Ha Noi–Hai Phong, Lang Son–Ha Noi, and Mong Cai–Ha Long–Hai Phong standard-gauge lines are top strategic infrastructure priorities. Their completion will substantially enhance bilateral economic, trade, and investment links.

Second, facilitating trade and expanding mutually advantageous exports. China has been Viet Nam's largest trading partner for 21 consecutive years and its second-largest export market globally. Meanwhile, Viet Nam is a leading ASEAN trading partner of China and, by 2024, ranked as China's fourth-largest global trading partners. Relevant Vietnamese and Chinese agencies continue close coordination to resolve export issues affecting agricultural and aquatic products, intensify promotion of Vietnamese goods, and fully leverage trade preferences under ASEAN–China FTA 3.0 and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Joint initiatives to develop smart border gates, border economic cooperation zones, and upgrading or opening new border-gate pairs will further support stable, balanced, and sustainable bilateral trade growth.

Third, attracting high-quality Chinese investment and expanding cooperation in emerging sectors and promoting deeper collaboration in science and technology, digital and green transformation. Under the Politburo's Resolution No. 57 on breakthroughs in science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation, Viet Nam aims to rank among the world's top 30 countries in innovation by 2045. Meanwhile, China is promoting the development of new quality productive forces driven by technological innovation. Therefore, the two sides possess significant complementary potential, with Viet Nam's needs aligning with China's strengths in capital, technology, management, research and development, and training. Moreover, China's experience in wind and solar power aligns with Viet Nam's energy transition goals; cooperation in renewables will support sustainable development commitments and the establishment of green supply chains that meet evolving international environmental standards.

Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and Premier Li Qiang co-chair Vietnam-China Business Forum, Hanoi, October 2024

Which sectors have the potential to attract new-generation FDI from China, ensuring transparency, sustainability, and balanced interests?

Viet Nam remains an attractive destination for major Chinese investors, with registered Chinese FDI totaling USD 3.88 billion in 2024 and USD 3.13 billion in the first 8 months of 2025. China is Viet Nam's third-largest investor and ranks first in the number of new projects. In light of global economic trends and shifts in the global value chain, the following three sectors present strong potential to attract high quality Chinese investment:

First is investment in high technology and smart manufacturing. Chinese investment in Viet Nam is progressively shifting from labor intensive production to higher value, environmentally friendly manufacturing. The marked improvement in investment quality indicates that Chinese investment in Viet Nam is not merely increasing in volume but the trend of high-quality development cooperation between the two countries is also very positive.

Second is investment in emerging industries and knowledge intensive sectors including such as big data, cloud computing, internet of things, biomedical industry, digital payment services, etc. Under the Politburo's Resolution No. 57, Viet Nam is establishing breakthrough mechanisms and policies to develop new productive forces. China is among the leading countries in cultivating new high quality productive forces, notably through AI applications, industrial automation, and smart manufacturing. The synergy between China's technological capabilities and Viet Nam's dynamism, creativity, and development ambitions will foster the creation of high value products and services.

Third is investment in sustainable infrastructure and green transition. Viet Nam has substantial demand for clean energy infrastructure–particularly in renewable generation–and in transport infrastructure, including railways, airports, seaports, and highways, as well as industrial parks and economic zones infrastructure. Chinese enterprises can notably partner with Vietnamese counterparts to modernize digital infrastructure, develop green transport systems, and build electric vehicle charging and related support infrastructure.

To uphold transparency, sustainability, and balanced interests, investment projects should: comply with international environmental standards; employ state of the art, environmentally sound technologies; promote deeper participation of Vietnamese enterprises across value chains to increase the proportion of localization and domestic value addition; and promote the development of complete supply and production chains within Viet Nam.

Do you have a message for the business communities of Viet Nam and China?

On the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of diplomatic relations (1950–2025) and the Viet Nam–China People-to-People Exchange Year 2025, and in pursuit of the common perception to build a Viet Nam–China Community with a shared future that carries strategic significance, I convey to business communities of Viet Nam and China the following message under the theme: "Long term cooperation vision, spirit of innovation, social responsibility and sustainable development."

First, the business communities of both countries should adopt a long term strategic vision, align cooperation with global value chains, and prioritize partnerships in production, research and development, knowledge exchange, and technology transfer.

Second, reinforce collaboration and linkages in science and technology, innovation, digital transformation, green transition, and the circular economy.

Third, nurture the aspiration to contribute and cultivate a commitment to social and environmental responsibility by adhering to advanced international standards on labor, environment, and corporate governance, thereby contributing to the shared prosperity of the peoples of both countries.

Thank you very much!

Expanding High-Quality Investment Cooperation between Vietnam and China

As Vietnam-China economic ties deepen, high-quality investment is a priority. Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) has fostered agreements with Chinese trade organizations, linking businesses in high-tech, green economy, and technology transfer to promote sustainable investment relations. Nguyen Quang Vinh, VCCI Vice President, shares his views on this matter.

LAN ANH

VCCI has signed 45 cooperation agreements with Chinese trade promotion organizations. What specific benefits do these bring to both business communities?

Over the past three decades, VCCI has built an increasingly extensive network of cooperation with Chinese trade promotion organizations, demonstrated by the signing of 45 memoranda of understanding and cooperation agreements. This collaboration involves not only central agencies such as the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT) but also extends to local governments, commerce departments, and chambers of commerce across numerous Chinese provinces and cities, including strategically important regions such as Guangdong, Yunnan, Guangxi, Zhejiang, and Hainan.

In 2024 alone, VCCI welcomed delegations from the CCPIT of Sichuan, Chongqing, Yunnan, Dalian, Guangzhou, Fujian, and Shandong to Vietnam. In addition, VCCI maintains close contact with the Chinese Embassy in Vietnam, the Vietnamese Consulates General in China, and the Chinese Business Association in Vietnam, all with the goal of strengthening bilateral economic and trade cooperation.

The signing of these 45 memoranda and agreements has delivered numerous tangible benefits to enterprises from both countries. They provide a crucial foundation for establishing dialogue channels, sharing information, and supporting business connections, allowing Vietnamese and Chinese enterprises to access each other's markets more efficiently.

Through this cooperation, numerous forums, trade fairs, seminars, and business-matching programs have been organized, creating favorable conditions for companies to find partners, expand investment cooperation, and develop import and export opportunities. Furthermore, maintaining ties with local-level organizations has enabled businesses to penetrate specific regions more effectively, seize incentives and suitable investment opportunities, build trust within both business communities, and establish a solid foundation for bilateral economic relations amid deepening regional integration.

With Vietnam focusing on high-quality and green investment, how do you see Chinese capital moving into high-tech and clean industries?

Expanding high-quality investment cooperation with China is one of Vietnam's key directions in pursuing sustainable economic development and international integration. In recent years, beyond traditional trade promotion activities, Vietnam has placed special emphasis on attracting Chinese investment in high technology, supporting industries, renewable energy, and the green economy. These areas align with Vietnam's strategy to transform its growth model toward innovation and sustainability.

A notable example is a 700-ha Vietnam-China high-tech park in Quang Ninh, set to attract investment in chips, smart devices, automation, and new materials, creating 30,000 jobs and boosting exports. In renewable energy, China Power is working with Vietnamese partners on 500 MW of solar projects to support emission reduction goals.

Compared to the past, when Chinese investment focused primarily on mining, assembly, or low-tech industries, the current clear shift toward high technology and environmentally friendly sectors is producing more positive results. According to Ministry of Finance data, in 2024 Chinese direct investment in Vietnam reached approximately US$2.84 billion, with many projects concentrated in high-tech and green industries. This demonstrates a significant improvement in investment quality.

Beyond individual projects, Vietnam and China have also advanced joint programs in scientific research, technology transfer, and the training of high-quality human resources in areas such as artificial intelligence, smart logistics, and smart cities.

VCCI-HCM hosts Vietnam-China business networking event to boost investment and trade cooperation, October 2024

What benefits have these projects brought to Vietnamese enterprises, and how can investment quality and sustainability be improved?

Strengthening investment cooperation between Vietnam and China, especially in high tech, renewable energy, and supporting industries, has initially brought positive results for Vietnamese enterprises. Many large-scale projects have contributed to production capacity, technology transfer, and job creation, thereby driving sustainable economic growth. However, for such cooperation to deliver long-term effectiveness, comprehensive and sector-specific solutions are required.

Overall, it is crucial to improve the quality of screening and selecting Chinese investors, prioritizing enterprises with financial strength, technological capacity, and long-term commitment. At the same time, strict monitoring mechanisms on environmental protection, labor standards, and technology transfer should be established to ensure sustainability and avoid negative impacts. Vietnam also needs to refine a transparent, stable system of investment incentives to create a competitive business environment, while strengthening the intermediary role of organizations like VCCI and CCPIT in connecting, sharing information, and organizing specialized investment forums.

In high technology, Vietnam should intensify cooperation with Chinese enterprises in chip manufacturing, smart electronics, artificial intelligence, and automation. This requires boosting joint research-training programs and encouraging technology transfer through institute-business partnerships.

In renewable energy, investment projects must ensure the use of clean, high-efficiency technologies, comprehensive environmental impact assessments, and alignment with the national energy strategy. Solar and wind power projects can be expanded if supported by flexible and stable electricity purchase mechanisms.

For supporting industries, attracting projects in component manufacturing, auxiliary equipment, and new materials from Chinese enterprises will help increase localization rates and enhance self-reliance in Vietnam's processing-manufacturing sector. Specialized industrial zones should be developed to absorb these capital flows, combined with policies to support domestic enterprises in technological upgrading.

For Vietnam-China investment cooperation to truly deliver high added value and sustainability, strategic vision, synchronized policies, and effective coordination between the State, enterprises, and trade promotion organizations are required. Only then will Chinese capital not just be a financial resource, but also a vital driver to help Vietnam shift its growth model toward a green, digital, and innovation-driven economy.

How can businesses implement agreements to boost high-quality cooperation in technology, green economy, and sustainability?

The year 2025 is an important occasion for Vietnam and China to look back on their cooperation journey and open new development orientations for the next stage. To effectively implement the agreements and common understandings of senior leaders, the business communities of both countries need to be more proactive and dynamic in promoting practical, equal, and mutually beneficial cooperation.

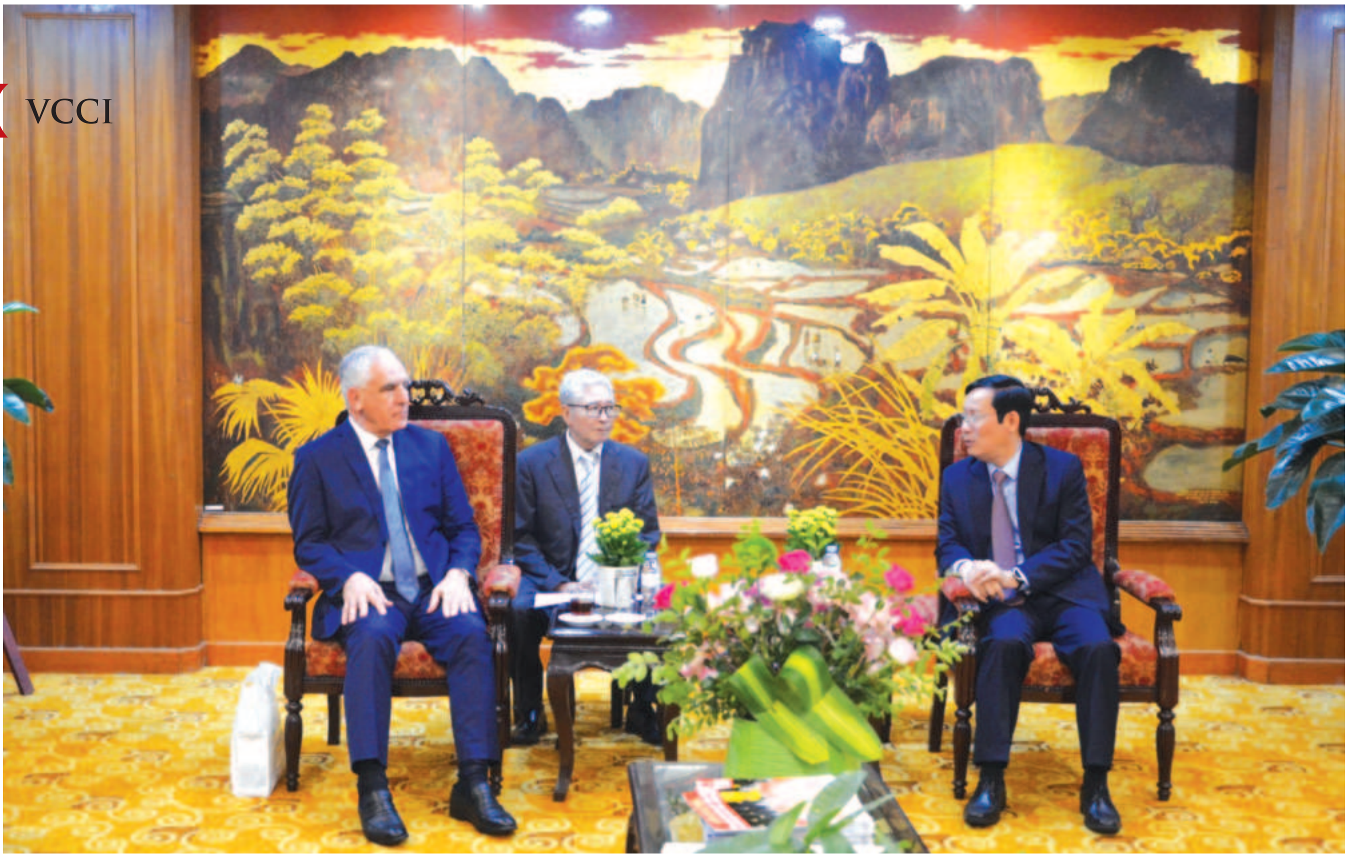
First, enterprises on both sides should strengthen information exchange and cooperation in priority areas such as high technology, green economy, digital transformation, and sustainable development. Organizing specialized forums, seminars, and business-matching programs will help companies more easily access cooperation opportunities and stay updated on market and technological trends.

Second, a long-term cooperation strategy is needed, focusing not only on short-term interests but also on sustainable development. Enhancing competitiveness, technological innovation, and compliance with environmental and labor standards will enable enterprises to meet the rising demands of international markets while making themselves more attractive to investors.

In addition, greater collaboration in training high-quality human resources, technology transfer, and research and development will generate added value, enhance production and innovation capacity of Vietnamese enterprises, and build a solid foundation for lasting and effective cooperation in the future.

The core feature of current Vietnam-China economic and trade relations is that they are being implemented in line with the vision and guidance of the senior leadership of both countries. This provides concrete benefits to the business communities and serves as a foundation for consolidating long-term, enduring friendship and cooperation between the two nations.

Thank you very much!



VCCI President Pham Tan Cong (R) receives Mohamed Abdul Karim Raied, President of the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Libya

Promoting Vietnam-Libya Trade and Investment Ties

Recently Pham Tan Cong, President of the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, welcomed and held talks with a high-level Libyan delegation led by Mohamed Abdul Karim Raied, President of the General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture of Libya.

GIANG TU

At the meeting, the two sides discussed specific measures to revive and strengthen bilateral economic relations, especially in the areas of investment, trade, and the redeployment of Vietnamese workers to Libya.

Mohamed Raied affirmed that Libya now enjoys political and security stability, creating conditions for economic development and the opening up to foreign investment. He emphasized Libya's significant potential in energy, infrastructure, and services, and expressed the country's desire to cooperate with Vietnam in harnessing these opportunities.

VCCI President Pham Tan Cong emphasized that the Vietnamese business community has strong interest in the North African market, where Libya plays an important role. He stated that Vietnam is able to meet Libya's rising demand for imports including agricultural products, processed foods, building materials, pharmaceuticals, and electrical and electronic equipment. He further underlined the importance of quickly activating intergovernmental cooperation mechanisms to establish a reliable legal framework for investment and trade.

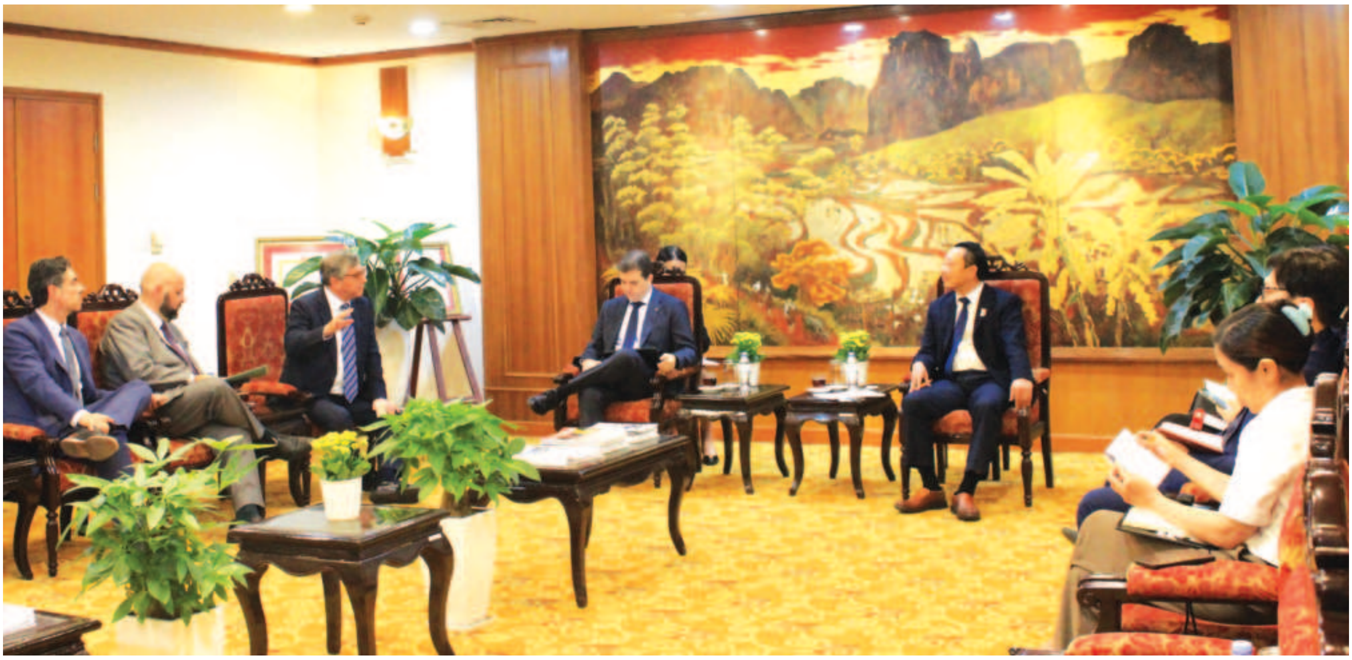
The two sides agreed to consider specific measures, including: negotiating a bilateral investment protection agreement; establishing an intergovernmental cooperation committee to coordinate economic projects; reopening Vietnam's Embassy in Libya to directly support businesses; and enhancing delegation exchanges and timely market information sharing. These steps are expected to help resolve issues related to payments, trade procedures, and legal risks often faced by enterprises from both countries.

Labor cooperation was highlighted as a key area. Before the period of conflict, Libya was a major destination for Vietnamese workers, particularly in construction, oil and gas, and healthcare. With the current stability, the Libyan side expressed its wish to resume labor cooperation with Vietnam, regarding it as a practical and mutually beneficial channel of collaboration.

Pham Tan Cong affirmed that VCCI stands ready to cooperate closely with the Libyan General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture in holding business forums, promotional seminars, and online B2B connections between associations and enterprises of both countries. He emphasized that Vietnam-Libya economic relations need to be restored in a practical way, consistent with business requirements.■

VIETNAM - BRAZIL

Boosting Cooperation in Agriculture, Trade, and Investment



VCCI Vice President Nguyen Quang Vinh welcomes Brazilian business delegation

Recently, at the headquarters of the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) in Hanoi, VCCI Vice President Nguyen Quang Vinh received Wilson Gambogi Pinheiro Taques, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock of Brazil. The meeting focused on ways to strengthen economic cooperation, particularly in agriculture, livestock, trade, and investment, with the goal of consolidating the strategic partnership between the two countries.

HUONG LY

Agriculture was identified as a priority sector in Vietnam-Brazil relations, with notable progress in agricultural trade. Wilson Gambogi Pinheiro Taques highlighted the milestone in July 2025, when Brazil's first shipment of beef was exported to Vietnam, while Vietnam's first shipment of pangasius and tilapia was cleared for entry into Brazil, under the witness of Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. He affirmed that this event is not only a symbol of friendship but also marks the start of substantive cooperation, creating opportunities to diversify markets and increase the trade value of agricultural products in both countries.

As one of the world's leading suppliers of soybeans, Brazil reaffirmed its commitment to being a reliable partner for Vietnam in livestock and food production. He also proposed cooperation in research and the application of advanced agricultural technologies, including sustainable farming and agricultural supply chain management. "Brazil is ready to share its experience in optimizing agricultural production and protecting the environment, while also learning from Vietnam's expertise in tropical seafood exports, particularly pangasius and shrimp," he emphasized.

VCCI Vice President Nguyen Quang Vinh emphasized the potential for strategic cooperation. Brazil is a global leader in coffee, while Vietnam ranks first in robusta coffee exports. He suggested that the two countries establish a strategic alliance in coffee research, production, and export to maximize competitive advantages, develop high-quality coffee varieties, apply modern processing technologies, and build a joint brand to raise product value.

Beyond coffee, products such as beef, chicken, pork, and seafood, including pangasius and tilapia, are also considered promising areas for cooperation. Taques shared that JBS, one of the world's leading food processing companies, plans to invest US$100 million in a modern food production and processing facility in Vietnam. "This project will not only create jobs but also promote technology transfer and enhance production capacity," he said. The footwear industry has also recorded positive developments, with about 700 Brazilian employees working in Ho Chi Minh City, contributing to strengthening Brazil's presence in Vietnam.

Nguyen Quang Vinh affirmed that Vietnam-Brazil relations are growing strongly in all fields, from diplomacy to economy and trade. Recent high-level visits by the leaders of the two countries show a shared determination to raise bilateral relations to a comprehensive partnership. "This is a solid foundation for the business communities of both countries to expand cooperation, make full use of competitive advantages, and support each other," he noted. With its network of more than 200,000 member enterprises, VCCI pledged to serve as a bridge to support the implementation of specific cooperation projects, particularly in agriculture and food processing industries.

Taques emphasized Brazil's high regard for Vietnam's dynamic market and urged stronger trade fairs and forums to connect investors. He affirmed that Brazil wants Vietnam as a strategic destination for its enterprises while learning from Vietnam's tropical agriculture export experience.

The two sides also discussed potential cooperation in high-tech industries, such as smart agriculture, renewable energy, and food processing technology. Taques noted that Brazil, with its experience in applying biotechnology to agriculture, is ready to support Vietnam in developing sustainable farming models, reducing environmental impacts, and improving productivity. He expressed his strong impression of Vietnam's achievements in seafood exports and affirmed Brazil's desire to cooperate in developing sustainable supply chains for products such as pangasius and shrimp.

Vinh proposed that the two countries hold expert exchange programs and thematic workshops to share experiences in industry and technology. He also emphasized that Vietnam welcomes investment from Brazil, not only to strengthen business ties but also to reinforce Brazil's position as one of the leading investors in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.

At the conclusion of the meeting, both sides agreed to continue promoting exchanges, signing, and implementing concrete cooperation projects in priority areas. Vinh expressed his hope that Vietnam would gain valuable lessons from Brazil's advanced development models, thereby raising bilateral economic and trade relations to new heights. "This cooperation will not only bring economic benefits but also strengthen friendship and mutual understanding between the two peoples," he stressed. Taques affirmed Brazil's commitment to continue working with Vietnam on cooperation projects and expressed confidence in the growth of bilateral relations. He noted that with VCCI and Vietnamese enterprises' support, ties could make strong progress. The meeting opened new prospects, strengthening economic cooperation and laying the foundation for a strategic, sustainable partnership.■

VCCI Vice President Nguyen Quang Vinh addresses program on water resource management and climate adaptation for sustainable development

Water is considered the lifeblood of the economy and society, sustaining agriculture, industry, daily life, and services. At the same time, clean water access is essential to achieving Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 6 (Clean Water), SDG 12 (Sustainable Consumption and Production), and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

HUONG GIANG

Currently, Vietnam's total surface water (river flow) is estimated at 830-840 billion cubic meters per year, while groundwater is about 47.5-63 billion cubic meters per year. However, only around 37% of this water originates within Vietnam's territory, with more than 60% depending on surface water from outside the borders, making the country highly vulnerable to climate change impacts and transboundary influences.

Although the Law on Water Resources (2012, amended in 2023) and river basin planning have been issued, monitoring and inter-sectoral coordination remain limited. This underscores the urgent need for a comprehensive water resource governance system closely linked to economic security, energy security, and social stability.

Nguyen Quang Vinh - Vice President of the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and Chairman of the Vietnam Business Council for Sustainable Development (VBCSD) - emphasized: "Water resource governance is a matter of survival for economic development, energy security, and even social stability. In this context, the role of enterprises in conserving and efficiently using water resources is becoming increasingly important. Many enterprises in

Enterprises, Media Partner for Sustainable Water Governance

Vietnam have pioneered sustainable water management initiatives, improved water-saving technologies, and implemented water reuse and regeneration in production activities. However, the challenge is that many small and medium-sized enterprises lack financial capacity, technology, and support mechanisms to keep up. Therefore, strong support is needed from policies, financial institutions, and especially the press to spread awareness, inspire action, and connect communities to act together."

Nguyen Quang Vinh stressed that water resource governance is not only a matter of management but also a vital foundation of the nation. He said the press can help scale up successful models so that from one pioneering enterprise there could be hundreds or thousands of others following suit, turning the story of saving every liter of water into a national flow of water conservation across the country.

Hoang Viet, Director of the Water Program at WWF-Vietnam, emphasized: "At both the global and national levels, water is not only a natural resource but also the foundation for food, energy, and the livelihoods of tens of millions of people. Under the pressures of climate change, overexploitation, and pollution from human activities, we are facing growing water scarcity, declining resources, and increasing risks to water security. This calls for a more comprehensive and scientific approach to managing this essential resource of life.

WWF believed that ensuring water security for today and the future requires the joint efforts of all stakeholders, including the State, businesses, communities, and the press. Tools such as the Water Risk Filter and the Water Stewardship framework have proven effective in helping businesses and localities in Vietnam identify risks, adapt proactively, and generate sustainable value from water, instead of treating it merely as an input cost.

Within the business community, many major enterprises have become pioneers in water governance. Nestlé Vietnam aims by 2025 to return to communities and the environment an amount of clean water equivalent to 100% of the water the company uses in production. BAT Vietnam and Samsung Vietnam have obtained the AWS Water Stewardship certification for all their manufacturing plants. Suntory PepsiCo Vietnam continues to maintain its Water of Life water conservation program into its 10th year. HEINEKEN Vietnam has implemented reforestation and biodiversity conservation models, replenishing more than 690 million liters of water annually in the Tien River basin.

Overview of the event

"Water and nature conservation is one of the top priorities in HEINEKEN Vietnam's sustainability strategy. Through multiple water conservation initiatives and strengthened multi-stakeholder cooperation, the company achieved water balance five years ahead of schedule in the Tien River basin - an area facing significant water stress. This achievement marks a milestone in our sustainable development journey 'For a Better Vietnam,' and is a clear testament to the power of joint action among businesses, government, social organizations, and communities in addressing environmental challenges," said Nguyen Huu Hoang, Sustainability Manager at HEINEKEN Vietnam.

Delegates exchange insights on water resource management at the event

Several other enterprises in the food and beverage industry have achieved up to 30% water savings per unit of product within five years, while investing in technology to reuse 100% of treated wastewater for non-production activities. These models demonstrate that water conservation is not an added cost but a strategic investment that helps enterprises reduce risks, enhance reputation, access green finance, and meet global ESG standards.

For example, Coca-Cola has been present in Vietnam since 1994 with three plants in Hanoi, Da Nang, and Tay Ninh, along with a nationwide supply network. In July 2025, the company inaugurated a new plant in Tay Ninh with a total investment of US$136 million and a designed capacity of over 1 billion liters of beverages per year. The plant applies advanced automation technology, saving resources while minimizing environmental impacts, and meeting both international and Vietnamese food safety standards.

Coca-Cola Vietnam operates six distribution centers across seven regions, employing 4,000 workers directly and many more through its supply chain. In 2024, it invested over US$1 million in sustainability projects, from packaging waste treatment and water replenishment to clean water access and climate adaptation. Coca-Cola Vietnam is currently ranked among the Top 2 sustainable enterprises of 2024 at the Corporate Sustainability Index (CSI) announcement ceremony, and has been honored as a “Best Place to Work” for six consecutive years, as well as the No. 1 sustainable FDI enterprise for 2024-2025 at the Golden Dragon Awards.■

On September 16, VBCSD-VCCI held the 8th consecutive program “Sharing on Sustainable Development with Media Agencies,” with the theme: “Strengthening water resource governance and conservation for sustainable development goals and effective climate adaptation.”

The program aimed to provide updated information on the policies and sustainable development orientations of the Party and Government, while also sharing practices and good business models from the business community. Through this, VBCSD-VCCI seeks to contribute to raising awareness, supporting media agencies in effective reporting, and encouraging the press to accompany businesses more closely on the sustainable development journey.

Boosting Vietnam-Mexico Business Cooperation

The potential for collaboration between Vietnamese and Mexican enterprises remains extensive across multiple sectors. The renewal of an MOU between the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and the Mexican Business Council for Foreign Trade, Investment and Technology (COMCE) will strengthen substantive partnerships, promoting prosperity and sustainable development for businesses in both countries.

LAN ANH

Speaking at a recent meeting with Stephane Michel, Chairman of COMCE's Asia and Oceania International Committee, held at VCCI headquarters in Hanoi, VCCI Secretary General Tran Thi Lan Anh noted that the traditional friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Mexico have continued to grow, expanding sustainably and delivering practical benefits to the people of both countries. The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) has been recognized as a milestone, generating strong momentum for trade and investment cooperation between Vietnam and its partners in general, and Mexico in particular.

Mexico is currently Vietnam's second-largest trading partner in Latin America. Since both countries joined the CPTPP, bilateral trade has increased at an average annual rate of nearly 15%. Vietnam's main exports to Mexico include electronic equipment, machinery, footwear, steel, and seafood, with Mexico ranking as the third-largest importer of Vietnamese pangasius.

Conversely, the Vietnamese market offers significant opportunities for Mexican exporters in sectors such as machinery and electrical equipment, pharmaceuticals, meat and food products, as well as signature beverages like mezcal and tequila.

In just the first two months of 2025, Vietnam's exports to Mexico reached US$930.3 million, up 13.1% year-on-year. Imports from Mexico totaled US$158.6 million, up 1.5%. Vietnam recorded a trade surplus of nearly US$772 million with Mexico during this period.

The two countries have signed agreements in agriculture, health, culture, education, science and technology, along with visa exemptions and political consultations. Enterprise presence is also growing, with Mexico's largest retailer Coppel repeatedly seeking Vietnamese partners to import footwear, clothing, plastics, rubber, and more.

In return, major Vietnamese corporations have actively expanded operations in Mexico. FPT has opened a branch in Guadalajara, while VinFast has conducted market surveys and completed procedures to establish a company for exporting and distributing electric vehicles in Mexico and Central America. Notably, in October 2024, VinFast signed an MOU with the Durango Drivers' Union to supply 3,000 VF 5 electric cars and 300 electric buses to Mexico.

VCCI Secretary General Tran Thi Lan Anh also noted that on August 5, 2025, VCCI and COMCE successfully facilitated a meeting for Mexico's microfinance company Finvivir to explore business expansion in Vietnam with three partners: the Vietnam Women's Union, Tinh Thuong One-Member Limited Liability Microfinance Institution (TYM), and PwC Consulting.

VCCI encouraged Mexican businesses to leverage Vietnam's supply ecosystem to diversify sourcing with CPTPP tariff preferences for products such as textiles, footwear, wooden furniture, and electronics, with priority also given to exports in sectors including seafood (pangasius, basa, tuna) and agriculture (rice, animal feed, and raw materials).

Both sides should also strengthen cooperation in foundational industries such as materials, metallurgy, mechanical engineering, processing and manufacturing, electronics, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals; and enhance collaboration through the Vietnam-Mexico Joint Committee on Economic, Trade and Investment Cooperation.

Agreeing with this perspective, Stephane Michel emphasized that COMCE serves as the coordinating body for Mexican private businesses in international trade, including promoting commerce and attracting foreign direct investment. COMCE is also a member of the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC). In July 2024, the Mexican Embassy in Vietnam, in cooperation with COMCE and Mexico's Foreign Trade Bank, published the guidebook "Doing Business in Vietnam for Mexican Companies."

Looking ahead, both sides will boost trade promotion, expand core exports, and cooperate on CPTPP implementation to improve market access and maximize benefits in agriculture, intellectual property, and financial services.

Stephane Michel expressed his expectation that through cooperation with VCCI, Mexican companies will increase exports of their most competitive products to Vietnam while fostering a healthy, competitive, and secure business environment for both sides in the future.

Also, during the meeting, VCCI and COMCE signed a new MOU. Previously, the two sides had signed a cooperation agreement on October 22, 2019, during a COMCE business delegation visit to Vietnam. Both sides have also repeatedly discussed upgrading bilateral relations and plan to increase high-level visits while finalizing the bilateral legal framework.■

VIETNAM-ITALY BUSINESS FORUM 2025

Opening New Avenues of Cooperation

Mr. Valentino Valentini, Deputy Minister for Enterprises and Made in Italy, addresses the forum

Italy is now Vietnam's third-largest trading partner in the European Union, with bilateral trade in the first seven months of 2025 surpassing US$4.3 billion. Their relationship has grown not only in trade and investment but has also been strengthened by mutual trust, shared values, and a joint commitment to sustainable growth and peace.

LE HIEN

These points were highlighted at the Vietnam-Italy Business Forum, jointly organized in Hanoi by the Ministry of Finance, the Italian Trade Agency (ITA), and Confindustria, Italy's national employers' federation.

Italy as Vietnam's leading strategic partner in Europe

Speaking at the forum, Deputy Minister of Finance Ho Sy Hung emphasized that after 40 years of "Doi moi" (Renovation), Vietnam has transformed from a poor, war-torn agrarian country into one of the world's 34 largest economies; among the world's top 20 trading nations; and has signed 17 free trade agreements with more than 60 economies.

Currently, Italy is Vietnam's third-largest trading partner in the EU. In the first seven months of 2025, bilateral trade reached more than US$4.3 billion, up 5.1% from the same period in 2024. Vietnam's exports to Italy totaled US$3.1 billion, up 4.5% year-on-year, while imports from Italy stood at US$1.2 billion, up 6.7%.

On investment, Italian investors are involved in 162 projects in Vietnam with total registered capital exceeding US$624 million, ranking 32nd among 151 countries and territories investing in Vietnam. Conversely, Vietnam has invested in one project in Italy, with a total capital of nearly US$700,000.

"Notably, Vietnam and Italy share four important complementarities: trustful partnership; mutually reinforcing economies; warm and genuine sentiments; and a shared aspiration for peace and robust development," Deputy Minister Ho Sy Hung noted.

Valentino Valentini, Italy's Deputy Minister for Enterprises and Made in Italy, emphasized that the relationship between the two countries has long been positive and continues to strengthen. In today's global context, bilateral cooperation has become even more important.

Citing President Ho Chi Minh's teaching, "For the benefit of ten years, plant trees; for the benefit of a hundred years, cultivate people," Valentini remarked that Vietnam and Italy, along with their business communities, should base their relationship on solid foundational steps.

"Through technology transfer, social development, and capacity building in sectors where both sides have strengths, bilateral cooperation will increasingly be directed toward a long-term, sustainable vision," addedValentini.

Untapped potential

Alongside the positive achievements, Deputy Minister Ho Sy Hung affirmed that there is still considerable potential for further economic, trade, and investment cooperation between Vietnam and Italy. With its highly developed industrial base and numerous globally recognized corporations, Italy represents a strong potential partner.

To harness this potential more effectively and enhance the quality and efficiency of business-to-business cooperation, Deputy Minister Ho Sy Hung outlined several directions for the coming period. First, Vietnam hopes Italian enterprises,

Partners exchange MOUs at the Vietnam-Italy Business Forum

Within the framework of the Vietnam-Italy Business Forum 2025, more than 10 Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were signed, covering key sectors such as innovation and Industry 4.0, energy and infrastructure, financial and insurance cooperation, and trade and tourism promotion. These important documents open up new avenues of cooperation, laying the foundation for enterprises from both countries to implement concrete projects in the near future.

with their experience, resources, and reputation, will support the country in accessing shifting investment flows, green and sustainable financing, and investments in science, technology, and innovation. Second, with its policy of selective foreign investment, prioritizing quality, efficiency, technology, and environmental protection, Vietnam welcomes projects in sectors such as the green economy, digital economy, circular economy, knowledge economy, science and technology, innovation, new and renewable energy, international and green finance centers, high-tech agriculture and industry, commerce, and tourism.

Third, Italian investors are encouraged to help Vietnamese companies integrate more deeply and substantively into global supply chains. Fourth, Italy is urged to advocate for swift ratification of the EU-Vietnam Investment Protection Agreement (EVIPA) among EU member states. This is an important foundation for businesses in both countries to strengthen cooperation and tap into the vast potential of the ASEAN and EU markets. Fifth, enterprises from both countries should expand collaboration in emerging areas such as the digital economy, green economy, circular economy, and energy transition. In particular, to realize Vietnam's net-zero by 2050 goal, the country seeks to learn from and cooperate with Italy in renewable energy and green economy development. Finally, Italy is invited to enhance cooperation with Vietnam in new growth drivers such as financial centers and free trade zones.■

The Department of Taxation is honored with the First-Class Labor Order

TAX SECTOR

80 Years as Pillar of National Budget

Over the past 80 years of development, Vietnam's tax sector has steadily expanded, reinforcing its central role in mobilizing resources for the state budget, serving as the "lifeblood" of national finance, supporting socio-economic stability, and promoting renewal and integration.

HUONG HAU

Outstanding achievements

Steadfast as the pillar of the national budget: Whether during wartime in defense of the nation or in peacetime today, the tax sector has consistently fulfilled its political mandate assigned by the Party, the State, and the People, ensuring sustainable budget revenue, maintaining fiscal balance, contributing to macroeconomic stability, and safeguarding social welfare.

State budget revenue under the tax sector's management has increased impressively, from VND5.2 trillion in 1990 to more than VND1.7 quadrillion today, and is projected to surpass

Director General of Taxation Mai Xuan Thanh commits that the tax sector will continue striving to excellently fulfill its assigned tasks

VND2 quadrillion by 2025, an increase of 380 times compared to 1990. The revenue structure has shifted positively, with a rising share of domestic collection, reflecting sustainable growth driven by the economy's internal strengths. Notably, in times of economic hardship, the tax sector has proactively advised, enacted, and effectively implemented timely tax exemption, reduction, and deferral policies, helping citizens and businesses recover and expand production and business activities, thereby

Minister of Finance Nguyen Van Thang acknowledges the tax sector's role as a key force supporting national development and people's livelihoods

fulfilling the "dual mandate" set by the Government and the Ministry of Finance.

Improving institutions and creating a favorable business environment: Vietnam's tax policies and laws have become increasingly comprehensive, consistent, modern, and aligned with international practices, expanding the tax base to include nearly all revenue sources and economic sectors. In international tax cooperation, the sector has advised the Government and the Ministry of Finance to sign double taxation agreements with more than 75 countries and to join multilateral tax cooperation mechanisms such as the Multilateral Tax Reform Convention, the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (MAAC), and the Inclusive Framework on BEPS. These efforts have created a transparent investment environment, promoted business activities, safeguarded national interests, and enhanced Vietnam's role and responsibility on the global stage.

Pioneering modernization and digital transformation: Today, over 99% of enterprises use e-tax filing and payment services; 100% of enterprises use e-invoices; and nearly 7 million individuals use the e-tax mobile application.

The tax sector has taken the lead in linking with national data systems under Project 06, using digital IDs to clean and authenticate taxpayer data. Over 30 million taxpayers have so far accessed the system with digital identification accounts.

In 2025, the sector continues exchanging data with the national data center to optimize shared national datasets, simplify administrative procedures - especially those requiring interconnected data such as land, motor vehicles, and financial reporting - and improve tax management and policy implementation.

A milestone was the Politburo's issuance of Resolution 68 on May 4, 2025, which mandates the complete abolition of presumptive taxation on household businesses from January 1, 2026, shifting entirely to a self-declaration and self-payment mechanism. This marks a profound transformation for the tax sector on its modernization path, creating a fairer business environment and contributing significantly to state revenue.

In parallel with Resolutions 57 and 68, the tax sector is working daily to deliver better services to citizens and businesses. On August 1, 2025, the Department of Taxation officially launched a tax information portal for entrepreneurs and released a set of three electronic tax handbooks for business owners, chief accountants, and household or individual businesses. The handbooks are integrated with AI-enabled smart Q&A functions, allowing quick and convenient access to tax policies and procedures. This tangible achievement reflects the sector's innovative spirit in implementing the Politburo's core Resolutions.

Consistently guided by the principle of "putting taxpayers at the center of service," taxpayer satisfaction is the key measure of performance and reflects the sector's firm transition toward modernization and professionalism in the new development stage.

Key tasks for the tax sector

In the new context, the tax sector faces pressing demands, and Minister of Finance Nguyen Van Thang called on the sector to focus on several key tasks: Completing tax institutions and policies not only to mobilize resources effectively for the budget but also to create a favorable business environment, encourage innovation, and resolve existing institutional bottlenecks.

Strengthening revenue management and combating tax evasion, particularly in e-commerce, the digital economy, and cross-border activities, while resolutely handling violations and preventing invoice fraud and tax refund fraud to ensure fairness and equality in tax obligations and maintain stable budget revenues. Promoting administrative reform and improving taxpayer services by determinedly cutting and simplifying tax procedures so that all processes are clear, accessible, and easy to comply with, striving for 100% of tax procedures to be conducted online, interconnected, and fully digital, with the goal of reducing compliance time and costs for businesses and citizens while enhancing satisfaction, trust, and social consensus toward tax authorities.

Accelerating comprehensive digital transformation in tax management and building centralized databases as a core, continuous task, requiring the urgent design and implementation of a nationwide IT system overhaul to ensure a modern, integrated infrastructure with accurate, complete, clean, and live data, alongside developing a centralized, intelligent tax management system that leverages artificial intelligence (AI), big data, cloud computing, and real-time analytics to improve administration, manage risks effectively, and expand diverse digital tax services that promote fast, transparent, secure, and convenient taxpayer transactions, making digital transformation a driver of improved management capacity and the best support for businesses and citizens.

Enhancing training and discipline to build a clean, transparent, and integrity-driven tax administration that serves the people through continuous professional development and strict discipline within the workforce.

"These are strategic, decisive, and enduring tasks - foundations for the tax sector to continue affirming its core and pioneering role in securing budget revenues, contributing to the development of a stable, transparent, and modern national financial system, and playing a vital part in the country's sustainable and prosperous development," Minister of Finance Nguyen Van Thang emphasized.■

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF TAX SECTOR

Better Service for Taxpayers and Businesses

Seminar on digital transformation in the taxation sector at the digital transformation exhibition

"A major breakthrough in modernization and digital transformation, widely recognized by the business community and taxpayers." This was the statement made by Mai Xuan Thanh, Director General of the Department of Taxation, at a digital transformation exhibition held to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Vietnam Tax Sector (September 10, 1945 - September 10, 2025), recently organized by the Department of Taxation.

LE HIEN

The digital transformation exhibition of the tax sector

Modernizing tax administration

The digital transformation of the tax sector has progressively implemented new technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), built large-scale databases (Big Data) through data sharing and integration with ministries and agencies, and introduced new tools to assist taxpayers, including virtual assistants and chatbots. Thanks to decisive efforts in modernization and digital transformation, tax administration has become fully digitized, improving efficiency and effectiveness, providing maximum convenience for taxpayers, and reinforcing the image of a professional, transparent, integrity-driven, and innovative tax authority.

However, the tax sector also acknowledges that at this stage it faces significant demands and challenges, including rising requirements for state budget revenue collection to support socio-economic development and maintain national fiscal balance, the annual increase in the number of taxpayers, and the expansion in the scale and scope of their activities.

At present, the tax authorities are managing over 1 million enterprises, more than 300,000 organizations, over 2 million individuals and household businesses, and more than 80 million personal tax identification numbers. The demand for reforming tax administration methods must keep pace with economic and social developments, such as the explosive growth of the digital economy and cross-border e-commerce, which create new business models requiring appropriate tax management mechanisms and policies for each group of taxpayers. These factors require the tax sector to change comprehensively, rapidly, and more effectively.

Resolution 57 and objectives of tax system reform

With the goal of achieving breakthroughs in science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation, on December 22, 2024, General Secretary To Lam signed and promulgated Resolution No. 57-NQ/TW of the Politburo on breakthroughs in science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation.

Implementing the spirit of Resolution 57 alongside the Tax System Reform Strategy 2021–2030, the tax sector is working to achieve a coherent, fair, and effective tax policy system; build a streamlined, professional apparatus; and especially advance comprehensive digital transformation. Accordingly, the sector is determined to continuously improve and strengthen digital transformation in management, clearly defining its objectives under the Politburo's guidance in Resolution 57, treating it as a key framework for achieving the strategic goals of tax system reform in the 2025–2030 period. The vision is to establish a modern, efficient, and effective tax sector based on three core pillars: a comprehensive, synchronized, modern, and integrated tax management institution; a professional, integrity-driven, and innovative workforce; and modern, integrated IT systems that satisfy tax administration requirements in the digital economy.

Based on this direction, the tax sector will focus on several key tasks. Specifically: first, continuing to complete the legal framework and tax policies. Next, developing modern IT applications and databases; ensuring full-process data sharing and connectivity with national databases and relevant ministries and agencies.

From now until the end of 2025, the tax sector will carry out 100% of administrative procedures fully online. Integration with the National Public Service Portal will provide taxpayers with the most efficient electronic tax services. This initiative also aims to maximize taxpayer convenience, lower compliance costs, and enhance transparency and efficiency in tax administration.■

AI-Powered Tax Handbooks to Support Taxpayers

Accessible across multiple platforms, the three electronic tax handbooks are also integrated with AI to offer practical Q&A interaction, allowing users to quickly and conveniently reference and apply tax policies and administrative procedures.

The Department of Taxation (Ministry of Finance) has just released a set of three electronic tax handbooks, including: the Electronic Tax Handbook for Business Owners; the Electronic Tax Handbook for Chief Accountants; and the Electronic Tax Handbook for Individual Business Owners, available at: https://hotronnt.gdt.gov.vn/so-tay-thue-dien-tu/

This product is part of the continued implementation of Resolution No. 57-NQ/TW of the Politburo on breakthroughs in science, technology, innovation, and national digital transformation.

The three digital tax handbooks are accessible across platforms, featuring links to legal documents, forms, videos, and infographics, serving as a practical guide for businesses and households.

The launch of these three electronic tax handbooks marks an important step in the tax sector's modernization journey, reflecting the determination of the tax authorities to: accompany, support, and facilitate taxpayers; ensure transparency, openness, and accessibility of tax policies and laws; encourage voluntary compliance; and contribute to building a healthy and sustainable business environment.

"With the launch of the three electronic tax handbooks, the tax sector believes that this will be a knowledge bridge bringing tax policies closer to businesses, chief accountants, and household businesses, while affirming the determination of the tax sector to innovate, reform, and integrate," said Nguyen Thi Lan Anh, Head of the Legal Department (Department of Taxation).

Thanh Nam

The Department of Customs receives the First-class Feat-of-Arms Order

Vietnam Customs Awarded First-Class Feat of Arms Order

The Department of Vietnam Customs received the First-Class Feat of Arms Order from the State President and a Certificate of Merit from the Prime Minister in celebration of the 80th anniversary of Vietnam Customs (September 10, 1945 – September 10, 2025).

LE HIEN

At the ceremony celebrating the 80th anniversary of Vietnam Customs, Director General of the Department of Customs Nguyen Van Tho emphasized that the past 80 years of development have been a journey filled with hardships and challenges, shaped by the unwavering commitment of generations of customs officials, officers, and staff. He affirmed that this legacy is a profound source of pride and serves as a strong foundation for continuing to write new, distinguished chapters in the history of Vietnam Customs.

Over the past 80 years, Vietnam Customs - originally tasked with tax collection and anti-smuggling - has evolved into a modern, deeply integrated state management authority that facilitates trade, plays a vital role in driving economic growth, supports inflation control, stabilizes the macroeconomy, and ensures national security and border sovereignty. Throughout each stage of development, Vietnam Customs has consistently upheld its mission of "Protecting national sovereignty and interests."

Regarding the sector's future direction, Director General Nguyen Van Tho said that as the nation enters its new era of prosperity, facing both opportunities and challenges, Vietnam Customs will follow the "four pillars" outlined in Politburo Resolutions: science and technology development, private sector promotion, legal reform, and deeper international integration, considering them as guiding principles. Committed to achieving the objectives set by the Prime Minister in the Customs Development Strategy to 2030, Vietnam Customs remains resolute in fulfilling its mission.

To achieve these objectives, Vietnam Customs will build a modern, coordinated legal framework aligned with practical needs and international integration, improving management, removing bottlenecks, advancing reform, and prioritizing businesses and citizens.

Minister of Finance Nguyen Van Thang suggested that the customs sector should urgently complete the development of digital customs and smart customs based on science and technology, innovation, and automation, enabling all customs procedures to be processed anytime, anywhere, and on any platform.

Recognizing the contributions of the customs sector throughout its 80-year journey, the Party and the State have awarded many prestigious honors to the sector's collectives and individuals, including the Ho Chi Minh Order, the Independence Order, the Labor Order, along with various commendations and emulation titles. On this 80th anniversary, the Department of Vietnam Customs was honored to receive the First-Class Feat of Arms Order from the State President and a Certificate of Merit from the Prime Minister. These awards stand as testimony to the unity, courage, wisdom, and tireless dedication of generations of customs officials, officers, and staff across the sector.■

VIETNAM'S EXPORTS TO U.S.

Short-term Breakthroughs but Risks Ahead

Vietnam's GDP grew 7.5% in the first half of 2025, up from 6.5% a year earlier, driven by strong exports, particularly to the U.S. However, rising global trade risks could weigh on future export performance.

ANH MAI

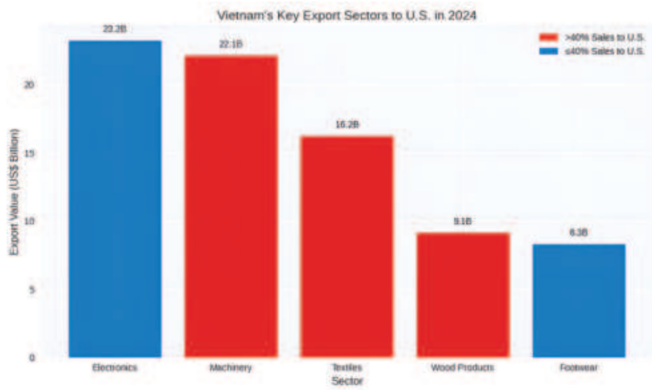
According to the latest World Bank report, Vietnam's economic growth in the first half of 2025 was fueled by a 14.2% rise in exports, with shipments to the U.S. jumping by 28.3% as businesses anticipated higher tariffs.

Vietnam is among the most trade-dependent economies in the world, with the U.S. as a key partner. The country's trade-to-GDP ratio reached over 170% in 2024 (the highest in the East Asia-Pacific region after Singapore), with exports to the U.S. accounting for 30% of total exports, equivalent to 26% of GDP in 2024. The U.S. is Vietnam's largest export market, with total shipments amounting to US$136.6 billion in 2024. In the first seven months of 2025, Vietnam's exports to the U.S. hit US$106 billion, up 44% year-on-year. The Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) between Vietnam and the U.S., implemented since 2001, has significantly boosted trade relations between the two nations.

Vietnam-U.S. trade relations are also reflected in investment and employment figures, particularly in electronics, textiles, and footwear. Intel established its first office in Vietnam in 1997 and opened a US$1 billion assembly and testing facility in Ho Chi Minh City in 2010, employing thousands of Vietnamese workers. Other major U.S. corporations have also set up large-scale operations in Vietnam, especially in processing, manufacturing, textiles, and footwear, thereby helping the country integrate further into global value chains. Notably, as of January 2025, Nike had partnered with 98 contractors operating 162 factories in Vietnam, employing over 493,000 workers and producing about half of Nike's global footwear output.

Since 2018, U.S. exports have more than tripled as firms adopted a "China +1" strategy, making Vietnam increasingly reliant on U.S. demand. The trend accelerated in 2025, with companies frontloading electronics, furniture, and machinery ahead of expected tariffs.

However, according to Viet Dragon Securities Corporation (VDSC), since the U.S. imposed a 20% tariff, Vietnam's export growth to the U.S. has slowed, driven mostly by FDI firms and electronics rather than domestic producers. While exports equal about 26% of GDP, domestic value-added is only 10%, highlighting heavy dependence on U.S. demand and rising trade risks across key sectors.



In 2024, Vietnam's key exports to the U.S. were electronics (US$23.2 billion, 32% of total), machinery (US$22.1 billion, 42%), textiles (US$16.2 billion, 43%), wood products (US$9.1 billion, 56%), and footwear (US$8.3 billion, 36%). With several sectors deriving over 40% of sales from the U.S., textiles, footwear, and wood products are especially exposed to demand shocks and higher tariffs under new reciprocal measures.

Looking ahead, the World Bank projected that global growth will slow as trade decelerates. Global economic activity is forecast to ease from 2.8% in 2024 to 2.3% and 2.4% in 2025-2026 respectively. This is due to weaker global trade growth and prolonged geopolitical tensions. U.S. growth is expected to decline in the second half of 2025, further dampening external demand for Vietnam's products. Consequently, Vietnam's exports to the U.S. may fall short of expectations, especially if transshipment provisions lead to higher tariffs. With limited scope to offset losses in other markets, this could further weigh on Vietnam's export growth.

To address this, according to representatives of some Vietnamese enterprises, firms need to meet green standards and international certifications. This requires investment in production lines and technology, which raises costs while output prices remain unchanged, thereby squeezing profit margins. However, this is a mandatory requirement for maintaining market share.

Moreover, Vietnamese companies must promptly implement ERP management systems to ensure accurate traceability. Without proof of origin, goods may face high tariffs, causing severe damage to businesses, particularly in textiles. Enterprises need to build an ecosystem aligned with global standards, from ESG documentation and traceability to efficient logistics corridors. The most crucial factor is that everything must be verifiable and transparent.■

VIETNAM LOGISTICS & PORTS

Boosting Industrial Real Estate

Vietnam is rapidly becoming a regional logistics and manufacturing hub, fueled by rising global trade and shifting supply chains. Its deepwater ports and strong links to industrial zones attract more international tenants. Logistics readiness is now a key advantage in the competitive industrial real estate market. Vietnam's growing port network and infrastructure upgrades strengthen its role in global trade.

Overview of Tan Cang-Cai Mep International Terminal (TCIT)

HUONG LY

Port network - A national competitive advantage

Global cargo volumes surged by 7.3% in 2024, climbing to 504.7 million TEUs across the world's 50 busiest ports, according to Savills' Global Occupier Insight - Industrial Focus 2025 report. The upswing, seen across all regions albeit at different speeds, underscores a broader shift as companies rethink supply chain strategies, diversify production bases, and reposition logistics hubs in response to geopolitical frictions, tariff risks, and evolving consumer demand.

"From North America to the Middle East, port throughput has rebounded on the back of stronger trade flows and enhanced connectivity. The Asia-Pacific, long regarded as the world's manufacturing heartland, is regaining momentum, with Vietnam, Thailand, and Indonesia rising as pivotal production and logistics hubs," said Thomas Rooney, Associate Director, Industrial Services at Savills Hanoi.

Vietnam is capitalizing on this trend, leveraging its strategic coastline, competitive labor pool, and increasingly sophisticated industrial real estate to cement its place as an emerging logistics powerhouse.

Ports remain the backbone of Vietnam's export-driven economy. In the north, the Lach Huyen deepwater seaport anchors trade for the Northern Economic Zone, while in the south, Cat Lai and Cai Mep-Thi Vai serve as critical gateways for the Southern Economic Zone, linking industrial provinces to global shipping lanes. The Vietnam Seaports Association reported that the country's ports handled more than 22 million TEUs in 2024, with steady growth forecast in the years ahead.

The value of this port network lies in its tight integration with major industrial and export zones, enabling cost-effective and efficient shipment of goods to global markets. Significant strides have been made to align port expansion with the development of supporting logistics and industrial infrastructure. Deepwater ports like Cai Mep-Thi Vai are now surrounded by logistics parks, bonded warehouses, and modern cold chain facilities that meet global standards.

The Prime Minister approved in 2025 the Can Gio international transshipment port project by Saigon Port and MSC's Terminal Investment Limited, with an investment of at least VND50 trillion (US$1.96 billion). Meanwhile, the Lien Chieu deep-sea port, set for completion in 2025, will redirect Da Nang's freight flows and enhance multi-modal connectivity across the Central Highlands, Laos, and Northeast Thailand.

However, progress is uneven. "In several secondary provinces, despite abundant and affordable industrial land, the quality and availability of supporting logistics infrastructure remain limited. Key challenges include insufficient Grade-A warehouse space, limited cold storage capacity, and a lack of multimodal links such as railways or inland waterways. Additionally, last-mile connectivity between seaports and manufacturing hubs still requires major investment, especially in the central and highland regions," Rooney explained.

and Int'l Trade

Shifting tenant preferences: proximity to ports, faster to market

As global manufacturers recalibrate operations, many are prioritizing proximity to deepwater ports and efficient logistics corridors in their site selection strategies. Vietnam is seeing this trend unfold vividly. Ho Chi Minh City is attracting large-scale tenants due to its direct access to Cai Mep's deepwater capacity and international shipping routes. In the north, Hai Phong and its surrounding areas are increasingly favored over inland Hanoi, thanks to improved port infrastructure and customs efficiency.

Emerging clusters like Quang Ninh, Thanh Hoa, and Da Nang are gaining recognition not only for cost advantages but also for their expanding logistics offerings. Investors are evaluating these provinces not just for land prices and labor but for their logistical connectivity to ports and cross-border corridors. This shift underscores a broader evolution: industrial development in Vietnam is no longer solely about land - it's about logistics readiness and trade facilitation.

"One of the most transformative developments in 2024-2025 has been the administrative reorganization, with several inland provinces merging with or integrating into neighboring coastal regions. This has enabled formerly landlocked industrial hubs to gain direct access to maritime trade infrastructure," Rooney noted. These mergers deliver tangible benefits: shorter supply chains, lower freight costs, and streamlined export processes. A factory once reliant on lengthy inland trucking routes can now connect swiftly to seaports, bonded logistics zones, or export terminals. This is expected to stimulate new industrial corridors, attract higher-quality FDI, and balance regional development across Vietnam, decentralizing growth from traditional hotspots and creating new investment destinations with credible access to global trade flows.

"Vietnam's industrial and logistics transformation is not happening in isolation; it is deeply linked to global shifts in trade, production, and consumption. As companies increasingly prioritize supply chain resilience, geopolitical neutrality, and proximity to fast-growing consumer markets, Vietnam is perfectly positioned to benefit," Rooney said. However, he warned, "This opportunity is not automatic. To seize its moment, Vietnam must ensure that its ports are not only efficient but also embedded within a seamless logistics ecosystem. It must also ensure that industrial parks are well-serviced, connected, and future-ready locations for global manufacturers."

To reinforce its role as a regional logistics and manufacturing hub, Vietnam must prioritize long-term investments and coordinated policy reforms. Key actions include integrated planning and infrastructure upgrades, expanding expressways, improving road networks, and investing in rail and inland waterways to better connect ports, industrial zones, warehouses, and border gates. Building a skilled logistics workforce and promoting digital transformation in smart warehousing, digital logistics, and electronic customs are equally critical. Streamlining land and licensing procedures will enhance the investment environment. Finally, sustainable development must take center stage, with green port models, clean energy adoption, and strict environmental standards to meet the rising ESG expectations of global investors and ensure long-term competitiveness in regional trade flows.

Vietnam's port network is more than infrastructure - it's a strategic asset redefining the industrial real estate landscape. By committing to logistics excellence and forward-thinking reforms, Vietnam is poised to solidify its position as a global manufacturing and trade powerhouse, driving balanced regional growth and capturing new investment opportunities.■

Driving Growth and Improving Climate Resilience

Vietnam's marine economy plays an important role in national prosperity, but it is increasingly threatened by climate change. The country's extensive coastline and reliance on fishing, aquaculture, and coastal tourism make it especially susceptible to rising sea levels, intensified storms, and ocean acidification.

QUYNH CHI

According to the World Bank's report on green growth, Vietnam's coastline is suffering erosion and saltwater intrusion, threatening habitats and critical infrastructure, and affecting the livelihoods of millions who depend on these sectors. Meanwhile, aquaculture and capture fisheries are increasingly exposed to rising sea temperatures and shifting ocean currents that disrupt marine ecosystems, leading to biodiversity loss and declining fish stocks. In addition, more frequent extreme weather events such as storms and heavy rains pose severe risks to coastal communities, seaports, and marine supply chains. These vulnerabilities are compounded by the economy's dependence on fragile ecosystems and the limited adaptive capacity of many coastal regions.

World Bank analysis shows that the marine economy has great potential to help Vietnam reduce climate risks. By harnessing its rich ocean and coastal resources, the country can foster sustainable growth while cutting greenhouse gas emissions. In particular, developing renewable energy sources such as offshore wind and wave power presents a major opportunity to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. The World Bank's 2021 report estimated Vietnam's offshore wind potential at around 475 GW; other studies suggest it could exceed 900 GW by tapping strong winds in the central, south-central, and some northern coastal regions.

(continued on P.31)

Speakers participate in discussions at the High-Level Industrial Production Forum

Vietnam Aims for Self-Reliant, Strong Industry

Amid the dynamic restructuring of global supply chains, Vietnam has a significant opportunity to strengthen its position on the international industrial map. A wide range of policies and directives from the Party and the State are being actively carried out with the aim of developing a self-reliant, modern industrial sector that can compete globally.

Under the theme "Building a Self-Reliant and Strong Vietnamese Industry," the High-Level Industrial Production Forum 2025 took place on September 12 to present and exchange national industrial policies and strategies; promote localization and strengthen the ability of Vietnamese enterprises to engage more deeply in global supply chains. The forum also aimed to connect the industrial business community, from small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to tier-1 suppliers of FDI corporations, while offering a platform for policy-business dialogue and fostering inspiration for cooperation and innovation.

At the forum, key issues on Vietnam's industrial production development were discussed from various perspectives. These included: vision and strategic orientation for building a self-reliant industry; strategies to foster innovation and technology transfer; solutions to enhance the competitiveness of Vietnamese industrial enterprises; measures to accelerate industrial growth and develop resilient supply chains; and ways to strengthen the participation of Vietnamese enterprises in global supply chains.

A panel discussion also took place with the participation of experts, representatives of associations, and businesses, focusing on enhancing localization capacity and technological self-reliance as solutions for Vietnamese enterprises to integrate into global value chains.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Nguyen Quan, former Minister of Science and Technology and Chairman of the Vietnam Automation Association, outlined Vietnam's industrial development orientations and objectives, while affirming the vital role of industrial production in achieving economic growth targets.

However, Vietnam's industrial production still lacks a sufficient number of large-scale enterprises and corporations, particularly in heavy industry and high-tech manufacturing. The supporting industry has not yet fully met practical needs; domestic enterprises remain primarily focused on service provision and have yet to become essential links in global production and supply chains. Reports indicate that over 6,000 supporting industry enterprises are currently operating, but they fulfill only around 10% of domestic demand for components and spare parts.

Therefore, selectively attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) and fostering stronger connections between FDI firms and local enterprises will be a decisive factor in enhancing Vietnam's supporting industry capacity.

The current context presents many favorable conditions for enterprises in general and industrial producers in particular to thrive, especially as the Party and State have issued key resolutions guiding the development of science and technology, unlocking legal frameworks, and emphasizing the growth of the private sector.

Quan also emphasized that the business community must seize opportunities promptly to achieve stronger growth. At forums and community events like this, enterprises should actively engage in exchanges to promote cooperation and investment, with the goal of enhancing production capacity instead of remaining at the level of service provision.

Sharing this view, Hoang Quang Phong, Vice President of the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI), highlighted the proactive role of enterprises in moving towards a strong industrial foundation.

From this forum, VCCI hoped enterprises will actively collaborate, align under common orientations, assign responsibilities, and form efficient production and supply chains. Participants should engage in deeper exchanges across the necessary dimensions to build a self-reliant and strong Vietnamese industry, enhance international competitiveness, and meet the country's economic development requirements.

Hoang Quang Phong also suggested that in the process of exchange and cooperation, enterprises should focus on concrete goals such as trade promotion, expanding investment networks, strengthening supply chain connectivity, increasing localization rates, and supporting technology innovation.

The business community must also proactively identify "bottlenecks" and propose specific solutions to address them, thereby unlocking resources for Vietnam's industrial production to continue growing vigorously and contributing positively to national economic development.

At the forum, representatives of several tier-1 vendors for FDI enterprises also shared experiences in accessing and gradually participating more deeply in global production and supply chains.■

Over 6,000 supporting industry enterprises are currently operating, yet they meet only about 10% of domestic demand for components and spare parts

HIGH-TECH TALENT

Key to Vietnam's High-Income, High-Tech Future

To succeed in moving to a higher position in the value chain, economies must develop a large-scale, highly skilled workforce capable of attracting investment and stimulate innovation. Vietnam has acknowledged this, as shown in recent policy directions that emphasize science, technology, and especially human resources for high-tech supporting industries, identifying them as crucial drivers of growth.

VinMotion robot on display at Vingroup's booth, Hanoi National Exhibition Center

LAN ANH

Multiple policies prioritizing innovation talent

The Government's new policies for 2023-2025 clearly reflect a strong political commitment to advancing into high-value industries and building a knowledge-based economy, with emphasis on talent development and innovation. In particular, Resolution No. 57-NQ-TW (2025) of the Politburo highlights science, technology, and innovation as engines of growth, calling for breakthroughs in labor quality and digital transformation. Resolution No. 193/QH15 (2025) of the National Assembly introduces pilot reforms in science, technology, and innovation policy, including new mechanisms for R&D investment and greater autonomy for research institutes. In addition, the Prime Minister has issued decisions on priority areas for 2024-2025, such as Decision No. 1018 on semiconductor development, Decision No. 1131 on 11 strategic technologies, Decision No. 374 on establishing a network of national training excellence centers, and Decision No. 1002 on high-tech workforce development.

Vietnam has set ambitious targets for high-tech development - from raising its position in the semiconductor value chain to becoming one of the top three ASEAN countries in artificial intelligence (AI) capacity, and developing the bioeconomy to account for 7% of GDP by 2045. To achieve these goals, Vietnam must make a leap in innovation capacity and strengthen its domestic high-tech talent base.

A recent World Bank report noted that talent is a decisive input in technology sectors, generating an innovation loop when combined with R&D investment. Vietnam has made significant progress in education and innovation, with a large STEM workforce (around 560,000 young professionals aged 22-35 holding university degrees as of 2023). This workforce is a critical starting point given that all high-tech industries require a large pool of talent.

In Vietnam's software and computer programming industry, a technology-intensive sector that encompasses almost all domestic semiconductor design firms, more than 80% of employees hold university degrees, and nearly 90% are hired for high-skilled roles such as engineers, scientists, or senior technicians. In high-tech manufacturing supporting industries, the pharmaceutical sector has a share of university-educated, highly skilled workers that is over four times higher than the average across all manufacturing industries.

Statistics show that Vietnam is among the world's top 50 in the Global Innovation Index, ranking 44th out of 133 economies in 2024 (up from 46th in 2023), placing it among the fastest climbers in innovation performance relative to income.

Shortage of core talent

For high-tech goals to be translated into concrete actions, the World Bank believed Vietnam needs to significantly expand its talent pool in many aspects. First, the scale of talent must be broadened, as Vietnam needs a large number of engineers and researchers across high-tech fields. Beyond the number of skilled workers, quality, depth, integration in training and research, and industrial work discipline also require improvement.

At the forefront of research, two key challenges remain: Vietnam does not yet have a university ranked among the world's top 200 in engineering or science, and it has not yet developed a strong, internationally recognized group of scientists and innovation experts in leading fields.

"At the core of this vicious cycle is the shortage of PhD-qualified faculty, which creates a barrier to training postgraduate students and high-level researchers. Chronic underinvestment in higher education, postgraduate training, and R&D has led to underfunded universities and underdeveloped private-sector R&D," the World Bank assessed. Moreover, weak university-enterprise linkages perpetuate outdated curricula, skill mismatches, and limited collaboration in R&D. A lack of infrastructure - such as advanced laboratories and prototype manufacturing facilities - further hinders the transition from laboratory to market, slowing commercialization of research products.

To address this, the World Bank proposed a strategy based on three mutually reinforcing pillars. The first is to expand and diversify the high-tech talent pool through a national postgraduate scholarship program for master's and PhD students, a global talent recruitment initiative, and an elite faculty program. The second is to build shared R&D and pilot infrastructure by creating a network of national centers of excellence, open-access technology platforms, and pilot innovation facilities to bridge the "lab-to-factory" gap. The third is to enhance university-enterprise-government linkages and amplify spillover effects through co-located technology clusters, talent mobility schemes, and co-funded collaborative R&D projects.

The World Bank affirmed that these measures could create a positive cycle of talent and innovation, build a skilled workforce and R&D output, and thereby contribute to Vietnam's transition into a high-income, high-tech economy.■

Vietnam prioritizes skilled workforce and high-tech supporting industries as key drivers of growth

Chairman of Phu Tho Provincial People's Committee Tran Duy Dong chairs the conference launching the investment promotion and business support documentary

PHU THO PROVINCE

Connectivity Hub, Regional Growth Driver

Phu Tho province's per capita GRDP has increased to 1.48 times the 2020 level, and state budget revenue for the 2020-2025 period is projected to reach nearly VND249 trillion - results that reflect the province's strong growth momentum after the merger. On this basis, Phu Tho is intensifying investment promotion, welcoming international capital inflows, and working to establish its brand as an appealing destination for both the region and the nation.

LE HIEN

Outstanding potential

According to the latest consolidated data, Phu Tho's economy has expanded strongly after the merger. In 2024, GRDP reached VND345.6 trillion, ranking 6th nationwide; it is forecast to rise to VND390 trillion in 2025, 1.56 times higher than in 2020. Per capita GRDP in 2025 is projected at VND105.2 million, 1.48 times the 2020 level. Over five years, total state budget revenue is expected to reach nearly VND249 trillion; in 2025 alone, revenue is estimated at about VND54 trillion, up VND8.63 trillion compared with 2020.

The long-term vision for Phu Tho province goes beyond administrative reorganization, with the goal of becoming a center of industry, services, logistics, and tourism not only for the Northern midlands and mountainous region but also for the entire country.

At the workshop "Identifying Potential and Development Orientation of Phu Tho Province after the Merger for the 2025-2030 Period", Tran Duy Dong, Chairman of the Provincial People's Committee, said that the province has set out eight groups of tasks and development orientations for socio-economic growth through 2030, including developing Phu Tho into one of the nation's major industrial centers in high-tech, electronics, automobiles, and motorbikes; establishing and expanding a high-tech industrial park to attract emerging, high value-added industries such as chips, semiconductors, and artificial intelligence, with the former Vinh Phuc area serving as the province's industrial hub; leveraging its role as a gateway between Hanoi and the

Director of the Investment Promotion and Enterprise Support Center Bui Hong Do delivers remarks at the event

Northwest and its proximity to Noi Bai International Airport to build Phu Tho into a regional hub for trade and logistics; positioning Phu Tho as a leading destination for eco-tourism, leisure, cultural-historical tourism, festivals, and sports with international branding and competitiveness; promoting agriculture along high-tech, organic, circular, and high-value directions linked with building a modern, civilized new countryside; and focusing on developing growth regions and economic corridors, strengthening regional linkages, and making effective use of development space.

Proposals in investment promotion and business support

At the conference, Bui Hong Do - Director of the Provincial Investment Promotion and Enterprise Support Center - reported to the Chairman of the Provincial People's Committee on upcoming activities and proposed solutions to implement investment promotion programs and business meetings.

Tran Duy Dong agreed with the proposal to organize a specialized investment promotion conference with Korean enterprises in Phu Tho; to hold a province-wide investment promotion conference and a business dialogue conference to resolve difficulties, promote production and business, and attract further investment. He also assigned the Investment Promotion and Enterprise Support Center, in coordination with the Office of the Provincial People's Committee, to develop a process for implementing promotion and enterprise support activities, continue improving the investment environment, and strive for double-digit GRDP growth in 2025 and the following years.

A central hub, breaking through to the future

At the conference, the Chairman of the Provincial People's Committee and leaders of departments and sectors provided input on the province's investment promotion documentary, expected to be titled "Phu Tho - A Central Hub, Breaking Through to the Future", with a duration of 6-7 minutes.

The film presents the province's competitive advantages in geography and scale: an area of more than 9,300 square kilometers, a population of over 4 million; connecting the Northwest with Hanoi, Noi Bai International Airport, and major seaports. This "diamond" advantage opens up major opportunities in transport, logistics, and investment attraction, making Phu Tho an unmissable destination on Vietnam's map. The film also highlights the province's multi-sector development orientation, the government's commitment to accompany enterprises, and visuals of industrial parks and clusters under development.

Delegates praised the professionalism of the consulting unit, while suggesting the film should focus more on aspects of interest to investors: natural and social conditions, labor, investment environment, and transport infrastructure; supplement data on development potential; and create lasting highlights for investors.

In his directive remarks, Tran Duy Dong stressed that the investment promotion film should reflect the investor's perspective, highlight breakthroughs in institutions, infrastructure, and human resources, and use vivid visuals, dynamic sound, and memorable data. The film will be produced in multiple languages, with narration by native speakers. Looking ahead, priority will be given to showcasing images of industrial production, services, tourism, alongside the commitments and presence of provincial leaders.■

Growth Pole of Northern Midlands and Mountainous Region

CNCTech breaks ground on Nam Binh Xuyen Green Park, Phu Tho Province, September 19, 2025

On July 1, 2025, the three provinces of Phu Tho, Vinh Phuc, and Hoa Binh officially merged, marking their appearance as a new entity on the national administrative map. More than a redrawing of boundaries, the new Phu Tho embodies a bold vision: to serve as a growth pole and driving force for the Northern Midlands and Mountainous Region, while also ushering in a new stage of development for the northern industrial real estate market, particularly in the strategic gateway area to Hanoi.

LE HIEN

Encouraging numbers

Before the merger, each province had distinct advantages but uneven levels of development. Vinh Phuc excelled in industry and construction, with a GRDP of more than VND173.14 trillion in 2024, ranking 13th nationwide; Phu Tho recorded VND107.3 trillion; and Hoa Binh reached VND72.18 trillion. GRDP per capita stood at VND141.3 million in Vinh Phuc, about VND70.7 million in Phu Tho, and nearly VND81 million in Hoa Binh. Although each province maintained relatively high growth rates of above 9 to 10%, they remained separate entities without the combined strength to create a significant regional breakthrough.

The merger has transformed the situation. In only two months, the new Phu Tho has shown that it is not a simple combination but a source of strong synergy. In the first six months, the province's GRDP reached VND186.4 trillion, rising 10.09% year-on-year and placing it among the six fastest-growing localities nationwide. Industry and construction made up 46.58% of GRDP with growth of 15.32%, services expanded 8.2%, and agriculture forestry and fisheries stayed stable. The economic structure is being reshaped toward industrialization and modernization, confirming the province's role as an industrial hub of the region.

Investment capital is flowing in strongly. In the first six months, the province attracted nearly US$469 million in foreign direct investment (FDI); by the end of July, this had risen to US$651.7 million, including 35 new projects and 45 expansion projects. Domestic direct investment (DDI) exceeded VND43 trillion, with Hoa Binh alone accounting for VND38.006 trillion.

Newly established enterprises nearly doubled, with 2,976 companies and total registered capital of more than VND26 trillion; nearly 1,000 businesses resumed operations. With over 4 million people and an area of more than 9,300 square kilometers, the domestic market has become a focal point for investment.

Not only industry, but trade and services are also booming. Total retail sales of goods and service revenue in the first six months surpassed VND94 trillion, up 14.47% year-on-year. Import-export turnover reached US$34.4 billion, up 21.7%. The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) jumped 25.73% in the first seven months - far exceeding the national average. These figures confirm new momentum, clearly different from the pre-merger period.

Investment orientation

Leaders of Phu Tho province emphasized that the long-term vision for the province is not simply administrative reorganization but the pursuit of becoming an industrial, service, logistics, and tourism hub for both the Northern Midlands and Mountainous Region and the entire country. The difference before and after July 1 is clear. In the past, investment promotion and tourism marketing efforts were fragmented and overlapped. Today, the new province is carrying out larger-scale and more coordinated programs. Key transport routes such as the Noi Bai-Lao Cai Expressway, the Hoa Lac-Hoa Binh Expressway, and the Vinh Yen-Viet Tri route now link the former provinces while also acting as vital lifelines for a unified development space.

Notably, the industrial zone system is expanding strongly to 58 zones covering more than 14,000 hectares, with an average occupancy rate of 44.3%. Across the province, there are 818 projects in industrial zones, including 507 FDI projects with total capital of over US$9.7 billion, creating jobs for nearly 210,000 workers. High-tech industries, electronics, and precision engineering are gradually becoming the province's hallmark.

The merger has also brought fresh vitality to culture and tourism. The heritage of the Hung Kings' ancestral land combines with the Muong identity of Hoa Binh and the modern industrial character of Vinh Phuc to create a dynamic mosaic. From the Hung Kings' Temple Festival, the Tay Thien spiritual tourism and the Mai Chau community tourism to resorts and high-tech parks, all elements are working together to shape a unified tourism product directed toward sustainable development.

However, the challenges are considerable. The new administration must balance regional interests, ensuring fairness through infrastructure, education, and workforce support in disadvantaged areas. Rapid industrialization also demands strict commitment to green, sustainable development.

Yet, with strong political will, many factors suggest Phu Tho is on the right track. Administrative reform is being accelerated, investment procedures streamlined, public investment disbursement is rising quickly, and the one-stop interlinked mechanism is becoming more effective. Investment promotion conferences are larger in scale, attracting interest from many domestic and foreign corporations. Public confidence is also reinforced as people witness tangible changes in socio-economic life.

Since July 1, the new Phu Tho has embarked on a new journey, where growth figures are not only achievements but also a promise of a brighter future. With an economic scale exceeding VND318 trillion, double-digit GRDP growth, dynamic investment flows, and thousands of new enterprises, the new Phu Tho has affirmed its role as a growth engine and a springboard for the Northern Midlands and Mountainous Region.■

Perspective of Nam Binh Xuyen Green Park

Accelerating Public Investment for Strategic Breakthrough

Recently, the disbursement of public investment capital in Phu Tho province has recorded many positive results. Up to now, the disbursement rate has reached over 46.7%, exceeding the national average.

HUONG HAU

Phu Tho is accelerating public investment capital disbursement

Determined to accelerate public investment disbursement

2025 is the final year of the medium-term public investment plan for the period 2021 to 2025, so Phu Tho province is determined to accelerate progress, aiming to be among the top 10 localities nationwide.

The total state budget capital plan for 2025 of Phu Tho is more than VND29,671 billion, of which the capital source allocated by the Prime Minister accounts for nearly VND18,691 billion. By the end of July 2025, the province had disbursed nearly VND13,864 billion, equal to 74.2% of the central capital plan and 46.7% of the total planned capital. According to preliminary statistics, the province has so far approved the final settlement of 255 projects with a total value of nearly VND8,850 billion. In addition, 40 other projects have submitted documents for review and 125 projects are in the process of completing procedures.

As the unit in charge of site clearance, compensation, support, and resettlement for 226 public investment projects (including two national key projects: the 500kV Lao Cai-Vinh Yen line and the Lao Cai-Hanoi-Hai Phong railway), the Phu Tho Provincial Land Fund Development Center has recently focused resources to ensure effective site clearance for construction units. Director of the Center Nguyen Quoc Tuan said: "Identifying site clearance as one of the key steps to accelerating the disbursement of public investment capital, the center has coordinated closely with communes and wards where the projects are implemented, proactively reviewing and completing documents, carrying out communication and mobilization, and ensuring the timely handover of cleared sites to construction units."

At the same time, mechanisms and policies are implemented transparently, consistently, and fairly; the processes of inventory, pricing, planning and public disclosure, approval, and payment of compensation, support, and resettlement funds are carried out in accordance with regulations, creating consensus and trust among the people.

Removing difficulties for public investment disbursement

However, in actual implementation, in some projects, there are still cases where people disagree with the compensation plan; compensation land prices are not close to market levels; support policies are inappropriate; and resettlement land funds are lacking, leading to delays.

According to the Phu Tho Regional Project Management Board, the construction progress of some projects remains slow due to many objective reasons, such as fluctuations in prices and supply of construction materials, rising costs of land, stone, and sand, limited material sources, and procedures for transferring land from projects with excess land often taking more than three months, causing delays and even preventing some projects from being implemented. In particular, in the medium-term public investment plan for the period 2026 to 2030, the demand for land filling is very large, and if not resolved, it will continue to create difficulties for the public investment sector.

Identifying 2025 as the "sprint" year, on August 8, the People's Committee of Phu Tho province issued Directive No. 6/CT-CTUBND on accelerating the disbursement of public investment capital. The goal is to disburse 100% of the capital allocated by the Central Government and more than 95% of the capital allocated by the province. To achieve this target, the province is focusing on synchronously implementing groups of solutions, strictly enforcing discipline and order in public investment, preventing outstanding debts in basic construction, and thoroughly handling overdue advances. In addition, the province has established special working groups headed by Vice Chairmen of the Provincial People's Committee to directly urge progress and resolve difficulties for each major project.

At a recent working session on public investment disbursement, Chairman of the Phu Tho Provincial People’s Committee Tran Duy Dong requested departments, agencies, units, and localities to strictly enforce bidding procedures and hold leaders accountable for disbursement results. He stressed that investors must treat progress and capital disbursement as key measures of their capacity and work efficiency.

Tran Duy Dong also emphasized that developing the medium-term public investment plan for 2026-2030 is a critical task, serving as a strategic breakthrough for socio-economic development over the next five years and acting as a driving force to achieve the province’s goal of double-digit economic growth.■

(from P.21)

Equally important is restoring mangrove forests, protecting seagrass beds, and safeguarding coral reefs, which are natural carbon sinks that absorb and store large amounts of CO_2. If implemented effectively, these strategies will help Vietnam's marine economy strengthen its resilience to climate change and make a significant contribution to global emission reduction efforts.

Marine economic activity currently contributes about 5.04%-5.83% of Vietnam's GDP. By 2030, the value of the marine economy is projected to triple compared with 2020 (in constant prices).

However, the development of marine industries continues to face conflicts of interest and competing uses. Overfishing, pollution, ocean acidification, and the impacts of climate change all pose threats to marine environments. Vietnam is currently ranked among the world's top five ocean polluters, with an estimated 0.28-0.73 million tons of plastic waste entering the sea each year.

Other challenges include resource degradation, climate risks, poor planning leading to uncontrolled infrastructure expansion, weak law enforcement, and lack of coordination across sectors and provinces. Nearly 12 million people in Vietnam's coastal regions face severe flood risks, while 35% of coastal settlements are located along eroding shorelines.

The government's vision for marine economic development is set out in Resolution 36-NQ/TW dated October 22, 2018. By 2030, Vietnam aims to make significant progress in six key marine sectors: marine tourism and services; maritime industries; offshore oil, gas and mineral exploitation; fisheries and aquaculture; coastal industries; and renewable energy, with these sectors together contributing about 10% of GDP.

To implement this plan effectively and ensure sustainable growth, the World Bank recommended that Vietnam foster greater cross-sectoral collaboration, engage non-state actors, and strengthen local governance capacity. Investment strategies must align with environmental priorities and include clear monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to drive sustainable, adaptive, and climate-resilient marine economic development.

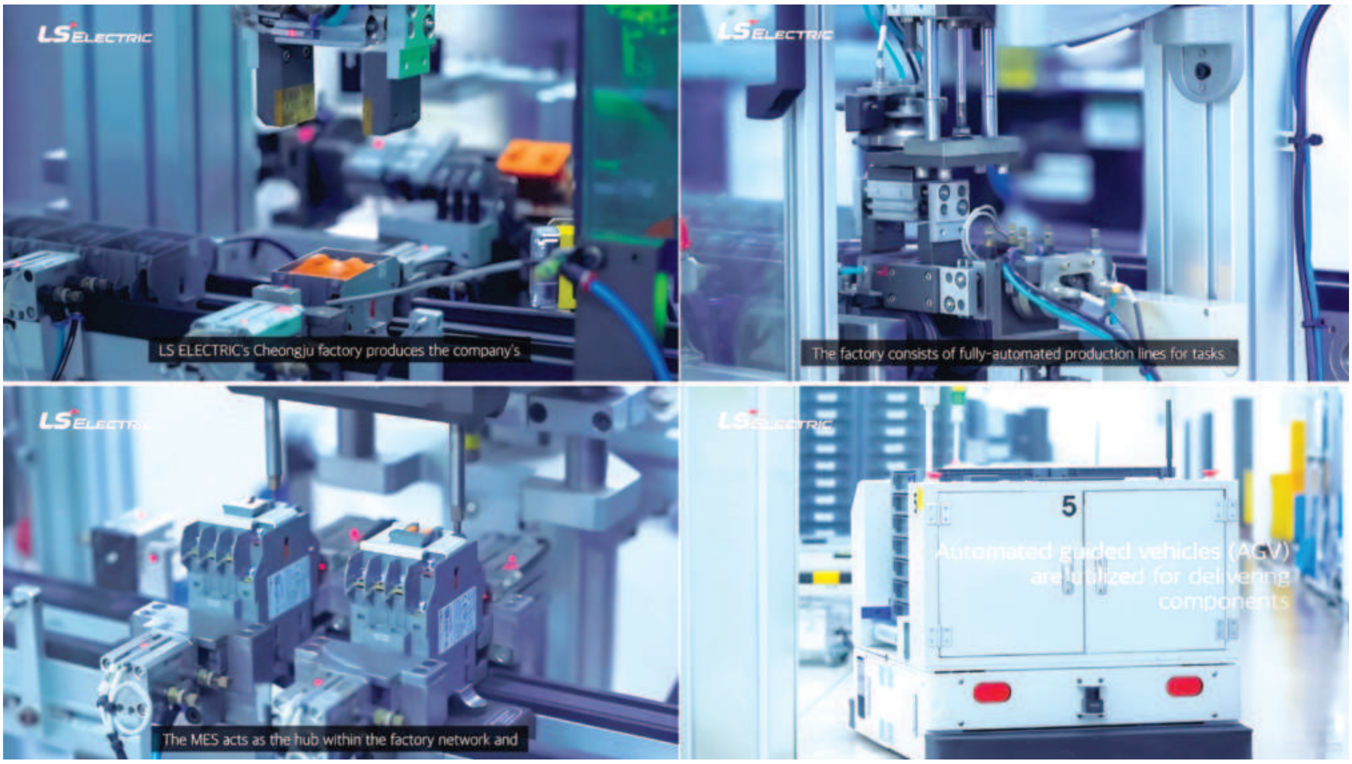
Over the next five years, Vietnam needs to establish a strong management foundation to support the marine economy. This includes strengthening data systems, particularly on marine resources and economic indicators, to monitor economic and ecosystem accounts accurately. Training programs and capacity-building materials should be developed for coastal governance, along with regional cooperation to share experience and best practices. Most importantly, national and local marine strategies must be closely aligned to avoid conflicts between sectors and between economic development goals and ecosystem conservation. Greater transparency in resource allocation is also needed through robust investment monitoring mechanisms.

"The key is to mobilize participation from non-state partners such as NGOs, research institutions, and businesses to work together in addressing marine challenges and advancing cooperation for a sustainable future," the World Bank stressed.

Vietnam must also ensure that investment planning reflects the realities of the climate crisis, including strengthening resilience of coastal infrastructure, particularly in the tourism sector, which is highly vulnerable to climate impacts.

The World Bank further emphasized the need for stronger inter-sectoral coordination and an enhanced role for the National Steering Committee in monitoring sectoral targets, ensuring coherence and consistency in development. This, it noted, is essential to maximize the value of marine resources, harness synergies, and minimize potential environmental risks.■

Vietnam's marine economy plays an important role in national prosperity but is increasingly threatened by climate change



LS ELECTRIC stands out with a customizable solution ecosystem for every enterprise

Smart Factory - Future of Manufacturing for Optimized Performance and Energy

In the era of digital transformation, the smart factory is emerging as a key driver of competitiveness and progress toward sustainable development. While automation was once regarded as the height of manufacturing innovation, smart factories advance further by fully integrating digital technologies, big data, artificial intelligence (AI), and the Internet of Things (IoT). This model not only streamlines processes but also enhances quality, conserves energy, and lowers costs for enterprises.

A leading example is LS ELECTRIC's Cheongju plant in South Korea, where the most advanced technologies have been implemented to build a fully intelligent manufacturing environment that serves as a benchmark for the global Industry 4.0 trend.

Comprehensive digital twin - the "heart" of the smart factory

A smart factory is understood as a modern production environment where advanced technologies operate in synchronization. IoT connects devices and sensors to collect real-time data; AI analyzes, predicts, and optimizes processes; digital twin creates a virtual replica of the entire plant; while big data and cloud computing process and store massive volumes of data to support fast and accurate decision-making.

At Cheongju, LS ELECTRIC has deployed a digital twin that simulates the entire factory in real time. Indicators such as line speed, equipment performance, energy consumption, and product quality are automatically collected through IoT and PLC systems, then integrated into IT platforms such as MES (Manufacturing Execution System), ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning), and QMS (Quality Management System) for monitoring and instant feedback. On a 3D screen, the digital replica accurately reflects the state of machinery, worker positions, material flows, and continuously updates KPI metrics.

Crucially, the system goes beyond visualization by connecting with AI models to automatically identify root causes of defects, analyze equipment utilization rates, and propose improvements, thereby increasing productivity and reducing risks. This is the heart that allows the smart factory to function like a living organism, continuously self-optimizing and evolving.

The LS ELECTRIC Cheongju plant incorporates numerous backbone technologies now defining "smart" factories: IoT-based automation for intelligent production lines; autonomous robots for inventory handling; real-time AI-based automated welding; and systems for monitoring vibration and noise through signal interference analysis.

Comprehensive solution ecosystem from LS ELECTRIC

What sets LS ELECTRIC apart is its development of a comprehensive and customizable solution ecosystem tailored to the needs of each enterprise, built on two main pillars of production management and energy management.

In production management, MES plays a central role by optimizing operations and standardizing processes to international benchmarks, SCM manages the entire supply chain from planning and procurement to inventory optimization, QMS provides full quality management ensuring traceability, compliance with global standards, and continuous improvement, SAM (Smart Asset Management) enables intelligent asset management predicting and preventing equipment failures, RMS (Recipe Management System) manages production formulas reducing deviations and improving precision, and digital warehouse management enhances inventory accuracy and optimizes logistics.

In energy management, LS ELECTRIC has developed FEMS (Factory Energy Management System) which monitors and optimizes energy use in real time while helping enterprises implement ESG strategies, MEMS (Manufacturing Energy Management System) integrates production and energy data to analyze consumption efficiency at every stage and recommends ways to save electricity and cut carbon emissions, allowing businesses to gain both economic benefits and meet strict sustainability requirements.

If IoT is considered the senses, then AI is the brain of the smart factory, and LS ELECTRIC applies AI across multiple critical stages including product quality inspection through machine vision, defect analysis and root cause identification, and automated process improvement proposals, with AMR robots integrated with AI coordinating intelligent material handling to shorten delivery times and accelerate production lines.

From vision to sustainable manufacturing practices

To demonstrate its capabilities, LS ELECTRIC has produced a series of videos documenting its smart factory journey since 2016, featuring 24/7 monitoring with digital twin, real-time dispatching optimization, and AI-driven quality inspection and defect analysis. This reflects a clear roadmap: from IT infrastructure development and real-time data collection, to building autonomous factories and advancing toward a global production model.

The smart factory is no longer just a technology trend but a practical solution to the challenges of competitiveness and sustainability. The integration of AI, IoT, big data, and real-time management has created a "zero-defect" production environment that saves energy, reduces costs, and improves product quality.

At the Yen Phong Industrial Park in Vietnam, LS ELECTRIC has introduced the country's first intelligent energy management system, integrating rooftop solar panels and energy storage solutions. This smart system coordinates control across grid electricity, solar power, battery storage, and automated lighting to achieve optimal efficiency.

With its strategic vision, LS ELECTRIC is strengthening its pioneering role in smart manufacturing. The company has achieved success in South Korea and is extending the model to other markets, including Vietnam, where digital transformation and competitiveness are urgent priorities.

In the future, the smart factory will not merely be a tool for improving efficiency but will become a foundation for Vietnamese enterprises to achieve sustainable growth, comply with stringent global standards, and contribute significantly to carbon reduction and environmental protection.■

LS ELECTRIC plant in Yen Phong Industrial Park

Binh Minh Plastics Honored by Forbes Vietnam for 12th Year of Sustainable Growth

Binh Minh Plastics engages in many activities for both the environment and the community

Binh Minh Plastics Joint Stock Company (HOSE: BMP), a member of SCG - one of ASEAN's leading conglomerates - has once again secured a place in Forbes Vietnam's Top 50 Listed Companies for 2025. This marks the 12th consecutive year the company has received this honor, reaffirming its leadership in Vietnam's plastic pipe industry and underscoring its strong capacity for sustainable growth and outstanding business performance.

VAN LUONG

"Being recognized in Forbes Vietnam's Top 50 listed companies is a tremendous honor for us. This achievement reflects Binh Minh Plastics' continuous efforts in pursuing sustainable development, with product quality as the foundation. With positive revenue and profit in 2025, we are committed to developing innovative, high-quality, and environmentally friendly products that create long-term value for our customers, shareholders, and the community," said Mr. Niwat Athiwattananont, General Director of Binh Minh Plastics.

The Forbes Vietnam Top 50 list is compiled using both quantitative and qualitative criteria. Quantitative indicators include profitability, a minimum revenue threshold of VND500 billion, return on equity (ROE), return on invested capital (ROIC), earnings per share (EPS) growth, and audited financial statements. On the qualitative side, the assessment takes into account the sustainability of the business model, market position, corporate governance standards, and long-term growth potential.

With 3,000 meters of installed water pipes, Binh Minh Plastics and SCG's Water Supply Project has improved the lives of more than 240 households in Ga Lee village

In 2025, aligned with the Inclusive Green Growth strategy, Binh Minh Plastics Joint Stock Company achieved remarkable milestones. In the second quarter of 2025, the company recorded revenue of more than VND1.308 trillion, up 13% year-on-year. The cost of goods sold increased at a slower pace, allowing gross profit to reach VND610.8 billion, a 21% rise. Gross margin stood at 46.7%, the highest since 2018. Consequently, net profit after tax rose to nearly VND 330 billion, up 18% year-on-year, marking the highest level in the company's 48-year history.

For the first half of 2025, revenue reached over VND2.691 trillion with nearly VND617 billion in net profit, fulfilling half of the year's revenue plan and more than 58% of the profit target. If this momentum continues, Binh Minh Plastics is poised to deliver the highest profit in its history. Financial income also rose nearly 50% to over VND25 billion, driven largely by deposit interest as the company increased its bank deposits to VND2.297 trillion from VND1.914 trillion at the start of the year.

The strong financial performance enables Binh Minh Plastics to maintain an attractive dividend policy. This year, the company plans to allocate at least 50% of net profit for dividend payouts. In 2024, it paid out up to 99% of profits (over VND981 billion) as cash dividends, equivalent to VND11,990 per share.

Beyond financial success, Binh Minh Plastics continues to affirm its pioneering role in innovation and sustainability. The company continuously diversifies its portfolio of eco-friendly products to meet the growing demand for green construction and sustainable urban development in Vietnam. Notably, Binh Minh Plastics is the first enterprise in Vietnam's plastics and building materials industry to achieve the highest level of the Singapore Green Building Product (SGBP) certification - 'Leader' - for its product lines of PVC-U, PP-R, and HDPE pipes and fittings for drinking water, as well as corrugated PE pipes for wastewater. This marks a significant milestone in the company's sustainable development journey.

With this recognition from Forbes Vietnam, Binh Minh Plastics further strengthens its leadership position in the plastic pipe industry. Looking ahead, the company will focus on driving sustainable growth through innovation, green product development, and operational excellence - delivering greater value to shareholders while contributing to Vietnam's sustainable development.■

By diversifying its product portfolio, Binh Minh Plastics meets the demand for green construction in the Vietnamese market

Aligning with the inclusive green growth strategy, Binh Minh Plastics advances effective and sustainable business practices

Hanoi Bolstering Craft Village Development via Linkage Models

Week of introduction of OCOP and craft village products 2025

Identifying linkage as the foundation of sustainable development, Hanoi has introduced a range of policies to foster craft village growth by renewing production organization models. One main focus is supporting craft villages in creating and promoting collective brands, ensuring product traceability, and strengthening brand storytelling.

DO NGOC

At the same time, the city is increasing investment in infrastructure for craft village industrial clusters, establishing concentrated production spaces, and ensuring environmental and occupational safety standards. Hanoi also encourages craft villages to join the One Commune One Product (OCOP) program, enabling handicraft products to reach three-star standards or higher and qualify for supermarkets, trade centers, and export markets.

Currently, many skilled artisans in traditional craft villages, instead of producing individually, are joining groups or cooperatives to share premises, machinery, designs, input materials, and product output. “Previously, I only handled small orders for the domestic market. Now, by cooperating with four other workshops, we have formed a linkage group, jointly invested in advanced technology, and hired a sales unit to manage e-commerce platforms. From only serving retail customers, our products are now available in furniture store chains in major cities,” said a representative of a fine wood workshop in a suburban district.

Hanoi actively implements support programs for craft village development

Well-known villages such as Bat Trang Pottery, Van Phuc Silk, and Phu Vinh Bamboo and Rattan are also leading the way in building linkage models with cooperatives, tourism enterprises, and vocational schools. This has created a “linkage circle” between production, trade, training, and cultural preservation, giving strong momentum to craft village products.

A representative of the Hanoi Department of Industry and

Trade said that the city is actively implementing support programs for craft villages, from technology application and product design to trade promotion and labor training. The establishment of linkage clusters between craft villages, enterprises, and research-training institutions is seen as essential for modern, efficient, and sustainable development. Many localities have also proposed development and preservation plans, with craft tourism being strongly promoted.

One effective model currently being implemented is the integration of craft villages with experiential tourism. Experts highlighted this as having significant potential to increase local incomes while promoting products and preserving traditional cultural values.

Typical examples include Bat Trang Pottery and Van Phuc Silk, where cooperatives partner with tourism enterprises and training institutions to form linkage circles. As a result, products that were once limited to retail sales now reach nationwide markets and are expanding globally.

In its orientation to 2030, Hanoi has set the goal of developing craft villages within a green and circular economy framework. This requires adopting clean technology, ensuring sustainable environmental treatment, and building closed value chains.

According to the director of a ceramic company, sustainable development depends on long-term policies to support finance and technology transfer for craft villages, especially production models tied to cultural preservation. Enterprises are ready to invest in modern production lines if stable land lease policies and interest rate support are provided.

Many craft villages have already started adopting green design trends, using recycled materials, and focusing on small, customized, high-quality production instead of mass output. Hanoi is also implementing programs to support production, trade promotion, and product consumption, gradually raising the value of craft village products. These efforts encourage artisans and skilled workers to create products of high quality and craftsmanship that meet domestic and international demand.

Experts emphasize that developing craft villages through linkage models is not only an economic solution but also a driver of new rural development. When craft villages grow sustainably, they create local jobs, provide stable incomes, reduce migration pressures, and help preserve traditional cultural spaces.■

OCOP products from Bao Minh Confectionery JSC are showcased at a trade event

Efforts to Expand 5-Star OCOP Products

Hanoi leads the country in the number of One Commune One Product (OCOP) items and is striving to develop 5-star OCOP products through activities such as supporting market connections, organizing trade promotion, applying technology, and promoting experiential tourism. The city aims to add more 5-star products in 2025 while further improving the quality, design, and cultural value of OCOP products.

BAO NGOC

However, the greater goal that the city is persistently pursuing is to support stakeholders in upgrading and perfecting quality, design, and production processes to have more products meet 5-star standards - the highest level in the ranking system - thereby expanding export opportunities.

According to the Hanoi Coordination Office of the New Rural Development Program, the city currently has 3,317 OCOP products evaluated, making up 21.3% of the national total. Among them, 6 products have reached the 5-star ranking - the highest level, 1,571 products have been rated 4-star, and 1,718 products 3-star.

Bao Minh Confectionery JSC is a company with more than 20 OCOP products certified by Hanoi, including 6 products rated 4-star with 5-star potential. General Director Ngo Thi Tinh said that from a small family-run production base, Bao Minh has now developed two modern factories with dozens of signature product lines, such as banh pia, banh com, banh cha, mooncakes, and various traditional jams and candies. Participation in the OCOP Program affirms quality and represents the company's commitment to building products with regional identity, yet meeting modern standards suitable for both domestic and international markets.

Producing vegetable-based straws for export at Song Hong Agricultural Cooperative

Meanwhile, from familiar vegetables and fruits, the Song Hong Agricultural Service Cooperative (Thien Loc commune) has produced drinking straws recognized by the Hanoi People's Committee as a potential 5-star OCOP product.

Director of Song Hong Agricultural Service Cooperative Le Van Tam explained that vegetables such as carrots, sweet potatoes, radishes, and leafy greens in green, yellow, and purple colors are combined with ground rice flour to create edible straws free of heavy metals, pesticides, or growth stimulants. This is a practical product, safe for consumers, and a solution to replace plastic straws, thereby addressing the widespread problem of single-use plastic waste in Vietnam.

According to Ngo Van Ngon, Deputy Chief of the Hanoi Coordination Office of the New Rural Development Program, among Hanoi's OCOP products, those of Bao Minh Confectionery JSC and Song Hong Agricultural Service Cooperative are not only available in nationwide distribution systems but also present in many export markets, helping to elevate Hanoi's OCOP brand internationally. The development of OCOP products also brings significant economic benefits to households, cooperatives, and enterprises, while creating many jobs for workers.

However, with a population of about 12 million, local supply only meets 35-45% of food consumption demand, with the rest sourced from other provinces and abroad. Therefore, Hanoi has strengthened production-consumption linkages with 43 provinces and cities nationwide, forming more than 1,500 safe agricultural and food supply chains and 172 production-consumption linkages within the city. According to Ngon, the development of 5-star OCOP products still faces challenges, especially regarding export criteria. Enterprises capable of meeting export standards often cannot produce sufficient volumes for both domestic and international markets. Thus, the city has requested the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment and other relevant ministries to support evaluation and ranking of 5-star products tied to local advantages, while strengthening trade promotion and supply-demand connections.

According to the Hanoi Department of Agriculture and Environment, from now until the end of 2025, the department will continue advising the city to evaluate and select exemplary products for national-level assessment (5-star OCOP). From the best OCOP products, Hanoi will create a collection of signature products of the capital to support trade promotion and external affairs.

Hanoi has also regularly maintained OCOP product weeks and fairs at wards and communes. This model not only helps boost local sales but also creates a ripple effect, helping OCOP products gradually secure a solid position in the market. According to Ngon, when OCOP stakeholders are effectively connected to trade, they gain motivation to improve quality, innovate designs, and apply technology in processing and preservation to meet stricter standards. This not only brings products closer to the 5-star standard but also lays the foundation for export.

To achieve sustainable development goals, Hanoi continues to invest in commercial infrastructure, support communication, and build branding for OCOP products, while expanding modern distribution channels such as e-commerce platforms, supermarket chains, and convenience stores. Trade promotion at domestic and international fairs will also be emphasized to expand export markets, bringing Hanoi's OCOP products to the global stage. At the same time, Hanoi focuses on applying science and technology and encourages production under VietGAP, GlobalGAP, and organic standards. This is the foundation to ensure food safety and meet the strict requirements of international markets.

With government support and orientation, along with the creativity and effort of stakeholders, Hanoi expects to have more OCOP products achieving 5-star standards, becoming the pride of the capital's agriculture and craft villages, and contributing to the further development of rural economy.■

Hanoi Targets Greener and More Beautiful Rural Areas

In its effort to build new rural areas, alongside focusing on economic development and improving people's livelihoods, Hanoi also emphasizes implementing Criterion No. 17 on the environment, which aims to create a rural landscape that is bright, green, clean, and beautiful. Across all communes and wards of Hanoi, thousands of residents have participated in cleaning efforts from alleyways to fields. These seemingly small actions are playing an important role in developing advanced and model new rural areas.

DINH BAO

Young union members step up efforts in environmental sanitation and urban beautification

Preserving rural landscapes through community strength

In early August 2025, Duong Hoa commune launched a general environmental sanitation campaign with the goal of spreading the message of building the commune and the capital city as "bright, green, clean, and beautiful." According to Nguyen Trong Tan, Vice Chairman of the People's Committee of Duong Hoa Commune, environmental sanitation, urban beautification, and building a civilized urban lifestyle have been given special attention by the commune's Party Committee and authorities, with many practical solutions implemented. As a result, residential roads and public works have become cleaner, greener, and more pleasant; public awareness of environmental protection has gradually improved. However, there are still cases of waste being dumped improperly, and a segment of officials and residents remain insufficiently conscious of environmental protection.

Not only Duong Hoa, but Son Tay Ward has also carried out a comprehensive environmental sanitation campaign to maintain urban and public order while implementing the Farmers' Tree Rows project. The program involved officials, members of the Veterans' Association, Women's Union, Youth Union, and residents from villages and residential groups throughout Son Tay Ward. Participants cleaned pedestrian streets, the areas inside and outside Son Tay Ancient Citadel, pruned and planted trees, tended flower gardens, cultural houses, public areas, and self-managed streets, maintained order on main streets, removed waste, and cleared waterways, rivers, canals, and ditches in the locality.

Phan Thi Thu Hien, Vice Chairwoman of the Fatherland Front Committee of Son Tay Ward and Chairwoman of the Son Tay Farmers' Association, stated that the "Farmers' Tree Rows" project is an exemplary model for building modern, environmentally friendly new rural areas and highlights the determination of Son Tay's farmers to actively participate in rural development.

Meanwhile, in Xuan Mai commune, more than 300 officials, youth union members, association members, and thousands of residents from 36 residential areas simultaneously participated in weekend sanitation drives. Groups cleared weeds, collected garbage, dredged ditches, and removed illegal advertisements. Nguyen Thi Hop, 73, from Tri Thuy Village, Xuan Mai Commune, happily shared: "I'm old now, but I still try to clean the alley in front of my house. When it rains, there's no garbage buildup or bad smell, and that makes me feel secure." Beyond cleaning villages and alleyways, Xuan Mai has also promoted collecting pesticide packaging in fields and guided farmers to use biological products for treating agricultural waste, providing essential measures to protect the environment and public health.

Toward greener, cleaner, more beautiful countryside

The highlight of recent environmental sanitation activities has been the proactive, voluntary, and responsible spirit of residents. Le Van Thu, Chairman of the People's Committee of Phuc Loc Commune, affirmed: "The sanitation campaign is not only to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the August Revolution and National Day (September 2), and the Party congresses at all levels, but also a way for each resident to demonstrate responsibility and love for their homeland." With methodical and synchronized implementation, the commune's Party Committee and authorities will continue to maintain the sanitation movement every Saturday morning, turning voluntary action into a sustainable cultural habit.

In Phu Nghia Commune, self-managed environmental teams have been tasked with maintaining the "Green Sundays" activity, associated with the "Bright, Green, Clean, Beautiful, and Safe Alley" movement. The Women's Union, Farmers' Association, and Youth Union have taken charge of self-managed roads, installed vivid propaganda panels, and promoted awareness. Nguyen Dinh Sy, Chairman of the People's Committee of Phu Nghia Commune, emphasized that this movement has a starting point but no ending point. It is a shared responsibility that must become a daily habit of every resident.

In Xuan Mai, local authorities have established monitoring and evaluation mechanisms at each residential group. Community Zalo groups and loudspeaker systems have been maximized to deliver reminders and spread messages. Many households, without waiting for government directives, have divided tasks, bought tools, and cleaned village roads and alleys together. These actions vividly reflect the spirit of "protecting the common environment is protecting our own families."

Alongside landscape cleaning, localities have also paid attention to raising public awareness through environmental communication programs, Party cell activities, and community organizations. Commune police, militias, and grassroots security teams have strengthened patrols and strictly handled violations such as sidewalk encroachment and littering, ensuring urban order and environmental sanitation.

According to Nguyen Xuan Dai, Director of the Hanoi Department of Agriculture and Environment, thanks to the active participation of the community, Hanoi is gradually building new rural areas that not only meet infrastructure standards but also achieve the goal of being bright, green, clean, and beautiful in landscape, and civilized in lifestyle. This strength does not come from administrative orders but from the unity and shared determination of every resident in the villages.■

HANOI CRAFT VILLAGES

Preserving Tradition,

Hanoi currently has 1,350 craft villages and trade villages, of which 337 traditional crafts have been officially recognized. These craft villages have played a significant role in increasing incomes and creating employment opportunities for thousands of workers. The development of craft villages not only helps preserve traditional identity but also acts as a driving force for building new rural areas. Each year, these craft villages generate revenues exceeding VND24 trillion, with the average worker earning more than VND7 million per month.

DINH BAO

Preserving culture and supporting livelihoods

Bat Trang is one of Vietnam's most renowned ceramic craft villages. According to Pham Minh Khoi, Chairman of the People's Committee of Bat Trang Commune, Hanoi, the commune's main source of income is ceramic production and trade, with an annual value exceeding VND2 trillion. Each day, 3,000 to 5,000 workers from other areas come to work in Bat Trang. The average per capita income reaches nearly VND90 million per year, above the national average for craft villages. Factory workers earn between VND11-15 million per month, while artisans with over 20 years of experience earn starting from VND50 million per month.

Tran Duc Tan, Chairman of the Board and Director of Tan Thinh

Many students and young visitors are interested in Chuong Village conical hats

Driving Growth

A visitor explores the ancient Lo Bau kiln site in Bat Trang commune

Warehouse at Hoang Minh pottery workshop

Ceramic Production and Trading Cooperative, confirmed that factory workers earn between VND11-15 million per month, while artisans with over 20 years of experience can earn more than VND50 million monthly. Craft villages, where inherent potential, trade secrets, and unique products come together, are critical to business success. They need greater support and favorable conditions to develop into thriving enterprises. Beyond increasing incomes, traditional craft villages also focus on promoting their products to highlight their value. At Hong Son embroidery village in Hanoi, efforts to promote traditional silk weaving have expanded both domestically and internationally. Artisan Phan Thi Thuan shared: "What I value most is not only creating beautiful silk fabrics but also preserving the soul of my homeland's weaving craft, so younger generations can have jobs here. When people have stable incomes from the craft, the village will truly be sustainable, and rural life will flourish and become happier."

Born into a family with four generations of weavers and with a passion for silk raising and weaving, artisan Thuan has created unique fabrics. Her creativity has not only left a distinctive mark on Phung Xa silk but also contributed to bringing Vietnamese silk to demanding global markets.

As a result, many local workers have gained stable employment, and incomes have gradually improved. Thuan's success has strongly inspired local people to continue pursuing their traditional craft. Not only a repository of traditional cultural essence, Hanoi's long-standing craft villages such as Bat Trang ceramics, Phung Xa silk, Van Phuc silk, Kieu Ky gold-leaf craft, Phu Vinh bamboo and rattan weaving, or Ha Thai lacquerware have also found ways to capitalize on strengths, becoming attractive shopping and experiential destinations for domestic and foreign tourists thanks to the creativity and skillful hands of artisans.

Developing craft villages

According to the Hanoi Coordination Office of the New Rural Development Program, in recent years, many proposals for preserving and developing craft villages have been submitted. Local Party Committees and authorities also regard this as the path for the capital's craft villages to maximize their potential and affirm their brands in both domestic and international markets. Therefore, in all economic and social development strategies, Hanoi attaches great importance to craft village development. The city defines craft village economy not only as an economic task but also as a responsibility to preserve traditional cultural values and a driving force in building new rural areas.

From practical experience, Hanoi has compiled a list of 175 traditional craft heritages that need preservation. Among them, 8 traditional crafts have been included in the list of National Intangible Cultural Heritage, while 20 others are on Hanoi's priority preservation list until 2025. The city has also recognized 7 tourism destinations linked with craft villages.

The success of traditional craft villages forms an important foundation for Hanoi to continue affirming its position as the country's largest craft village hub while realizing its goal of building new rural areas. In the coming time, the city will continue to support artisans, skilled workers, and economic actors, making craft villages not only places to preserve cultural essence but also engines of sustainable economic development, contributing to building a wealthier, more civilized, and modern capital.

Hanoi will develop craft villages by linking crafts with tourism and education to restore, preserve, and create multi-dimensional value. Polluting villages will be relocated to industrial zones to allow expansion while meeting environmental standards, alongside continued implementation of central and local policies.

As part of the craft village economy development strategy, which aims to build strong internal resources for new rural development, Hanoi targets that by the end of 2025 at least two more of its craft villages will join the "World Creative Craft Cities" network. To achieve this goal, Hanoi will strengthen trade promotion both domestically and internationally, regularly organizing contests, fairs, and festivals for craft products, and participating in national and international events to introduce and promote handicrafts and craft villages to consumers at home and abroad.■

Developing Traditional Craft Villages through E-Commerce and Tourism

In Phuong Duc Commune, craft village residents are applying science and technology, embracing digital transformation to enhance cultural value and boost business profits. Each week, Phuong Duc regularly organizes livestream sales training sessions for craft households, with the support of well-known by KOCs, KODs, and CEOs.

BAO DAN

Phuong Duc commune helps craft village producers shift from traditional trade to e-commerce

Authorities supporting residents

Through digital channels, particularly social media platforms such as Facebook, TikTok, Zalo, and e-commerce sites like Shopee, Lazada, and Sendo, producers and buyers can now connect more easily. “In the past, villagers producing incense, bamboo, and rattan products often sold only locally, transported goods to other provinces, or exported to a few countries. However, with the development of e-commerce, households have proactively built online pages, linked with digital platforms and e-commerce sites to promote and sell products. As a result, my family’s income has increased, and sales are much higher than before,” said Dinh Thi Tuyen, Head of Thuong Village.

On a sweltering summer noon, Tuyen started her livestream sales session. The light from the camera reflected off her sweat-dampened face, yet the steady stream of orders kept her energized. Unlike usual, she chose the midday time slot instead of the evening, offering attractive promotions for buyers. Her flexible and humorous presentation style made viewers feel close and familiar. Few would have guessed that just six months earlier, Tuyen had been hesitant and confused during her first livestream, unsure where to start or what to say. “We’ve only been selling online for about five to six months. At first, many people were doubtful, asking whether the incense was genuine and how much it cost, so orders mainly came from neighbors. But now we have customers from far away. We just confirm orders, pack, and ship directly, which is very convenient,” Tuyen confidently shared, her eyes lighting up with excitement.

That confidence comes from weekly digital training in the commune, where villagers learn to sell online, create videos, and even use AI tools to promote traditional products in new ways.

Not only the younger generation but even those with decades of experience are eager to learn. Nguyen Thi Luong, nearly 60, Director of Hien Luong Export Bamboo and Rattan Company, shared: “In over 30 years in this

Children and visitors show keen interest in local products

trade, I never imagined that one day I would be in front of a camera, holding a phone to livestream sales. At first, I was shy and less skilled than the youth. But after learning, practicing, and enjoying the process, I kept improving. Now I am much more confident. From filming and photographing products to editing videos and posting on social media, I can do it all myself."

Beyond reaching domestic buyers, many Phuong Duc craft products now have opportunities for export thanks to e-commerce. Videos showcasing handicrafts, traditional sweets, garments, or mechanical items have brought the craft village brand closer to international customers.

What makes Phuong Duc special is the close involvement of local authorities. Village heads readily join livestreams with residents; the commune secretary even serves as an admin of online sales groups to support and connect people. This closeness and solidarity have made digital transformation no longer something distant but a part of daily life. People feel supported and encouraged to boldly change and master technology.

A driving force for the craft village economy

Digital transformation in Phuong Duc has become a new economic driver, helping traditional crafts reach global markets while preserving their essence. From leaders to residents, the commune is united in building a new chapter of growth in the digital age.

According to Nguyen Trong Vinh, Chairman of the People's Committee of Phuong Duc Commune, training goes beyond basic classes and is gradually expanded into advanced programs tailored to real needs. "We combine foundational training with advanced courses. When residents practice effectively, achieve stable sales, and demonstrate results, the commune provides deeper training - covering image building, scriptwriting, and even using data analysis tools to optimize sales," he explained. This tiered approach ensures residents not only know how to livestream or post products but also can create appealing content and build long-term branding. This step is essential for traditional products to sell domestically and expand into international markets. Phuong Duc's goal is for every resident to become a "digital ambassador" of local products, helping the craft village reach farther while preserving its identity.

As one of the commune's pioneering leaders in this effort, Le Van Binh, Secretary of the Phuong Duc Commune Party Committee, emphasized that the goal is not merely to help residents learn how to livestream and sell online but to gradually build the commune into a model of digital transformation in new rural development. "We orient digital transformation to go hand in hand with sustainable development. People must not only produce goods but also know how to preserve the cultural values of their craft villages, contributing to building modern, civilized new rural areas rich in identity," Binh stressed.■

Safeguarding Culture While Developing New Rural Areas

"Suoi Hai Girl" used to symbolize perseverance and hard work and now continues to inspire the community on its journey toward the future. Suoi Hai, the new name for the old land, is gradually shaping the image of a model new rural area at the western gateway of Hanoi.

NGOC DAN

Cultural preservation must go hand in hand with improving people's livelihoods and well-being

Suoi Hai commune was established by merging the entire areas and populations of Tan Linh and Ba Trai communes, along with parts of Cam Linh and Thuy An communes (former Ba Vi district). Nearly 20% of the population are ethnic minorities, mainly Muong people, living in 11 of 24 villages with a total of 6,808 residents. They are an integral part of the community and play a key role in preserving and promoting their traditional cultural values.

While aiming to become a civilized and modern model new rural area, Suoi Hai commune is also committed to safeguarding its unique cultural heritage and building a green, clean, and sustainable community. Its vast tea hills, clean agricultural products, traditional craft villages, and beautiful natural landscapes provide a strong foundation for developing eco-tourism and sustainable agriculture.

Building a new homeland

Gongs have long been a source of pride for the Muong people in Suoi Hai. For them, gongs are not only musical instruments but also the echoes of mountains and forests, the heartbeat of the community, and intergenerational memories deeply tied to the village. The commune currently has 14 gong teams operating regularly; some receive funding support for instruments, while others are maintained through voluntary community contributions. This clearly demonstrates the love and sense of responsibility in preserving and promoting traditional cultural identity.

Whenever a festival or major community event takes place, the sound of gongs resonates, serving as a bridge between past and present and nurturing pride and love for the homeland. A notable example is the gong team of Bat Dam Village, which has maintained regular activities for many years, actively participating in exchanges and performances both locally and beyond, helping to promote the image and cultural values of the Muong people to a wider audience. According to Ms. Bui Thi Minh Thu, leader of the Bat Dam gong team, there was a time when gongs were at risk of being lost. However, driven by responsibility and love for their ancestral culture, the members preserved them unanimously. "The sound of gongs is the soul and pride of the village," Ms. Thu affirmed. It is this passion that has made the Bat Dam team a shining example in Suoi Hai commune's cultural preservation movement.

The Bat Dam gong team has become a model of cultural preservation in Suoi Hai, with members of all ages practicing regularly and performing at festivals and exchanges across provinces. Supported by local authorities, initiatives such as gong classes, festival restoration, and folk arts linked with tourism are helping Muong culture thrive, creating a bridge between generations and keeping the heritage alive.

Not only the youth, but many elders also actively participate in preserving culture. For instance, Mrs. Hoang Thi Hue from Duc Thinh Village, over 70 years old, still regularly joins the gong team. Her greatest joy is practicing and performing with her children and grandchildren, ensuring the gong sounds never fade from community life.

The shared aspiration of the Muong people in Suoi Hai is to keep the gongs' echoes alive, so their ancestors' heritage continues to shine today and is fully passed on to future generations.

Developing tourism linked with promoting cultural identity

Suoi Hai is a land blessed by nature, featuring many renowned scenic spots and historical-cultural sites such as Ao Vua, Suoi Hai Lake, Thuong Temple, and Ba Vi National Park. These provide strong potential for developing eco-tourism, spiritual tourism, and community-based tourism while preserving and promoting the Muong ethnic group's cultural identity.

When visiting Suoi Hai, visitors not only admire the beautiful landscapes and explore the value of historical relics, but also have the chance to immerse themselves in the unique Muong cultural space - from the sound of gongs echoing through the mountains and forests, the simple stilt houses, and the rich meals of rice wine and fragrant sticky rice, to the rustic warmth and hospitality of the local people. Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong Le, Vice Chairman of the Fatherland Front Committee of Suoi Hai commune, emphasized: "Cultural preservation is only sustainable when linked with improving the material and spiritual life of the people." She added that the commune has implemented practical measures such as training courses on land management, administrative reform, and digital transformation; supporting livelihoods; and regularly visiting and giving gifts to disadvantaged households, especially during holidays and Tet. "We hope every resident feels supported, cared for, and given favorable conditions for development. This motivates the Muong people and other ethnic groups in Suoi Hai to preserve their cultural identity while integrating and developing with the pace of modern life," Ms. Nguyen Thi Hong Le stressed.

Le Hao Quang, Vice Chairman of the People's Committee of Suoi Hai Commune, stated that the commune has successfully organized numerous performances and art festivals on major holidays, maintained 24 cultural and artistic clubs with hundreds of members, and supported 16 traditional art troupes of ethnic minorities that operate actively and regularly. Today, Suoi Hai not only takes pride in preserving the unique Muong cultural values but also has strong confidence in its comprehensive development across economic, cultural, and social spheres.

Do Manh Hung, Party Secretary and Chairman of the People's Council of Suoi Hai Commune, added that in the coming period, the commune will continue to leverage its potential and advantages to promote tourism development linked with preserving and spreading the culture of ethnic minorities. This approach is not only an effective way to improve people's livelihoods but also a means for cultural identity to shine in modern life, making Suoi Hai a prosperous, livable, and civilized land.■

Tay Phuong Commune Aims to Be Craft Village Center

Tay Phuong commune was formed by reorganizing the former communes of Huong Ngai, Lam Son, Thach Xa, Quang Trung, and Phung Xa (formerly Thach That district), along with parts of Quoc Oai town, Ngoc Liep, and Phuong Son (formerly Quoc Oai district). The commune is gradually developing into a center for traditional craft villages, particularly those linked with tourism, innovation, digital transformation, and environmental protection.

MINH NGOC

By effectively leveraging its industrial, handicraft, and trade-service potential, the commune has identified sustainable economic development as the central goal, contributing to improving people's income and quality of life.

Gathering heritage essence and industrial strength

Right after its establishment, Tay Phuong commune, with a spirit of solidarity, innovation, initiative, and creativity, saw Party committees, authorities, officials, Party members, and residents unite to overcome difficulties, implement comprehensive solutions, thoroughly carry out the resolutions of Party congresses for the 2020-2025 term, and meet or exceed many targets and tasks. In particular, industry, handicrafts, and basic construction remain the main drivers, accounting for a large share of the commune's total production value. Local Party committees and authorities have focused on comprehensive measures to support industrial and handicraft development and to resolve challenges facing businesses.

In terms of new rural development, the former Huong Ngai and Di Nau communes were recognized as exemplary rural communes in 2023, while the former Phung Xa commune achieved advanced new rural standards in 2024. OCOP products (One Commune One Product Program) have also been a focus of brand building, development, and trade promotion. Tay Phuong commune currently has 90 OCOP products, including 18 rated 4-star.

Chairman of the Tay Phuong Commune People's Committee Can Van Huong said that so far the commune has one industrial park and six craft village industrial clusters in operation, providing production space for 1,235 enterprises and business households. To support craft village development, the commune has proposed and received approval from the city to establish seven more industrial ☞

Fan-making craft village in Tay Phuong commune

clusters, including: Chang Son Industrial Cluster (Phase 2), Huu Bang Industrial Cluster, Binh Phu I Industrial Cluster (Phase 2), Di Nau Industrial Cluster, Huong Ngai Industrial Cluster, Canh Nau Industrial Cluster (Phase 2), and Thach Xa Industrial Cluster.

The commune is also proposing to the city the establishment of the Phung Xa and Can Kiem Industrial Clusters. In 2025, the total value of industrial and handicraft production is estimated at more than VND34 trillion. At the same time, more than 4,350 business households are operating in mechanics, metalwork, carpentry, garment processing, cuisine, transportation, and tourism, creating jobs and improving incomes for local people.

Not only renowned for Tay Phuong Pagoda, an architectural masterpiece from the 8th century, the locality is also recognized as the cradle of many traditional craft villages such as Thach Xa che lam (traditional sweet), Chang Son fans and wooden furniture, and Phung Xa mechanics and metalwork. In 2015, the Thach Xa che lam brand was granted trademark protection by the Intellectual Property Office under the Ministry of Science and Technology. At present, the Village Craft Association consists of about 60 production and business households, creating stable jobs for 200 to 300 local workers. With guaranteed quality, Thach Xa che lam products have been certified under the OCOP program and are increasingly trusted and favored by consumers.

Developing craft village tourism

In the next term, Tay Phuong commune aims for an average annual economic growth rate of 15.03%, with industry contributing 13.6%; and the industrial-handicraft sector accounting for 59.8% of the economic structure. In addition to its strengths in industry, handicrafts, and craft villages, Tay Phuong also has significant tourism potential with notable destinations such as Tay Phuong Pagoda, Hoang Long Ecological Site, and craft village tourism. These areas are being invested in and upgraded in terms of landscape, security, and promotion of local cultural-historical values.

To achieve its set goals, Tay Phuong commune is focusing on mobilizing and efficiently using all resources to promote socio-economic development, with an emphasis on increasing the value share of trade, services, tourism, industry, and handicrafts, while gradually reducing the share of agriculture. At the same time, the commune is pushing digital technology adoption, automation, and advanced techniques in production and processing; effectively implementing the advanced new rural development program in association with OCOP.

The commune is strengthening international cooperation, promoting tech innovation and transfer, and developing tourism tied to craft village culture with diverse products, local branding, and sustainable tours. It also encourages enterprises to apply IT and expand e-payment methods like internet banking and e-wallets, gradually shaping a digital economy.

Speaking at the First Congress of the Tay Phuong Commune Party Committee for the 2025-2030 term, Do Anh Tuan, Director of the Hanoi Department of Home Affairs, emphasized that the commune must become the growth nucleus of the region, playing a driving role in craft village development and serving as a dynamic industrial-service center in the western part of the city. At the same time, Tay Phuong must establish itself as a new growth pole, a center for craft village development linked with innovation, digital transformation, and environmental sustainability.

With determination, innovation, and the aspiration to rise, Tay Phuong commune is writing new chapters of development worthy of its traditions and expectations. In the near future, it promises to become a model locality in economic development linked with the preservation and promotion of cultural-historical values, accompanying the city and the country in firmly advancing into a new national era.■

The commune is shifting its agriculture toward ecological, organic, and high-tech models

Binh Minh Commune Linking Eco-Agriculture and Craft Villages

Located at the southwestern gateway of the capital, Binh Minh occupies a strategic position where key transportation routes intersect, including Ring Road 4 - Capital Region, National Highway 21B, and roads linking neighboring communes. This location not only supports the development of urban-service infrastructure but also positions Binh Minh as a central hub driving development in southern Hanoi.

BAO DAN

In the master plan for the capital's development to 2045, with a vision to 2065, Binh Minh is designated as a new driving area - both a modern urban zone and an ecological, cultural buffer. With coordinated planning, Binh Minh will become a hub of commerce, services, and clean industry, integrated with cultural tourism and craft villages, preserving traditional values such as the Binh Da Festival and handicraft villages while creating a green, civilized, and modern living environment. Positioning Binh Minh as a connectivity and spillover hub will allow the commune not only to maximize internal potential but also to lead the development of surrounding areas. At the same time, rapid urbanization brings environmental, infrastructure, and public security pressures, posing significant challenges that require decisive, creative, and resilient action from the Party, authorities, and local residents.

Binh Minh, with nearly 30 square kilometers and a population of over 80,000, combines a strong agricultural base with diverse craft villages, creating a unique identity and opportunities for sustainable rural development. To address the limitations of small-scale farming, the commune is restructuring agriculture toward ecological, organic, and high-tech models linked with craft villages, thereby preserving cultural identity, improving the living environment, and building a distinctive socio-economic foundation.

According to Nguyen Dang Viet, Chairman of the People's Committee of Binh Minh Commune, with more than 1,567 hectares of agricultural land accounting for more than half of its natural area, Binh Minh has favorable conditions to form specialized zones for vegetables, fruits, flowers, and ornamental plants. These will provide the basis for branded products that meet the growing demands of Hanoi and neighboring markets.

With these advantages, the commune's priority is to develop ecological and organic agriculture that ensures food safety while protecting the environment and local ecosystems. Vu Xuan Loc, Head of the Binh Minh Economic Department, noted that the commune will closely follow planning and leverage land resources to expand models of clean vegetable cultivation, flowers and ornamental plants, and high-quality fruit production, linked with brand building, product traceability, and consumer trust.

In addition to crop cultivation, livestock farming is also being restructured toward farm-scale operations, with the application of biosecurity processes and waste treatment technology. This is a crucial step to address environmental pollution while enhancing added value in animal husbandry. All livestock zones will be relocated outside residential areas.

The commune's landscape has improved significantly

If agriculture is the foundation, craft villages are the driving force for Binh Minh's rural economic upgrading. Nguyen Dang Viet emphasized that the commune Party's Resolution has clearly identified: from 2025-2030, industrial and handicraft development in Binh Minh must be closely tied to preserving and enhancing craft village values. This is not only the livelihood of tens of thousands of workers but also the link connecting agriculture with processing industries and trade-services.

The commune currently has 13 recognized traditional craft villages, many closely linked to agricultural processing. This provides a unique advantage for Binh Minh to develop an integrated model of "agriculture, craft villages and services." Craft villages specializing in agricultural processing, handicrafts, and traditional materials have already created a distinctive identity for the area.

In the next phase, the commune aims to expand scale, apply new technology, and improve product quality, gradually reaching export standards. This will not only increase residents' incomes but also create a closed value chain from ecological agricultural production, processing and consumption through craft villages, to connection with trade and services. "To support this process, Binh Minh also plans to establish two concentrated industrial clusters, relocating small-scale production facilities out of residential areas. This step both promotes craft village strengths and creates a clean, modern, and civilized living environment for residents," Nguyen Dang Viet said.

By linking ecological agriculture with craft villages, Binh Minh will form a distinctive economic-cultural space. Here, farmers not only produce but also participate in a broader value chain: producing clean products, developing experiential tourism models, maintaining traditional crafts while upgrading technology. In the context of Hanoi's urban expansion, many communes face major challenges - either losing identity in the wave of urbanization or seeking ways to leverage their strengths. Binh Minh has charted the right path in today's development trend, taking ecological agriculture as its foundation, craft villages as its driver, and green urban planning as its vision. This synergy will help Binh Minh grow rapidly, sustainably, and with distinct identity.■

VIETNAM Business Forum

Published by VCCI

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: NGUYEN LINH ANH
DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: PHAM THE NAM

BOARD OF ADVISORS
PHAM TAN CONG, VCCI President & Chairman
NGUYEN QUANG VINH, VCCI Vice President

Designer: MINH NGHI

HEAD OFFICE
4th Floor, 9 Dao Duy Anh St., Hanoi
Tel: (84-24) 35743985/35743063
Fax: (84-24) 35743985
Email: vbfhanoi@gmail.com; vbf@vcci.com.vn
Website: www.vccinews.com

SOUTHERN REP. OFFICE
171 Vo Thi Sau St., HCM City
Tel: (84-28) 39321099/39321700
Fax: (84-28) 39321701

License 58/GP-BTTTT dated February 18, 2020. License 208/GP-BTTTT issued on July 30, 2024 amending and supplementing License 58/GP-BTTTT, and Document 3117/BTTTT-CBC issued on July 30, 2024 pertaining to changes in manchette and leadership

Printed by the Trade Union Printing Company
PRICE: VND25,000


DEEP C
INDUSTRIAL ZONES
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
YOUR SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT LOCATION
Since 1997
7 Billion USD Investments
1997 - 2022
No. of Industrial zones
05
170 + Projects
Haiphong & Quang Ninh
European management standards
3,400 Ha + Land Bank
Eco-Industrial Park Vietnam
info@deepc.vn
www.deepc.vn