



TPP to increase VN exports by 30%, Macroeconomic Implications, Sander Levin Opposes

FEATURES



TPP could boost VN exports by 30%, FDI by 14%, GDP by 8%

New assessments based on the published TPP text estimate that Vietnam will be the greatest beneficiary of the TPP with exports up 30%; FDI up 14%; and GDP up 8% by 2030 over the "baseline scenario" without TPP.



World Bank: Macroeconomic Implications of TPP

The benefits of the TPP mostly derive from reductions in non-tariff-based measures (e.g., streamlining of administrative procedures) and regulatory measures that benefit services. The benefits are likely to materialize slowly but should accelerate toward the end of the projection period. The slow start results from the gradual implementation of the agreement and the lag required for benefits



Sander Levin, Top House Democrat on trade, opposes TPP

The leading House Democrat on trade policy said he opposes the TPP, underscoring the hostile political environment. He said he doesn't support the TPP in its current form because it contains insufficient provisions to protect labor, lacks binding rules to prevent currency manipulation, and could ease the movement of the auto industry from his home state of Michigan to Mexico.



Night On Us (Stay 3 Pay 2; Stay 4 Pay 3)

Enjoy 1 complimentary night with minimum of 3(4) nights stay. Rejuvenate and indulge in memorable experiences of a lifetime at Banyan Tree Lang Co

- Complimentary daily mini-bar (non-alcoholic)
- A minimum of 3(4) nights stay
- Daily breakfast at the Water Court Restaurant
- Complimentary night(s) will be granted at time of check-in

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



2016 AmCham Membership Card & Discount Handbook

The 2016 AmCham Membership Cards and Discount Handbooks are being delivered to Members. If you have not received them, please kindly contact our **Membership Team**.



New Decree for Work Permit , Effective 1 April 2016

A new decree number 11/2016/ND-CP dated 03 Feb 2016 has been published to define the employment and work permit conditions for foreign workers in Vietnam and will go into effect 1 April 2016.



Attractive Early Bird Deals to U.S. from Ho Chi Minh City with Korean Air

Korean Air, established in 1969, is one of the world's top 20 airlines and carried more than 24 million passengers in 2012. Korean Air operates in excess of 200 flights per day to 128 cities in 45 countries on six continents with a fleet of 166 aircraft including ten A380s. With its modern airplanes and over 20,000 professional employees, Korean Air offers customers safety, convenience and comfort. Korean Air's award-winning cuisine of Korean and Western meals and state-of-the-art inflight entertainment system provide passengers ultimate satisfaction.



Mar 17 Members' Night & Meet the U.S. Consulate General

AmCham invites you to attend a Members Night, with cocktails and buffet reception. Members' spouses and guests are not only invited but also encouraged to attend with you.

Welcome by AmCham Board Member, and introduction of Key Officers from the U.S. Consulate General, the cocktail reception will offer networking opportunities for one-on-one conversations with the Consulate General Team, AmCham Governors, fellow members, and especially meet new members, almost 70 companies have joined AmCham last year. Click [HERE](#) for the list of new joined members.



Mar 23 AmCham Palooza Party at Hotel Equatorial

AmCham will continue its series of monthly informal networking events at the coolest and latest nightspots in Ho Chi Minh City.

The monthly Palooza Party is a platform to develop new friendships, networking opportunities and information exchange. People from all age groups are welcome to attend - there's no age limit, you just have to be young at heart!

Come and join us for a night of casual networking, meet other professionals, bring your business cards!

Dress code: Business Casual

The AmCham Palooza is a popular group that holds networking events and happy hours regularly to increase communication amongst membership and expats



JOIN US: Become a Member of AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

Expand your business by joining us! We currently have almost 500 organizations represented by 1,000 representatives. They are multinational firms, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs. **Benefits include:** Networking, Information-Sharing, Advocacy and Problem Solving, visibility and Corporate Exposure.

Contact [Ms. Sam Hoang](#) for joining or additional information on membership.



AmCham welcomes New Member Companies

AmCham Vietnam - HCMC is pleased to welcome our NEW members who joined us in the last few months. We encourage you to get to know and welcome them by visiting their websites and patronizing their businesses.

Welcome New & Rejoin members in 2016: *i-VY, Bates Chi & Partners Vietnam, BNP Paribas, L&E International, Sullivan, Krieger, Truong, Spagnola & Klausner LLP, Hermes Power Investment Corporation, Steelman Partners Vietnam Co., Ltd., Night & Day Security Services Co., Ltd., Kizuna JV Corporation, 7-Eleven, Inc (Vietnam Branch), PSL Co., Ltd., QNB Rep Office in HCMC, Dai Phat Group Corporation, Saigon Asset Management, Estee Lauder (Vietnam) LLC, UWC Precision Engineering Co., Ltd., KKR Singapore, An Huy B.T. Co, Arkansas State University, Pacific Cross, California South University, Duffy Agency, Harvey Law Group, Tan Khoa Co., AVIS Vietnam, Hotel Nikko Saigon, McLarty Associates, Minh Hoang Garment Co., Ltd. Officiance, Rentokil Initial Vietnam.*



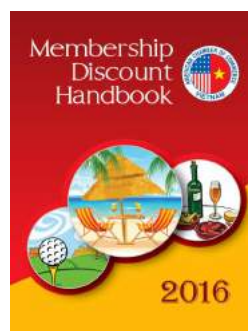
AmCham Corporate Partnership Packages

Special thanks to SEAMOC for joining us as a Bronze Corporate Partner.

The Corporate Partnership comes with a range of membership dues, event sponsorship, advertising, and exclusive benefits. One all-inclusive Corporate Partnership annual, semi-annual, or quarterly billing simplifies your businesses' sponsorship efforts. Benefits in each Partnership Package include:

- Logo on "Corporate Partners" banner on AmCham website homepage
- Logo on "Corporate Partners" banner in Weekly Update Email
- Company profile on the "Corporate Partnership" page on AmCham website
- Corporate profile on screen during cocktail reception at Members' Nights
- Special recognition/Thank You Page in Membership Directory
- Special recognition at all business events' backdrop/banner
- Special recognition in all email signatures

For full information on benefits of each package, please click [HERE](#) or contact [Cindy Tran](#).



2016 AmCham Discount Program

The AmCham Member Discounts Program is a mutually beneficial opportunity for both AmCham Members and AmCham Discount Partners. Prestigious vendors are invited to offer AmCham members special discounts on their services or products. Please contact [Ms. Sam Hoang](#)

(Members present their AmCham Membership Card to receive special, privileged discounts



Marketing Opportunities with AmCham HCMC

AmCham HCMC offers many opportunities to market your company's products and services to AmCham members, the business community and the general public. Our services include:

- Event Sponsorship
- Event Management Support
- Network (Advertise) on www.amchamvietnam.com: 646K views/yr; 275K visitors/yr (avg. 54K / 23K visitors/views per month) and 9.5K twitter followers, 7.5K facebook fans (and 60K+ views/month) 5.2k LinkedIn followers.
- Announcement in Weekly Email: 4.8k AmCham company representatives and subscribers.

AmCham Companies are offered 3 complimentary announcements a year.

- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Directory
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Discount Handbook
- Advertising on AmCham Discount Online

News and Issues



U.S. - ASEAN Summit, Feb 15-16, 2016

A population of over 626 million, an economy of \$2.5 trillion, ASEAN is the 3rd-largest economy in Asia. U.S. companies invest more in ASEAN, \$190 billion, than any other market in Asia.

This unprecedented gathering - the first hosted by the United States with the ASEAN leaders - builds on the deeper partnership that the United States has forged with ASEAN since 2009 and will further advance the Administration's rebalance to Asia and the Pacific.



Car sales soar, along with congestion and environmental concerns

Up 55% in 2015 over 2014, raising questions about managing issues like traffic congestion, infrastructure requirements and carbon dioxide emissions.



EU-VN Free Trade Agreement now available online

It allows all interested stakeholders to become fully conversant with its content well in advance of the ratification processes both in the EU and in Vietnam. The text will be subject to a legal review to verify its consistency and ensure that all provisions are formulated in a legally-sound manner. It will then be translated into all EU languages as well as into Vietnamese before being signed and ratified by both parties.



Vietnam on board with EU car rules in EU-VN FTA

The agreement should make it easier for European firms to sell vehicles in Vietnam but more difficult for American. The EU-VN FTA includes a commitment that cars sold in Vietnam should follow "international vehicle regulations." The commitment also covers parts for these vehicles and also car parts also used in minibuses (of up to 5 tons) and in commercial trucks.



Eleven planned dams on Mekong threaten more than half of fish catch

"When you have 11 dams there ain't a lot left when you get to the bottom," said Ian Cox, director of the International Fisheries Institute at Britain's Hull University. Overfishing is already taking a toll. Laos plans to borrow heavily to fund nine hydropower dams across the Mekong, and Cambodia plans to construct two. More than half of fish catches could be lost. Nutrient levels within the water are expected to fall by 50% due to trapped sediment.



TPP & New Developments in Global Trade: Labor and Environment

More than 1,000 persons attended the Feb 16, 2016 Baker & McKenzie global webinar, which featured topics such as the TPP's Environmental Chapter, Labor Chapter, Investor-State Dispute Settlement. Click the link to view the powerpoint presentation on Labor and Environmental Implications for Businesses.



Finance Committee Chairman explains process of TPP ratification

The signing ceremony ... is just beginning. We'll debate the merits of each and every provision of this agreement and consider how it will impact workers and job creators in our country and how it will affect the health of our economy. I will focus on the process by which Congress will consider and debate this agreement ... it is important that people, including members of Congress, the administration, stakeholders, and the media, have a full understanding of how

this is going to work. As I've said many times, the TPP is an extremely important agreement, and we need to get it done. But, given that importance, we need to focus more on getting it right than on getting it done fast.



Is it too late for Congress to vote on TPP in 2016?

In the announced schedule for the House of Representatives in 2016, there are only 59 "legislative days" after May 18, when the ITC Report on the impact of the TPP on at the U.S. economy is due to be released. This does not preclude Congress acting faster, but it does shift power from the White House to Congressional leadership. If this Congress runs out the clock and the TPP has not passed both House and Senate, the process would die and have to restart in 2017.



TPP signing on Feb 4; "... beginning of the next phase for TPP"

"After five years of negotiation, signing the TPP is an important milestone in our efforts to set high-standard rules of the road in the Asia Pacific region, and to deliver an agreement that will benefit American workers, farmers and businesses," said USTR Michael Froman. The TPP Ministers' Statement said ""The signing ... is the beginning of the next phase for TPP. ... our respective domestic processes.."



U.S. FDA issues warning letters to seafood processors / importers

Seafood processors without compliant seafood Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point plans and dairy farms that sold animals that had illegal drug residues were among some the first warning letters released in 2016 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA has the power to detain the company's shipments at the U.S. border unless the issues are addressed in a timely manner.



Weekly Updates Archive 2006 - 2015

Launched in August 2006 to answer many questions about Vietnam's accession to the WTO, the Weekly Update Emails provide news updates, upcoming events, explanations of details of trade and investment agreements, developments in laws and regulations affecting the business environment in Vietnam. Click the link for to visit the archives and look back over the years. Links to more than 10,000 documents providing background on a wide variety of topics, from Vietnam's WTO Accession in 2006-2007, revision of the Labour Code in 2008-2012, to the TransPacific Partnership and WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement from 2013 and ongoing.



Prime Minister's Certificates of Merit awarded to AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

At AmCham's 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner on September 18, 2014, Vice Chairman of HCMC People's Committee Le Thanh Liem handed the Prime Minister's Certificates of Merit to AmCham Vietnam - HCM City and to Mr. Herb Cochran, Executive Director for their excellent performance in supporting and promoting trade and investment in Ho Chi Minh City and Vietnam.



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