

BIDV **R**review

BIDV  A Newsletter of Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam JSC • Issue **No.94** | June 2023



BUILDING A GREEN ECONOMY



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BIDV REVIEW

BIDV AT A GLANCE

The Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV), founded on 26 April 1957, is the longest-established commercial bank in Vietnam. The bank's operations cover banking, insurance, securities, and financial investment, boasting a network of nearly 1,100 branches and transaction offices as well as presence in six countries and territories. BIDV is headquartered in Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam. The bank's stock (ticker: BID) is listed on Ho Chi Minh City Stock Exchange (HOSE).



VISION 2030

- ◆ To become a leading financial institution in Southeast Asia, have the best digital platform in Vietnam, and be among Top 100 largest banks in Asia.

MISSION

- ◆ To deliver the best interests and conveniences to customers, shareholders, employees and society.

CORE VALUES

- ◆ Intelligence
- ◆ Belief
- ◆ Integrity
- ◆ Detail orientation
- ◆ Vitality



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Editor's Letter

Dear readers,


Forbes recently released its annual Global 2000 2023 list which is based on an analysis of four metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value. Accordingly, the Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) saw a strong change, up 524 places compared to 2022, ranking 1.081st. This is the ninth consecutive year BIDV has been in the Forbes Global 2000 list.

According to Forbes Global 2000, BIDV is the largest commercial bank by revenues and total assets among Vietnamese commercial banks. BIDV's 9th consecutive year presence in the Forbes Global 2000 with continuously improved rankings (up 524 places from 2022) is evidence that affirms the position, prestige and strong, safe, effective and sustainable development of BIDV in Vietnam and in the world.

BIDV was honored as Best Custodian Bank in Vietnam 2023 at The Asian Banker's Business Achievement Awards program. Evaluation criteria include financial performance, technological platform, services, and risk management methods in the management, depository and supervision of customer assets. The award is recognition of BIDV's efforts and achievements in catching up with the market trends, as well as in providing comprehensive services and technological capacity. The award reaffirms BIDV's No.1 position among domestic custodian banks.

BIDV has been active in conferences on green and sustainable development. Recently in Da Nang City, BIDV organized a conference themed "Vietnamese businesses - Joining hands to build a green economy". BIDV leader affirmed that sustainable growth and green growth are the most important strategic goals in the bank's operations. BIDV is the market leader in green finance with 1,386 customers and 1,718 projects, outstanding green loans are more than VND63,000 billion (USD2.7 billion). BIDV's green financing market share in the market is about 13 percent.

According to the State Bank, currently there are 40 credit institutions reporting on financing green projects with a scale of over VND500 trillion (USD21.3 billion), accounting for more than 4 percent of the total outstanding loans of the economy. Commercial banks, typically BIDV, have also actively worked with ministries and sectors, pioneering in the development of green criteria, launching "sustainable loan framework" to finance green projects.

The State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) reduced policy interest rates with effect from 19 June, the fourth cut in a row since mid-March in efforts to aid economic recovery. For BIDV, from 1 June 2023, the bank continues to reduce lending interest rates by 0.5 percent per annum for existing medium and long-term loans that have not been applied competitive interest rates before. This is the second time in 2023 BIDV has reduced lending interest rates for customers with existing outstanding loans. The lending interest rate cut is a practical move that shows the sense of companionship and sharing with customers. 



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05. BIDV continues to make Forbes Global 2000

Forbes

The Full List

SEARCH BY NAME

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RANK	NAME	COUNTRY	SALES	PROFIT	ASSETS	MARKET VALUE
184	Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam	Vietnam	\$4.4 B	\$18 B	\$97.0 B	\$1.1 B
1861	Commercial Bank for Investment & Development of Vietnam	Vietnam	\$1.04 B	\$79.4 M	\$89.0 B	\$1.1 B
1228	Vietin Bank	Vietnam	\$1.45 B	\$72.3 M	\$76.7 B	\$1.1 B
1620	Vietnam Technology & Commercial Joint Stock Bank	Vietnam	\$1.38 B	\$63.6 M	\$29.4 B	\$1.1 B
1605	Military Commercial Joint Stock Bank	Vietnam	\$1.02 B	\$74.8 M	\$30.7 B	\$1.1 B

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HAI PHAM

Building a green economy

The conference provided a forum for experts and businesses to discuss and share information about green financing development and green economy in response to climate change.

Recently in Da Nang City, BIDV organized a conference themed “Vietnamese businesses – Joining hands to build a green economy”. According to reports at the conference, the world has entered a new era. Knowledge economy, green economy and circular economy have been a new development trend of many countries. Given the climate change and the new global context, environmental protection and response to climate change in Vietnam must move to a new stage, which should be placed at the center, towards implementing the global goals effectively, substantively and transparently to promote the green economy, circular economy.

Reaching “net zero” emissions by 2050 is the inevitable development goal of the world, and will be realized mainly through strong energy transition and low emission development. This is also a new “rule of the game” on global trade and investment that has been established since COP26. Therefore, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, energy transition from fossil fuels to clean and renewable energy is an opportunity to promote economic restructuring towards sustainability, to improve the competitiveness of the economy and to take advantage of opportunities for trade and investment cooperation for development. In order to realize the commitment of net zero by 2050 of the Government of Vietnam at COP26, relevant ministries and agencies in Vietnam have been developing and finalizing policies to promote



Mr. Phan Duc Tu - Chairman of BIDV's Board of Directors affirms sustainable growth and green growth are the most important strategic goals in BIDV's operations.

and support investment, business and trade activities towards the above goal.

The conference also mentioned that the European Union and the United States have applied the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). Accordingly, goods imported into these markets will be subjected to the CBAM mechanism if there is no preparation to meet increasingly stringent green standards and greenhouse gas emission reduction.

At the Summit for a New Global Financing Pact held in France at the end of June 2023, international leaders agreed to a common understanding and a number of important contents

on growth pattern transformation, international financial system reform and changing the business model of multilateral development banks, mobilizing the participation of the private sector to respond to global challenges. The conference mentioned the dual crises of the global environment and climate, posing urgent requirements for the transformation of a linear economic model, exploiting natural resources to a circular economy, green economy and digital economy. Addressing the conference, Mr. Le Cong Thanh - Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment emphasized: Businesses need to innovate their production and business models, restructure in association with

sustainable development towards green economy, circular economy, keep innovating, building and enhancing the brand, corporate culture towards green and sustainable development. Given the stringent requirements of international markets, businesses need to update information and improve production processes, training and capacity building for staff to quickly respond to new trends and gain competitive advantages. Businesses also need to access and use green and sustainable financing for their production and business activities, save capital costs and achieve high efficiency.

Mr. Phan Duc Tu - Chairman of BIDV's Board of Directors, said: "A leading state-owned commercial bank, BIDV is always a pioneer in implementing the Government's and State Bank's policies and directions towards promoting green credit growth and green banking. The bank is ready to accompany the business community, contributing to the implementation of the national green transition strategy. Sustainable growth and green growth are the most important strategic goals in BIDV's operations."

At the conference, the BIDV leader committed to creating the most favorable conditions to advise and help customers access sustainable financial products. At the same time, BIDV is ready to act as a bridge between stakeholders, regulators, domestic and foreign financial organizations and businesses to connect cooperation opportunities in green growth, environmental protection and response to climate change, thereby contributing to develop and fine-tune the sustainable financial ecosystem in Vietnam.

At the panel discussion, experts from Deloitte Singapore and Vietnam updated important information about




Mr. Le Cong Thanh, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment speaks at the conference

the overview of global sustainable development and response to climate change, further analyzing the context for practicing sustainable development and response to climate change in Vietnam, as well as sharing the roadmap towards net-zero emissions for businesses. The information presented and discussed at the conference has clarified the importance of changing the green and sustainable mindset in businesses; supporting the development of business orientation of businesses in the time to come. From there, businesses will have an appropriate direction to join hands to promote the green and sustainable economy in Vietnam and more broadly in the region and the world.

BIDV is currently the only domestic financial institution that has signed an MOU on cooperation with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment on promoting sustainable and green financing development, environmental protection and response to climate change.

BIDV was the first domestic bank to issue the Environmental and Social Risk Management Framework in 2018 which is applicable to projects and customers receiving international funds, and at the same time, encouraged projects financed by BIDV to apply the framework.

In February 2023, BIDV was the first bank to issue the Sustainable Loan Framework to provide green loans, social loans and sustainability-linked loans to domestic corporate customers. In May 2023, BIDV issued a Regulation on Environmental Risk Management in credit extension activities following the guidance of the State Bank in Circular No.17/2022...

Building on the strong capacity and rich experiences, coupled with the companionship of the world's leading development financial institutions, BIDV ensures the ability to provide technical support according to international standards to project owners and businesses in sustainable finance and green finance. 

TUE MINH

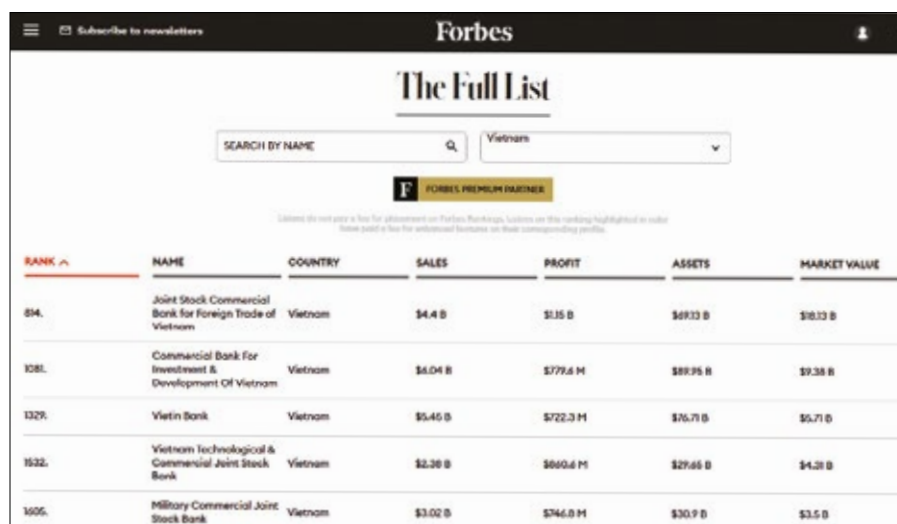
BIDV continues to make Forbes Global 2000

Forbes recently released its annual Global 2000 2023 list which is based on an analysis of four metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value. Accordingly, the Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) saw a strong change, up 524 places compared to 2022, ranking 1.081st. This is the ninth consecutive year BIDV has been in the Forbes Global 2000 list.

- ✿ BIDV saw a big change (up 524 places compared to 2022, ranking 1.081st. BIDV is the largest commercial bank by revenues and total assets among Vietnamese commercial banks.
- ✿ This is the ninth consecutive year BIDV has been in the Forbes Global 2000 list.

Global 2000 is regarded as one of the most authoritative and comprehensive rankings of the largest and most powerful companies in the world. The Global 2000 ranks the largest companies in the world using four metrics: sales, profits, assets and market value. According to the list, BIDV saw big changes in all criteria with sales of USD6.04 billion, profits of USD779.6 million, assets of USD89.95 billion and market value of USD9.38 billion.

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RANK	NAME	COUNTRY	SALES	PROFIT	ASSETS	MARKET VALUE
614	Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam	Vietnam	\$4.4 B	\$115 M	\$89.33 B	\$9.33 B
1081	Commercial Bank for Investment & Development Of Vietnam	Vietnam	\$6.04 B	\$779.6 M	\$89.95 B	\$9.38 B
1329	Vietin Bank	Vietnam	\$5.45 B	\$722.3 M	\$76.71 B	\$5.71 B
1532	Vietnam Technological & Commercial Joint Stock Bank	Vietnam	\$2.38 B	\$660.4 M	\$29.65 B	\$4.28 B
1605	Military Commercial Joint Stock Bank	Vietnam	\$3.02 B	\$746.9 M	\$30.9 B	\$3.5 B

Rankings of 5 Vietnamese enterprises in the Forbes Global 2000 2023 (Source: Forbes.com)

the position, prestige and strong, safe, effective and sustainable development of BIDV in Vietnam and in the world.

Vietnam has 5 companies in the Forbes Global 2000 and they are all commercial banks. Over the past time, Vietnam's banking industry has made important contributions to the development of the national economy and global integration. The robust growth and increasingly improved rankings of the Vietnamese enterprises bolster Vietnam's position and prestige on a global scale. There are 58 countries represented by the publicly traded companies on the

list. The U.S. leads the way with 611 companies on the ranking, and China comes in second with 346 Global 2000 companies. As a group, the companies on the 2023 list account for USD50.8 trillion in sales, USD4.4 trillion in profits, USD231 trillion in assets and USD74 trillion in market value. Besides Forbes, BIDV is also highly regarded by local and international prestigious organizations. Recently, the world's leading valuation consultancy firm Brand Finance, based in the UK, has included BIDV in the list of the world's 500 most valuable banking brands for years, ranking 161st (up 51 places from 2022). [R](#)

MAI NGHI

BIDV named Best Custodian Bank in Vietnam for 3 years in a row

On 14 June 2023, BIDV was honored as Best Custodian Bank in Vietnam 2023 at The Asian Banker's Business Achievement Awards program.

- ✿ This is the third consecutive year BIDV has received the "Best Custodian Bank in Vietnam" award from The Asian Banker magazine.
- ✿ BIDV boasts 20 years of experience in the fields of custodian and supervisory services and has always maintained its leading position among domestic custodian banks.
- ✿ BIDV is the only bank in Vietnam that provides all-in-one services for investors, investment trust portfolios as well as for all types of securities investment funds.

The "Best Custodian Bank" award is independently evaluated in more than 3 months by experts and researchers on over 250 financial institutions in the Asia Pacific. Evaluation criteria include financial performance, technological platform, services, and risk management methods in the management, depository and supervision of customer assets. The award is recognition of BIDV's efforts and achievements in catching up with the market trends, as well as in providing comprehensive services and technological capacity. The award reaffirms BIDV's No.1 position among domestic custodian banks.




Representatives of BIDV at the award ceremony in Singapore

The first bank granted a depository license in 2003, BIDV boasts 20 years of experience in the fields of custodian and supervisory services and has always maintained its leading position among domestic custodian banks. The bank's total securities under custody saw an annual growth rate of 36 percent, reaching over VND448 trillion. Income from custodian and supervisory services increased by 65 percent compared to 2022. BIDV is the only bank in Vietnam that provides all-in-one services for investors, investment trust portfolios as well as for all types of securities investment funds such as open-ended funds, closed-end funds, member funds, exchange-traded funds (ETF), property investment funds, and pension programs.

In 2022, BIDV focused on boosting investment in technology, digitizing service processes, improving product

quality, accuracy, and turn-around time. For proactiveness in continuous technology upgrades, BIDV has earned the trust and choice of investors. Leveraging the achievements, BIDV will continue to promote investment in technology and people, expand and develop new services to get ahead of market trends.

Founded in 1996 in Singapore, The Asian Banker is a leading provider of strategic intelligence and builder of platforms in the financial services industry. The magazine runs regular programs around the world, including across Asia Pacific (China, Japan, etc.) and some cities in Europe. The Asian Banker also honors BIDV in the categories of "Best Retail Bank in Vietnam", "Best International Credit Card in Vietnam", "Best Home Loan Financing", and "Best FX bank in Vietnam". 

HAI VAN

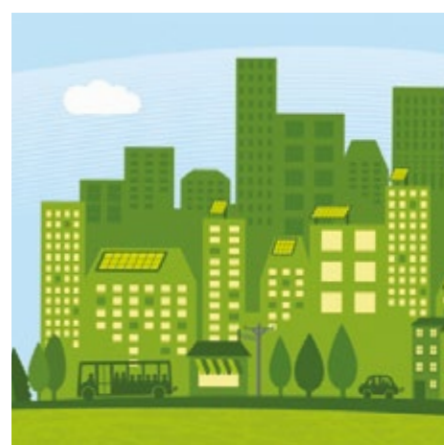
Boosting green financing

On 14 June 2023, the CPV Central Committee's Economic Commission successfully organized the Industry 4.0 Annual Summit 2023 themed "Promoting digital transformation, green transition to shorten the industrialization and modernization of the country by 2030, vision to 2045".

- ✿ In the 2019 - 2022 period, BIDV's green credit outstanding balance grew significantly with an average rate of 45 percent per year.
- ✿ By the end of 2022, BIDV had financed more than 1,700 projects/plans with total amount of credit commitments reaching more than VND136 trillion (USD5.8 billion).



Mr. Vuong Thanh Long, head of FDI Banking Department, BIDV speaks at the Summit.




The Summit attracted more than 1,500 participants from ministries, central and local departments, outstanding enterprises, domestic and international experts. BIDV is honored to accompany the Summit. At the Summit, on behalf of BIDV, Mr. Vuong Thanh Long – Head of FDI Banking Department, shared about "BIDV's experience on development of green credit products and green banking model". The BIDV representative highlighted groups of solutions and strategies that have been implemented to develop green credit products and green banking model at BIDV such as BIDV's strategic vision on green credit and green banking; environmental and social risk management frameworks, sustainable loan framework; application of modern technology to products and services and internal process; cooperation with

State authorities and international organizations in green transition.

Based on the strategic orientation of green financing, BIDV has achieved encouraging results. In the 2019 - 2022 period, green credit outstanding balance grew significantly with an average rate of 45 percent per year. By the end of 2022, BIDV had financed more than 1,700 projects/plans with total amount of credit commitments reaching more than VND136 trillion (USD5.8 billion), outstanding loans reaching nearly VND64 trillion (USD2.7 billion), accounting for 4.25 percent of BIDV's total outstanding loans.

At the Summit, the BIDV's representative also spoke about some difficulties and challenges that banks and businesses face

in green transition such as legal framework for environmental and social risk management, green credit; SBV's incentive policies for green financing; businesses' participation in environmental and social risk management practices,... and proposed recommendations and solutions to gradually overcome these challenges.

BIDV believes that with the support of State authorities, the close coordination of organizations and individuals in the digital transformation and green transition, the goal of "Promoting digital transformation, green transition to shorten the industrialization and modernization of the country by 2030, vision to 2045" will soon delivered. 

VAN HAI

BIDV continues to reduce lending interest rates

BIDV continues to reduce lending interest rates for existing medium and long-term loans.

- ✿ From 1 June 2023, BIDV continues to reduce lending interest rates by 0.5 percent per annum for existing medium and long-term loans that have not been applied competitive interest rates before.
- ✿ This is the second time in 2023 BIDV has reduced lending interest rates for customers with existing outstanding loans at BIDV.
- ✿ BIDV's reduction of lending interest rates is a practical move to show the sense of companionship and sharing with customers.



From 1 June 2023, BIDV continues to reduce lending interest rates by 0.5 percent per annum for existing medium and long-term loans that have not been applied competitive interest rates before. This is the second time in 2023 BIDV has reduced lending interest rates for customers with existing outstanding loans at BIDV.

Previously, following the State Bank of Vietnam's direction on the VND120 trillion (USD5.1 billion) program on loans for social housing, worker housing, renovating and rebuilding old apartment buildings in accordance with the Government's Resolution 33/NQ-CP, BIDV has reserved a credit package of VND30 trillion (USD1.3 billion) for loans with interest rates

of 1.5-2 percent lower than normal interest rates.

In addition, right from the year beginning, BIDV pioneered in implementing competitive credit packages with preferential interest rates which are up to 2 percent per annum lower than normal lending rates to support businesses and individuals' access to loans at affordable costs.

Not only reducing lending rates, currently, BIDV is actively implementing comprehensive financial solutions to help reduce financial and operating expenses for businesses and individuals. Some programs include: DigiUp program for corporate customers using BIDV iBank and BIDV

iConnect with more than 12 types of fees waived/reduced; Trade Booming program with significant offers on exchange rates, trade finance fees, international money transfer fees for import-export businesses; SCFast program with attractive policies for supply chain customers; instant unsecured loans, loans collateralized by deposits via BIDV SmartBanking for individual customers, etc.

BIDV's reduction of lending interest rates is a practical move to show the sense of companionship and sharing with customers; contributing to affirm the role and responsibilities of a state-owned bank in implementing the guidelines and policies of the Government and the State Bank of Vietnam.

HUYEN TRUC

Supporting women-owned SMEs

At the Seminar “Lending to Women-Owned Small and Medium Enterprises (WSMEs): International Practices and Policy Framework,” BIDV’s representatives and experts and speakers shared information about policies, regulations and support programs for WSMEs.

- ✿ **Women-owned SMEs are still facing many obstacles in business activities such as small scale, low competitiveness, financial difficulties, especially financial access, collateral, etc.**
- ✿ **BIDV has implemented many practical specialized programs for WSMEs along with non-financial solutions. At BIDV, WSMEs are entitled to competitive interest rate credit packages, free business consulting courses and training.**


The Seminar was organized by the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Hanoi on 6 June 2023. The Seminar was attended by representatives of the Vietnam Banks Association, the Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam (BIDV) and a number of commercial banks and speakers who are national and international experts.

According to the speakers, women-owned SMEs are still facing many obstacles in business activities such as small scale, low competitiveness; many banks still have gender stereotypes against women in business; financial difficulties, especially financial access, collateral; many female business owners face pressure in securing a work-life balance, etc. Therefore, banks play a critical role in not only



providing funds to WSMEs but also “offering comprehensive solutions” to them. At the Seminar, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Kim Phuong, Deputy Head of BIDV’s Corporate Banking Department, said: “WSMEs need special attention and resource support. Therefore, BIDV has implemented many practical specialized programs for WSMEs along with non-financial solutions; advising on loan plans, financial management; support to recover debts for customers, etc. In particular, proper program communication is also an important success factor in supporting WSMEs.” At BIDV, WSMEs are entitled to competitive interest rate credit packages to facilitate their business development. In particular, they are encouraged to participate in the Financial Inclusion Program to reduce the impact of Covid-19 pandemic, combining a USD5 million grant from the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative (We-Fi) and VND3,000 billion (USD128 million) package funded by BIDV. Accordingly, customers not

only enjoy preferential interest rate policies and drawdown commitment fees, but also participate in free business consulting courses and training on cash flow management, human resource management, new product/business line development, and information technology. Besides, BIDV’s program named “Digital Transformation with SMEs” also offers free accounting and business management software to customers. This product contributes to promoting digital transformation, transparency, and improving bank loan access.

Supporting activities for SMEs, especially WSMEs, is a priority of the Government and requires the cooperation of ministries, departments, organizations and commercial banks. With the motto “pioneering and developing together”, BIDV is always a reliable and sustainable companion of SMEs in general and WSMEs in particular. 

PHAM DUYEN

Validating risk measurement models

On 29 June 2023 in Hanoi, BIDV and Deloitte kicked off a project on independence validation and assessing the compliance of the credit risk measurement model at BIDV.



Mr. Tran Phuong, BIDV's senior executive vice president speaks at the kick-off ceremony

The project is a tool that helps improve the capacity of verifying, adjusting, and evaluating the suitability and accuracy of risk measurement models at BIDV.

BOLSTERING RISK MANAGEMENT

Today's commercial banking activities are becoming increasingly diversified and complex in many aspects as well as facing many unexpected fluctuations such as epidemics,

geopolitics... Risk management (especially credit risk management) becomes one of the key tasks to ensure the safety and sustainable development of the banking system. Optimal risk management and measurement is key to ensuring the bank's stability and sustainability.

Understanding the importance, over the past 10 years, BIDV has promoted the development of credit risk measurement models and tools,

actively building hundreds of models for the assessment and measurement of modern credit risk following the international practices.

With a multi-dimensional perspective, modern risk management is not only building, developing and operating risk measurement models but also verifying and re-evaluating the models after a period of operation. This is also one of the steps to ensure the effectiveness, predictability and



Leaders and staff of BIDV and Deloitte Vietnam pose for a group photo

stability of these models as well as ensuring their suitability with the banking current situation.

So far, the State Bank of Vietnam has not issued any specific documents and instructions on model validation but BIDV has actively paid attention to and built credit risk measurement models. However, these are only observations and practical judgement, which need to be updated according to international practices and learning from financial institutions in the world.

COMPREHENSIVE INNOVATION IN MODEL VALIDATION

The implementation of the consulting project for independence validation and assessing the compliance of the credit risk measurement model at BIDV is one of the most important step towards building an advanced risk management model following the international practices.

The project was implemented with the goal of meeting the urgent needs of the bank, as well as helping the


bank improve its internal resources and be well-prepared to face adverse fluctuations of the economy in general and the banking industry in particular. The project also plays a necessary role in ensuring the accuracy and effectiveness of the credit risk measurement models and tools which are being used, creating foundations for verifying other models which are currently used and applied at BIDV.

The project will also help improve the expertise of BIDV's staff, forming a team of internal experts in the process of exchanging knowledge and experience in evaluating, verifying and correcting credit risk measurement model according to the modern approach of domestic and international experts in developed financial markets.

With determination to deploy and strongly apply international standards and practices to change business methods towards risk-based business decisions, BIDV has effectively improved the inspection and evaluation of governance and

management models, risk management models and risk management policy framework systems as well as risk management and measurement tools. This is also one of the projects that affirm the vision of the bank's Board of Directors and the Board of Management in making BIDV a pioneer in creating sustainable values.

At the project kick-off ceremony, Mr. Tran Phuong, Senior Executive Vice President, Head of the Project Management Unit affirmed: "Besides implementing, developing, operating, and regularly updating the credit risk measurement model, BIDV pays great attention to model validation. Over time when evaluating parameter factors and implementation needs of each model, we reckon that it's time for BIDV to have an independent validation project to evaluate the compliance and accuracy of the models, especially important ones."

"There is an urgent need to operate, research, develop and update the credit risk models for full and accurate assessment", said Mr. Phuong. 

KIEU OANH

BIDV accompanies renewable energy conference

Senior leaders of enterprises, experts and major investors in the energy field discussed opportunities, challenges, and outline prospects for investing in the energy industry in Vietnam.



BIDV representative shares information at a panel discussion

Senior leaders of enterprises, experts and major investors in the energy field discussed opportunities, challenges, and outlined prospects for investing in the energy industry in Vietnam.

The conference organized by Forbes Vietnam last week in Ho Chi Minh City with the topic on investment opportunities in the renewable energy industry. As the market leader in green financing, BIDV accompanied

the conference and shared experiences in receiving and implementing international credit projects for the purpose of sustainable development.

The conference brought together senior leaders of enterprises, leading experts and major investors in the energy field to discuss opportunities, challenges, practical experiences, and outline prospects for investing in the energy industry in Vietnam. At COP26, the Government of Vietnam committed to

achieve the goal of net zero emissions by 2050. One of the focuses of the action program is to develop green energy while ensuring the economic growth and sustainable development.

In the middle of May 2023, the Government approved the Electricity Master Plan VIII, with priority given to the development of renewable energy sources such as wind power. The new development space of the energy industry opens up investment

opportunities for domestic and international investors who are interested in this field in Vietnam.

As the green financing bank in Vietnam in line with the Government's orientation, BIDV has defined its core strategies and activities, with a focus on green development, sustainable finance and improving the environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices.

Sharing at the "International Capital Flow" panel discussion, Mr. Vuong Thanh Long - Head of BIDV's FDI Banking Department said: "We deeply understand our responsibility in joining hands for the green development and sustainable development towards fighting climate change. Through green energy financing, BIDV will contribute to leverage and promote a greener economy. From a business perspective, BIDV is also very confident because the energy in general, and green energy in particular, will be consistently in demand for a fast-growing economy for the next 30 years."

BIDV is currently prioritizing providing financial support for the energy sector through green credit, with a total amount of VND54,382 billion (USD2.3 billion), accounting for 86 percent of BIDV's total green loan outstanding, with nearly 1,500 renewable energy and clean energy projects (as of December 2022).

BIDV is committed to continuing to implement "green credit" packages, allocating a portion of its portfolio to support clients in the renewable energy and clean energy sectors, as well as industries with low carbon emissions and adaptation to climate change. With this commitment, BIDV will contribute to Vietnam's transition to a greener economy, environmental protection, climate change mitigation, and resource and energy efficiency, demonstrating BIDV's responsibility towards the community and the environment.

As the largest bank in Vietnam in terms of total assets and an extensive

portfolio in project financing, BIDV regularly works with international organizations and financial institutions such as the World Bank, International Finance Corporation (IFC), Asian Development Bank (ADB), French Development Agency (AFD), Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI), as well as other major commercial banks to develop project financing structures that are suitable for Vietnam.

With international financial institutions' expertise in project financing along with their competitive interest rates, and BIDV's comprehensive understanding of local laws and practice, BIDV can provide the best solutions for clients and projects alike, further attracting both domestic and overseas financing sources and investment into the green and sustainable development in Vietnam.

BIDV is the market leader in green finance with nearly 1,400 customers and more than 1,700 projects, outstanding green loans are more than VND63,000 billion (~USD2.7 billion), accounting for 4.3 percent of BIDV's total outstanding loans, mainly in the fields of renewable energy, clean

energy. BIDV's green financing market share is about 13 percent (as of 31 December 2022).

Notable 'green policies' implemented by BIDV:

- The first domestic bank to issue the Environmental and Social Risk Management framework in 2018, applicable to projects and clients with international funding.
 - Completion of the Green Bond Issuance Framework draft (in accordance with the State Bank of Vietnam's regulations, supported by GIZ (Germany) and advised by CBI - Climate Bond Initiatives), with the goal of becoming the first bank to successfully issue green bonds after the issuance of Vietnam's Green Taxonomies.
 - The first Vietnamese bank to issue its Sustainable Loan Framework to provide ESG loans to domestic corporate customers under the UK's Technical Assistance program, in collaboration with the Carbon Trust as the advisor
 - Studying to intergate environmental and social screening/scrutinizing steps into BIDV current credit appraisal process to encourage more green initiatives from BIDV's customers. 
-



Driving the green transition

Workshop "Net Zero - Green transition: Opportunity for the pioneers" aims to contribute to promoting the process of "green transition", bringing Vietnam's economy towards green and sustainable development, realizing the commitment to net zero. BIDV is one of the sponsors of the workshop.



REACHING BALANCE

Net zero means achieving a balance (to 0) between the amount of greenhouse gas emitted into the atmosphere and the amount of greenhouse gas absorbed at any given time. Reducing, converting, absorbing emissions is a shared global responsibility. To date, about 140 countries, or nearly 90 percent of total global emissions, including major emitters such as the U.S., China and India, have committed

or worked towards the Net Zero goal. Each country sets its own timeline to achieve this goal, mostly by 2050, with a few exceptions by 2035 and 2070 at the latest. In November 2021, at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26), Vietnam has made a series of commitments, including setting the goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2050. So is net zero a "game for the rich"? Discussing at the workshop, many businesses

affirmed: Net Zero is not a goal for "the rich". Mr. Morgan Donovan Carroll - ESG Director of Vinfast - said: "Everybody strives for a greener environment, not only for us but for future generations, our families and our children."

However, in the green transition process, businesses still face obstacles in terms of mechanisms, when the legal corridor is still incomplete. Mr. Marc S. Forni - Lead Disaster

Risk Management Specialist, World Bank - expected the development of Vietnam's carbon credit market. He said: "The World Bank has been in the market for buying, selling and distributing carbon credits; working with donors, different countries over the past 20 years. The value of the carbon market is now up to USD52 billion and Vietnam is one of many countries in the world implementing a carbon credit trading program. We see potential and opportunities in the carbon credits market".

Net zero - green growth is a complex issue between economic development goal and sustainable development goal, especially for developing and transition countries like Vietnam.

To realize the goal of greening economic sectors, the Green Growth Strategy also aims to apply the circular economy model. It is expected that in December this year, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment will submit to the Prime Minister a draft decision on the circular economy action plan.

MOBILIZING GREEN FINANCE

Speaking at the workshop, Minister of Finance Mr. Ho Duc Phoc emphasized: Green transition and emission reduction to realize the commitment to net zero is a long journey with many difficulties and challenges. One of the biggest challenges is resources.

According to World Bank estimates (2022), Vietnam will need to invest approximately USD368 billion until 2040, equivalent to 6.8 percent of GDP each year to pursue a development roadmap that combines resilience and net zero emissions. The decarbonization journey towards meeting international commitments accounts for about 30 percent of

the capital needs. However, the public sector will only be able to meet about one third of the required resources; while the green finance market is currently at an early stage of development, the capital mobilized through the green finance market is very small compared to the demand.

In addition to prioritizing public resources, Minister Ho Duc Phoc affirmed that the Ministry of Finance will actively coordinate with relevant ministries and sectors to devise solutions to mobilize resources from private sector and international organizations. In which, developing green finance market and carbon market are priorities to be implemented with a focus on: developing green financial instruments, sustainable finance; encouraging localities and enterprises to issue green bonds; attracting institutional and individual investors in green financial instruments. In the coming time, the Ministry of Finance will continue to coordinate with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and relevant agencies to develop the Prime Minister's Decision on issuing a list of green classification according to the tasks assigned in the government's Decree No. 08/2022/ND-CP, as a basis for issuers to choose green projects and use capital from green bonds.

Mrs. Ha Thu Giang - Director General of the Department of Credit for Economic Sectors, State Bank of Vietnam shared: Currently, credit institutions are facing many difficulties in appraising green projects (with many technical and specialized environmental factors). The Prime Minister has assigned the State Bank to develop and issue a list as well as green criteria. "This is very helpful for state regulators in formulating mechanisms, policies,

and investment incentives for green projects. For the banking industry, it will be the basis for commercial banks to appraise and consider credit extension decisions", said Mrs. Giang.

A representative of the State Bank of Vietnam added: "In 2017, when I started to make statistics on credit resources for investment in green projects, only 15 credit institutions reported with a modest scale. But at the moment, there are 40 credit institutions reporting on financing green projects with a scale of over VND500 trillion (USD21.3 billion), accounting for more than 4 percent of the total outstanding loans of the economy, as well as achieving a high growth rate of over 20 percent". Commercial banks, typically BIDV, have also actively worked with ministries and sectors, pioneering in the development of green criteria, launching "sustainable loan framework" to finance green projects.

The speakers at the workshop also said that in order to mobilize resources for green growth, it is needed to develop other capital markets, besides bank loans, especially the green stock and green bond markets to attract domestic and international investors. According to international organizations, Vietnam has achieved a rapid increase in the size of the capital market for sustainable development compared to the region. The total value of Vietnam's green, social and sustainable sectors reached USD1.5 billion in 2021, nearly 5 times higher than in 2020 and maintained stable growth for three consecutive years. Vietnam is the second largest green bond market in ASEAN, reaching USD1 billion, after Singapore. 

MINH ANH

Fitch affirms Vietnam at 'BB' with positive outlook

On 31 May 2023, Fitch Ratings affirmed Vietnam's Long-Term Foreign-Currency Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'BB' with a Positive Outlook.

The affirmation and Positive Outlook reflect Vietnam's favourable medium-term growth outlook, strong external liquidity and lower government debt compared with the peer median.

Fitch expects growth to remain strong, supported by large foreign direct investment inflows. The firm forecast GDP growth of 5.7 percent in 2023, despite a slowdown in growth to 3.3 percent in 1Q23, and 6.5 percent in 2024, driven by expansion in services and manufacturing. Inflationary pressure has subsided; May inflation slowed to 2.4 percent yoy after a peak of 4.9 percent in January.

Intervention by the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) and capital outflows, partly reflected in large negative errors and omissions in the balance of payments, led to a sharp drop in reserves to USD88 billion in 2022. Fitch expected reserves to improve in 2024, with coverage of current external payments (import of goods and services, income payments and current transfer payments) averaging about 2.7 months.

"In the medium term, exports should improve on Vietnam's cost



Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

competitiveness, trade diversion from China and entry into key trade agreements. A current account surplus is forecast for 2023-2024, partly on a pick-up in tourism", said Fitch.

According to Fitch, Vietnam has set fiscal targets to lower its budget deficit to at or below 3 percent of GDP and to keep government debt at or below 50 percent of GDP. The key elements of this strategy include broadening of the value-added tax base, enhancing the capacity of tax authorities, simplifying import tariffs and providing electronic and digital services to taxpayers. These measures could support government revenue over the medium-term, though in the

near-term Vietnam's revenue ratio remains below the peer median.

The SBV has cut the discount and refinancing rates by 100bp, after hiking the rates by 200bp in 2H22. Fitch views this move as a measure to support growth and lower the credit-market stress associated with the property sector. The firm expects the SBV to remain accommodative for the rest of the year, as it aims to support economic growth. Fitch forecast inflation to remain within the SBV's 4.5 percent target and the bank has allowed greater exchange-rate flexibility, widening the daily trading band to +/-5 percent, from +/-3 percent. 

LE HANG

Interest rate cut supports economic growth

The State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) has decided to reduce policy interest rates with effect from 19 June, the fourth cut in a row since mid-March in efforts to aid economic recovery.

On 16 June, the State Bank issued Decisions on lowering key interest rates. In particular, Decision No. 1123/QĐ-NHNN on the refinancing interest rate, the rediscounting interest rate, the overnight rate for the inter-bank electronic payments, and the interest rate applied to loans to finance short-term balances in the clearing transactions between the SBV and the credit institutions.

Accordingly, the overnight interest rate for the inter-bank electronic payments and the interest rate applied to loans to finance short-term balances in the clearing transactions between the SBV and the credit institutions is lowered from 5.5 percent p.a. to 5.0 percent p.a.; the refinancing rate is reduced from 5.0 percent p.a. to 4.5 percent p.a.; the rediscounting rate is cut down from 3.5 percent p.a. to 3.0 percent p.a.;

Under Decision No. 1124/QĐ-NHNN on the interest rate caps for the mobilization in VND, which are applied to organizations' and individuals' deposits at the credit institutions as stipulated in Circular No. 07/2014/TT-NHNN dated 17 March 2014.

In particular, the maximum rate for demand and under-one-month deposits in VND is kept at 0.5 percent p.a, while the ceiling interest rates for deposits with one-month to under-



six-month terms is cut down from 5 percent p.a. to 4.75 percent p.a. Interest rates for deposits of a six-month term or over will be set by credit institutions on the basis of the market capital supply and demand.

According to Decision No. 1125/QĐ-NHNN on the interest rate cap applied to the VND short-term loans provided by the credit institutions and the foreign bank branches to borrowers to meet the capital demand in a number of priority sectors and areas in line with Circular No. 39/2016/TT-NHNN dated 30 December 2016. Accordingly, the interest rate cap is reduced from 4.5 percent p.a. to 4.0 percent p.a.; the interest rate cap applied to the VND short-term loans in the priority sectors and areas provided by the People's

Credit Funds and the Micro Finance Institutions is lowered from 5.5 percent p.a. to 5.0 percent p.a.

The State Bank of Vietnam said over the past months, the domestic economic growth has faced many difficulties, but the inflation has been kept under control; the liquidity of the credit institutions and the foreign bank branches are ensured. Therefore, in order to further implement the policy of the National Assembly, the Government and the Prime Minister on reducing the common lending interest rates, supporting businesses and the people to enhance their capital accessibility, contributing to recovering production and business activities, the SBV continued to cut the key interest rates. [R](#)

QUANG DINH

Lao-Viet Insurance: 15 years of development

After 15 years, Laos - Vietnam Insurance (LVI) joint venture company has become one of the most successful insurance companies in Laos, ranking second in terms of market share, and becoming one of the most favourite insurance companies in the country.

- Starting with a total capital of USD3 million and 12 people, LVI has become the insurance company with the second largest market share in Laos.
- Revenue of LVI has increased more than 56 times after 15 years.

On 15 June 2023, in Vientiane Capital, Laos, LVI celebrated its 15th anniversary to review achievements and head for new milestones.

In 2008, implementing the strategy of BIDV's leadership in forming an end-to-end supply chain of financial, banking and insurance services in Laos market, BIDV Insurance Company (BIC), Banque Pour Le Commerce Extérieur Lao Public (BCEL) and LaoVietBank established Laos - Vietnam Insurance Joint Venture Company (LVI). The launch of an insurance company in Laos was considered a bold and breakthrough step that BIDV's leadership was determined to implement to expand banking and insurance activities to the Indochinese peninsula.

Starting with an initial capital of USD3 million and 12 employees, with the support from BIDV, BIC, BIDV's commercial presence in Laos coupled with the constant efforts of the leadership and staff of LVI,



LVI is rewarded for its excellent performance

LVI's business activities continuously recorded impressive results. LVI quickly rose to become the insurance company with the second largest market share in Laos, and the insurer with the highest rate of return in the market. The success right from the first years of operation of LVI further cemented the vision, and policy on investment and business expansion to overseas markets of BIDV and BIC's leadership.

After 5 years of continuous breakthroughs and growth, in 2013, BIC acquired LVB's contributed capital to increase its ownership rate in LVI to 65 percent, continuing to promote branding and activities of BIDV and BIC in Laos market.

15 years of development, revenue scale of Laos - Vietnam Insurance Joint Venture Company (LVI) has increased more than 56 times, maintaining the second position in terms of premium revenue market share in Laos market. LVI has to date had three branches, 14 sales divisions, 90 employees, and more than 100 agents, serving more than 70,000 customers nationwide.

The company has always been a pioneer in digital transformation, and the application of information technology in management and business activities. The company has also actively participated in the social security activities in Laos. 

TRUC QUYNH

Journey to building corporate culture

BIDV-SuMi TRUST Leasing Co., Ltd (BSL) is the joint venture between two big names in the financial - banking industry: BIDV and Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank Limited (Japan). The company has shown a cohesive spirit of cooperation and the cross-cultures of the two countries.

The company employees said they feel lucky to work in a harmonious environment between two Asian cultures. Right from the early days of the company's establishment, a BSL with two Vietnamese and Japanese cultures has constantly improved in mindset and in the apparatus to achieve outstanding growth. From the perspective of an enterprise on the rise, the company consistently sets four core values: Integrity, Responsibility, Creativity, and Cooperation. This is the guideline for all decisions and actions of BSL.

Integrity is the first value mentioned. The company upholds the virtue of honesty and adherence to professional and ethical standards. All processes and policies of BSL always comply with the regulations on financial leasing of Vietnam's law and are publicly and transparently disclosed to customers and partners. Within BSL, integrity is also an important foundation for building all relationships between colleagues.

Taking responsibility in all decisions and behaviors. The responsibility mentioned is not only at work, but also in the responsibility to society and community. For BSL, bringing satisfaction and maximizing benefits for stakeholders is what the company always considers and puts first. BSL fulfills its responsibility through daily efforts, with the motto of "The Pursuit of Betterment". For society, in August 2021, the BSL Member Council issued



Leaders of BIDV-SuMi TRUST Leasing

a policy to implement 17 goals in the "Sustainable Development" policy (SDGs) of the United Nations. These two responsibilities of BSL always go hand in hand, becoming the driving force for the company to put each step firmly on the path of development.

Seeking to be creative and innovative at work. BSL's strength compared to other financial leasing organizations in Vietnam is the combination of two major financial institutions from Vietnam and Japan, offering the company an opportunity to keep up to date with the advanced and civilized ways of working of the two economies. At BSL, creativity is always encouraged and recognized. Also, every employee has the right to speak up and take initiatives to promote the work more effectively.

Inevitably, when all these values take shape, the bottom line is the

collaboration. BSL celebrated 6 years of establishment, from the perspective of the credit industry in general, this is a modest journey. However, it is a proud journey for the company with efforts of cohesion and consensus of colleagues from different cultures, striving for the shared goal.

Over the past 6 years, the BSL team has stood side by side to conquer challenges. After 6 years, BSL's outstanding loan reached VND4,000 billion (USD170 million), serving nearly 600 customers with bad debt ratio always below 2 percent. With the stable growth, the company is confident that in the near future it will rise up to become a strong financial leasing company, fostering the good culture to create its own mark in the market, an organization of "Integrity, Responsibility, Creativity" and Cooperation". 📌

MINH ANH

FDI disbursements recover

Disbursements of foreign investment capital (FDI) in the first 6 months have prospered, increasing slightly by 0.5 percent over the same period last year to reach USD10.02 billion.

According to the Foreign Investment Agency (FIA) under the Ministry of Planning and Investment, although the increase is slight, this is a positive sign in the context that the global economy continues to face difficulties and demonstrates that the aggressive solutions of the Government in the first months of the year have supported and removed difficulties for enterprises.

Data from the FIA showed that, as of 20 June 2023, the total registered FDI capital was estimated at USD13.43 billion, down 4.3 percent over the same period last year. Although the registered capital decreased, the decrease was lower than previous months and especially in 5 months (7.3 percent). 1,293 new projects valued at over USD6.49 billion were licensed, representing year-on-year rises of 71.9 percent and 31.3 percent, respectively.

New investment projects are still in provinces and cities that have advantages in attracting foreign investment (with good infrastructure, stable human resources, administrative reform efforts, active investment promotion...) such as Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Bac Giang, Binh Duong, Hai Phong, Bac Ninh, Dong Nai...




VSIP Bac Ninh

In terms of partners, investors from Asia, traditional investment partners still account for a large proportion (Singapore, Japan, China, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan (China)). These 6 partners alone accounted for 76.1 percent of the total investment capital of the country in the first 6 months.

Singapore leads with a total investment of more than USD3 billion, accounting for more than 22.3 percent of the total investment capital in Vietnam. Japan came second with nearly USD2.21 billion, accounting for 16.4 percent of the total investment capital, nearly 2.1 times higher than the same period last year. China ranked third with a total registered investment capital of more than USD1.95 billion USD, accounting for

14.5 percent of the total investment capital, up 53.5 percent over the same period.

In the first 6 months of the year, foreign investors invested in 18 sectors out of 21 national economic sectors.

The processing and manufacturing industry took the lead with a total investment of more than USD8.46 billion, accounting for nearly 63 percent of the total registered investment capital. The banking-finance industry ranked second, with a total investment capital of more than USD1.53 billion, accounting for more than 11.4 percent of the total registered investment capital. 

THANH THAO

GDP grows more than 3.7 percent in first half

GDP growth in the second quarter of 2023 was estimated to increase by 4.14 percent over the same period last year. GDP growth in the first 6 months of 2023 was 3.72 percent.

- ✿ GDP growth in the first 6 months of 2023 increased by 3.72 percent.
- ✿ In the first 6 months of 2023, the trade surplus was estimated at USD12.25 billion (compared to USD1.2 billion of the same period last year).

The General Statistics Office of Vietnam announced the socio-economic report for the second quarter and the first six months of 2023. Accordingly, the GDP growth in the second quarter of 2023 was estimated to increase by 4.14 percent over the same period last year. 2022. GDP growth in the first 6 months of 2023 reached 3.72 percent. Agriculture, forestry and fishery sector increased by 3.07 percent, the industrial and construction sector increased by 1.13 percent, the service sector increased by 6.33 percent.

Regarding business registration, in June, 13,900 enterprises were newly established, up 14.9 percent over the previous month and 4.8 percent over the same period last year. 7,100 enterprises returned to operation, up 19.3 percent.

Generally, 75,900 enterprises were newly registered in the first 6 months of 2023, down 0.5 percent over the same period in 2022; nearly 37,700




enterprises returned to operation, down 7.4 percent.

Goods export turnover in June 2023 was estimated at USD29.3 billion, up 4.5 percent over the previous month but down 11.4 percent over the same period last year. In the first 6 months of 2023, total goods export turnover was estimated at USD164.45 billion, down 12.1 percent over the same period in 2022.

Import turnover of goods in June 2023 was estimated at USD26.71 billion, up 2.6 percent over the previous month but down 16.9 percent year-on-year. Generally in the first half of 2023,

goods import turnover was estimated at USD152.2 billion, down 18.2 percent year-on-year.

The U.S. is the largest export market of Vietnam with an estimated turnover of USD44.2 billion. China is Vietnam's largest import market with turnover estimated at USD50.1 billion.

The trade balance of goods in June was estimated to see a trade surplus of USD2.59 billion. In the first 6 months of 2023, the trade surplus was estimated at USD12.25 billion (compared to USD1.2 billion in the same period last year). 

KIEU LIEN

State Bank issues new circulars




CIRCULAR ON OPERATIONS OF MONEY EXCHANGE AGENTS

On 16 June 2023, the Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) issued Circular No. 04/2023/TT-NHNN regulating the operations of the money exchange agents for the currency of a country sharing the border with Vietnam.

The issuance of Circular No. 04/2023/TT-NHNN is aimed to provide guidance for the substances related to the operations of the money exchange agents for the currency of a country sharing the border with Vietnam as stated at paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the Government's Decree No. 23/2023/ND-CP dated 12 May 2023 amending and supplementing a number of Articles of the Government's Decree No. 89/2016/ND-CP dated 1 July 2016 on the conditions for a business entity to act as a foreign exchange agent, or to provide foreign currency receipt and payment services, and the Government's Decree No. 88/2019/ND-CP dated 14 November 2019 on administrative sanctions against the violations in the monetary and banking sector. The new circular will take effect on 1 August 2023.

CIRCULAR ON LENDING OPERATIONS OF CREDIT INSTITUTIONS AND FOREIGN BANK BRANCHES

On 28 June 2023, the Governor of the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) issued Circular No. 06/2023/TT-NHNN amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No. 39/2016/TT-NHNN dated 31 December 2016 regulating the lending operations of the credit institutions and the foreign bank branches.

The issuance of Circular No. 06/2023/TT-NHNN is aimed to further improve the legal frameworks regulating the lending operations of the credit institutions in line with the 2010 Law on Credit Institutions, the 2015 Civil Code, the 2020 Law on Investment, and other applicable provisions of law related to lending operations; help to ensure the safety and the efficiency in the lending operations of the credit institutions, in alignment with the practical situations of the market, the policy of digital transformation in the banking sector, and the requirements of the state management. The new circular will take effect on 1 September 2023. 

HONG HANH

BIDV launches a VND20 trillion home loan package

BIDV has officially launched a VND20 trillion (USD851 million) package for commercial housing loans with interest rates from 8.5 percent per annum for developers and from 7.8 percent per annum for home buyers.


In order to support and promote the safe, healthy and sustainable development of the real estate market, and gradually meet the people's housing demand according to the Government's direction, BIDV officially launched a commercial home loan package totalling VND20 trillion. The program is applicable until 31 December 2024 or until the package has been fully disbursed, whichever comes first. Commercial housing project developers who secure a feasible plan, legality, good marketability and meet the actual housing demand will be provided loans with interest rates from 8.5 percent per annum. For individuals, lending interest rates will be from 7.8 percent per annum.

Previously, following the State Bank of Vietnam's direction on the VND120 trillion (USD5.1 billion) program on loans for social housing, workers' housing, renovating and rebuilding old apartment buildings in accordance with the government's Resolution No. 33/NQ-CP, BIDV implemented a credit package of VND30 trillion (USD1.27 billion) with lending interest rates of 1.5-2 percent lower than normal interest rates of banks.



Also from 1 June 2023, BIDV continued to reduce lending interest rates by 0.5 percent per annum for existing medium and long-term loans that have not been applied competitive interest rates before. This is the second time in 2023 that BIDV has reduced lending interest rates for customers with existing outstanding loans at the bank.

Not only reducing lending rates, BIDV is also actively implementing comprehensive financial solutions

to help reduce financial and operating expenses for businesses and individuals. The BIDV's credit packages have been well received by customers. With these practical actions, BIDV commits to continue actively implementing the policies of the Government and the State Bank of Vietnam and join hands with businesses and people to provide funds for overcoming challenges in the real estate market in general and the social and commercial housing segments in particular. 

PHONG VINH

Heart captures in An Giang

An Giang is at its most beautiful during the rainy season with its mighty mangrove forests, unique floating markets and cultural destinations.

TRA SU MANGROVE FOREST

Tra Su is a typical mangrove forest of the Mekong Delta. The forest is located in Van Giao Commune, Tinh Bien District in the southern province of An Giang, 10 kilometers from the Cambodian border. The forest is home to 140 plant species though most of the area is covered by melaleuca trees.

Tourists should take a boat tour around the mangrove forests to fully appreciate the marvelous landscape. The typical vehicle in the area is called a tac rang - a wooden boat equipped with an engine. During the tour you



should also try to pluck lotuses and enjoy local delicacies.

LONG XUYEN FLOATING MARKET

Situated near the Hau River in the center of Long Xuyen City, the floating market was established several decades

ago. Nowadays, transportation in the city has been upgraded, but the market preserves its old trading traditions. The market begins at around 5 a.m. Here, tourists can see the one-of-a-kind trading method of the Mekong Delta: vendors sell goods from boat to boat. For food lovers, the market is definitely a top spot. On the boats, you can enjoy the exotic cuisine of the south of Vietnam.

THE FIELD OF PALMS

During your trip to An Giang, you will see vast paddy fields with tall palm trees jutting out from them. This tree variety has a life span of more than 100 years. The high rows of palm trees line fields, providing shade for farmers to take a break after long hours of work and for local children to gather around. Thus, the palm trees have become an iconic feature of An Giang. Tourists can find paddy fields with these palm trees en route from Nha Bang Town to Tra Su Forest and in the famous Ta





Pa rice fields. And on a warm day do not forget to enjoy the palm fruit from which a cool, healthy drink is made.

TAY AN PAGODA

Tay An Pagoda in Chau Doc city at the center of An Giang Province was built in 1847 with the exterior in Indian style. The pagoda has been classified by the Ministry of Culture as a national architectural monument. It was also the first pagoda in Vietnam to be built with a mixture of Vietnamese and Indian architectural styles. The pagoda is situated in a large compound amid trees. From Chau Doc, you can rent a motorbike and reach the pagoda in 30 minutes. The temple nestles inside a religious and cultural complex, so you can also spend time to visit other attractions such as the Chua Xu Temple. 📍



HUYEN MY

Ninh Thuan's most beautiful beaches

Though receiving the least amount of rainfall in Vietnam, Ninh Thuan province has many stunning beaches which make the area worthy of a visit.

NINH CHU BEACH

Lying 5km south of Phan Rang, Ninh Chu Beach is more than 10 km in length. Featuring rows of poplar trees along the yellow sand beach, it is one of the most popular beaches in Central Vietnam amongst tourists, who come here to explore the unique landscape. Lying on a poplar leaf carpet and peacefully watching the sky or contemplating the purple sunset on the long stretching sandy slopes is sheer bliss.

The pristine beach features a special crescent shape, and the surrounding sea is clear and picturesque. The natural beauty of Ninh Chu means it a destination that should not be rushed but enjoyed as a carefree place where one can enjoy the fresh breeze from the sea.

From Ninh Chu, tourists can travel to Tri Thuy hamlet, where they will find a friendly landscape of sea and mountain views. The mountain is not covered with foliage, but lots of grayish white rocks of different heights, with a few small trees growing around them. On





the mountain side stands some ancient pagodas and a scattering of small tile-roofed houses. By following the steps, you can reach a small wild and beautiful beach surrounded by green poplar forest and with an assortment of unusually shaped rocks on the sand.

CA NA BEACH

It takes about 30 minutes to reach Ca Na beach, 30 kilometres from the



Cham Towers in Phan Rang City. Ca Na is a picturesque landscape of sea, mountain, forest, and Cham culture.

In Ca Na, tourists can hire a bicycle or motorbike to visit Thuong Diem fishing wharf and other fishing villages to learn more about the local culture, take a swim and enjoy the stunning scenery of the area.

Ca Na beach is known for its fascinating rock formations and the high concentration of salt in its water. The scenery is magnificent with the clear, blue sea backed by a white sandbank and mountains stretching up majestically behind. At night, the sound of the wind and waves form a harmonious song on the moonlit beach.

VINH HY BAY

Surrounded by ocean, forests and mountains, Vinh Hy Bay in Vinh Hai commune, Ninh Hai district is one of the most beautiful bays in Vietnam.

Vinh Hy Bay boasts magically beautiful coral reefs in an array of vivid colours which can be viewed clearly through the crystal blue sea.

The bay is part of Nui Chua National Park, which peaks at 1,000 metres above sea level and is considered one of the most unique dry forest ecosystems in Southeast Asia. The national park is important for the conservation of terrestrial and marine biodiversity. It is home to 11 species of turtles, both terrestrial and marine and several of the beaches constitute the last remaining nesting sites in mainland Vietnam for small numbers of endangered Green Turtles and other marine turtles.

Bathing in the sea, enjoying the pure white sand beaches and exploring nearby caves nestled in the towering rocks all make for an unspoiled tourist haven. 🏖️

KIEU LINH

Sharing with disadvantaged people

Recently, ALCO Support Department coordinated with BIDV Lao Cai to give 30 sets of gifts totalling VND33 million (USD1,400) to patients with extremely difficult circumstances in Bao Thang district, Lao Cai province.


The teams also donated 01 automated queuing machine worth VND42 million (USD1,800) to support digitization in medical examination and treatment to Bao Thang District General Hospital.

This automated queuing machine supports people who come for medical examination and treatment to get their queuing ticket automatically at the machine. The system will



ALCO Department presents an automated queuing machine to local hospital

automatically notify the patient to come to the right examination room when it's their turn, making

patients as well as medical staff feel comfortable and equal in medical examination and treatment. 

THANH BINH

Gifts for pediatric patients

With the desire to share with and encourage children to overcome diseases and enjoy a happy International Children's Day, the National Children's Hospital coordinated with units to organize a "Children's Day 2023" with gifts and special performances.

At the event, BIDV Hanoi and a volunteer team gave more than 2,200 sets of gifts consisting of thousands of items such as toys, teddy bears, coloring books, confectionery, fresh milk to pediatric patients at the hospital and their relatives. 



BIDV Hanoi branch presents gifts to small children



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