



DOING BUSINESS IN VIETNAM

VIETNAM TRADE OFFICE IN SINGAPORE (VTO)

IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 2026, VIETNAM MAINTAINED ITS POSITION AS SINGAPORE'S 10TH-LARGEST TRADING PARTNER

After the first eight months of 2026, Vietnam continued to rank as Singapore's 10th-largest trading partner, with total bilateral trade reaching SGD 37,6 billion, an increase of 44.9% compared with the same period in 2025. Of this, Singapore's exports to Vietnam amounted to SGD 20,5 billion, up 11,8 %, while Singapore's imports from Vietnam reached SGD 17.1 billion, surging 124,2%.

In August 2026 alone, Singapore's total trade turnover with Vietnam reached nearly SGD 4.6 billion, an increase of 59% compared with the same period in 2025. Of this, Singapore's exports to Vietnam amounted to nearly SGD 2.6 billion, up 35.6%, while imports from Vietnam reached nearly SGD 2 billion, representing a 106.3% increase.

SEPTEMBER 2026

Focus

- Vietnam business update and news regulations
- Vietnam Energy Focus
- Workshops and trade events
- Special report and commentary

- During the first 8 months of 2026 Vietnam continued to maintain its position as Singapore's 10th-largest trading partner 1
- Online wholesale market launched to connect Vietnamese produce with Singapore 4
- Implementing the connection of Vneid with the electronic identification systems of Asean countries 7
- The 19th Singapore International Energy Week 2026 (SIEW 2026),). 10

VIETNAM AND SINGAPORE HOLD SENIOR OFFICIALS' MEETING

The Senior Officials' Meeting under the 20th Singapore-Vietnam Connectivity Ministerial Meeting was held online on September 16, bringing together representatives of ministries and agencies from both countries

VIETNAM BUSINESS UPDATE AND NEWS REGULATIONS

The meeting is an important mechanism under the Connectivity Ministerial Meeting framework, serving to review implementation of bilateral cooperation and discuss priorities and new initiatives.

The two sides spoke positively about progress in bilateral cooperation, particularly in the areas of the economy, investment, trade and agriculture, finance and banking, sustainable development, transport and infrastructure, energy, science and technology, and human resources development.

Officials from both countries also discussed new opportunities to strengthen economic connectivity, deepen cooperation between business communities and facilitate investment, trade and services flows between Vietnam and Singapore.

The Vietnamese and Singaporean delegations agreed to make more effective use of existing cooperation mechanisms while boosting areas with strong potential and those aligned with the development priorities of both countries.

The two sides highlighted the importance of strengthening financial and investment connectivity, supporting businesses, developing infrastructure and logistics, and expanding cooperation in the digital economy, innovation and emerging economic sectors.

Vietnam called on Singapore to continue sharing its experience, supporting capacity building and facilitating stronger connections with Singaporean financial

institutions, investment funds, businesses and other partners in areas where Vietnam has demand and cooperation potential.

The two sides agreed to maintain close coordination to finalise preparations for the 20th Singapore-Vietnam Connectivity Ministerial Meeting, creating a basis for implementing the outcomes of the meeting in the coming period.

Vietnam and Singapore are important partners in Southeast Asia, with bilateral cooperation continuing to develop positively and substantively across a wide range of areas. Maintaining and improving the effectiveness of the meeting is expected to strengthen economic connectivity, expand cooperation opportunities and deepen the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two countries.

The Singapore-Vietnam Connectivity Ministerial Meeting is held alternately in Vietnam and Singapore once a year. This year's 20th meeting is scheduled to take place in Singapore on October 9.

(Source: vietstock)

HANOI BOLSTERS COOPERATION WITH SINGAPORE IN URBAN PLANNING, INNOVATION, SMART CITY DEVELOPMENT

Chairman of the Hanoi People's Committee Vu Dai Thang met with Singaporean Ambassador Rajpal Singh on September 17 to discuss expanding strategic cooperation in urban planning, innovation, and smart city management.

During the meeting, the municipal leader emphasized that the newly announced 100-year vision for the capital's master plan creates substantial cooperation opportunities for Singaporean enterprises, institutions, and research organizations. Building upon the upgraded Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between the two nations, Hanoi identifies science, technology, and innovation as core growth drivers in conformity with the Politburo's Resolution No. 57.

To realize this direction, the Hanoi People's Committee and the National University of Singapore (NUS) recently signed a joint declaration to advance an innovation ecosystem modeled after BLOCK71, alongside ongoing efforts to develop a next-generation Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park (VSIP) in Hanoi. In parallel, the capital aims to reinforce traditional cooperation areas, focusing on human resource development and enhanced urban governance capacity.

Ambassador Rajpal Singh praised Hanoi's development vision and affirmed Singapore's readiness to share its extensive expertise in smart city development, particularly in applying technology to traffic management, flood control, and urban administration.

The ambassador also raised certain operational hurdles encountered during the implementation of cooperation projects in the capital, while putting forward proposals and aspirations from the Singaporean business community to help connect and foster bilateral cooperation moving forward.

Hailing the role of Singaporean partners in boosting bilateral relations, particularly between Hanoi and Singapore, Chairman Vu

Dai Thang expressed confidence that Ambassador Rajpal Singh will continue to make active contributions to elevating ties between the capital and Singapore, bringing cooperation initiatives and proposals into deeper, more substantive, and practical outcomes.

(Source: VOV)

VINH LONG PROPOSES HIGH-TECH AGRO-INDUSTRIAL PARK COOPERATION WITH SINGAPORE

The Mekong Delta province of Vinh Long has proposed cooperation with Singapore to develop a high-tech agro-industrial park, aiming to combine modern industry with agriculture and increase the value of local farm produce.

The proposal was made at a meeting on August 26 between representatives of the Vinh Long provincial People's Committee, the Singaporean Embassy in Vietnam and Sembcorp on investment promotion and the development of the Vietnam-Singapore Agro-Industrial Park (V.S.AIP).

Secretary of the Vinh Long provincial Party Committee Tran Van Lau said the province is working to shift its growth model by developing industry, services, urban areas, logistics, marine economy and tourism. It is also investing in transport and port infrastructure while promoting science and technology, innovation and digital transformation, particularly in high-tech agriculture.

The province is developing its Dinh An Economic Zone, covering about 39,000 hectares, together with a system of industrial parks.

Phu Thuan Industrial Park, in particular, has been planned as a high-tech agro-industrial zone linked with local agricultural production and deep processing.

The official proposed Sembcorp study the development of the Phu Thuan Industrial Park under this model, with a focus on green growth.

Lau also suggested establishing a tripartite coordination mechanism involving Vinh Long, Sembcorp and Petrovietnam Ca Mau Fertiliser JSC, as well as setting up a project advisory board of leaders and experts. The parties would conduct research, field surveys and pilot projects while seeking support from the governments of Vietnam and Singapore.

Singaporean Ambassador to Vietnam Rajpal Singh said Singapore wants to expand investment in Vietnam and explore new areas of cooperation. Food security is a promising area, as Singapore imports much of its food and is seeking more sources of high-quality agricultural products from Vietnam.

He noted Singapore could serve not only as a market but also as a bridge for Vietnamese farm produce to reach larger markets. Meeting Singapore's high standards would also encourage Vietnamese businesses to improve product quality and expand exports.

Gareth Wong, Sembcorp's Chief Operating Officer for Integrated Urban Solutions, said 2026 marks 30 years of development of Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park (VSIP) in Vietnam. Building on this cooperation, Sembcorp hopes to explore new

opportunities with Vinh Long for shared benefits among the province, investors and businesses.

Vinh Long is home to an economic zone covering about 39,000 ha and 22 industrial parks, of which five are in operation, six are under development, and 11 are seeking investment.

The Phu Thuan Industrial Park covers more than 231 hectares, including about 170 hectares for industrial leasing. Its basic infrastructure is in place, including roads, electricity, water supply and drainage, and a wastewater treatment plant with a capacity of 4,500 cubic metres per day.

The park is also close to agricultural material sources, including more than 3,000 hectares of coconut, 1,500 hectares of durian and 1,000 hectares of rambutan orchards within a 10-30 km radius, providing a strong foundation for deep processing and higher-value agricultural production.

(Source: VOV)

ONLINE WHOLESALE MARKET LAUNCHED TO CONNECT VIETNAM- ESE PRODUCE WITH SINGAPORE

VNFruitVegMarket -Vietnam Agri Wholesale Platform on September 3 announced the development of an online agricultural wholesale market aimed at expanding trade links between Vietnamese agricultural producers and buyers in Singapore

The announcement was made at a forum on green transition held in Ho Chi Minh City by the Ministry of Industry and Trade's Agency for Innovation, Green Transition and Industry Promotion.

Le Ngoc Nguyen, a representative from VNFruitVegMarket, said the platform, the first of its kind, is expected to become operational by the end of September 2026, offering flexible wholesale purchasing options. Buyers will be able to source VNese agricultural products in quantities ranging from a single carton or pallet to large orders, with product information and pricing policies made transparent.

The online marketplace is designed to broaden access to Vietnamese produce among a wider range of buyers in Singapore, including small and medium-sized enterprises, retailers, restaurants, food and beverage businesses, distributors and other trading partners, rather than focusing only on traditional large-scale import orders.

Beyond online transactions, VNFruitVegMarket will connect with warehousing facilities in Singapore to support storage, consolidation, distribution and domestic delivery. The platform will also integrate technology tools tailored to agricultural trading, she said. A group-buying mechanism will combine demand from multiple buyers to optimise order volumes and costs, while a multi-dimensional auction system will enable more flexible transactions based on supply, demand, volume and timing.

Artificial intelligence will also be used to analyse market demand and supply plans, helping reduce the risks of shortages and excess inventory. Transparent information on supply and prices will allow buyers to

access reliable details on products, specifications and available volumes, she added. Nguyen noted Vietnam has a diverse agricultural supply, but its products still face challenges in reaching international markets, including buyer connections, order volumes, logistics, inventory management and distribution speed in destination markets.

She said a flexible trading platform capable of addressing these supply-chain bottlenecks is needed to boost export efficiency.

Singapore, meanwhile, has strong demand for imported food and agricultural products and is geographically close to Vietnam, offering advantages for the transportation of fresh produce. Its high standards for quality, food safety, traceability and professional trading also make it a demanding but potentially important market for Vietnamese products.

Meeting Singapore's standards could provide Vietnamese agricultural products with a foundation for entering other markets, Nguyen noted.

(Source: VOV)

VIỆT NAM, SINGAPORE EXPAND CO-OPERATION IN SEMICONDUCTOR WORKFORCE TRAINING

Bringing together more than 50 students and lecturers from Singapore, Việt Nam, India, Indonesia and Malaysia, along with representatives of semiconductor businesses worldwide, the event is an expansion activity of the SSIA Summit 2026 in Singapore.

Việt Nam and Singapore boast huge potential to expand cooperation in engineer training, university-industry links and the development of a skilled workforce for deeper participation in the global semiconductor value chain, participants heard at the first Regional Student Talent Exchange Programme hosted by the Singapore Semiconductor Industry Association (SSIA) from September 23 to 25.

Bringing together more than 50 students and lecturers from Singapore, Việt Nam, India, Indonesia and Malaysia, along with representatives of semiconductor businesses worldwide, the event is an expansion activity of the SSIA Summit 2026 in Singapore.

According to SSIA, the global semiconductor industry is expected to need more than 1 million skilled workers by 2030, or over 100,000 annually. In Singapore, semiconductor engineers, instrumentation engineers and process engineers are among occupations facing manpower shortages, including positions in integrated circuit design and microchip engineering.

Talking to the Vietnam News Agency, Cao Xuân Thắng, head of the Vietnam Trade Office in Singapore, said amid the global shortage of highly skilled semiconductor workers, cooperation with Singapore in training and employing engineers holds strategic and long-term significance to Vietnam.

He noted that Singapore has developed a closely connected ecosystem linking training, research and businesses. Cooperation will help Việt Nam access modern training programmes, improve the professional expertise, skills and thinking of

engineers, and strengthen links among the State, universities and businesses.

Thang highlighted Singapore's State-business-university model, under which training closely follows industry needs, with businesses participating in curriculum development, receiving interns and providing on-the-job training.

The Vietnam Trade Office in Singapore has coordinated with SSIA to connect Vietnamese training institutions with the association's member companies. The participation of Vietnamese lecturers and students in the exchange programme is among the initial outcomes, he said.

SSIA Executive Director Ang Wee Seng said Việt Nam has emerged as an important semiconductor hub in ASEAN, with strengths in chip manufacturing and design and a large workforce. Singapore, meanwhile, has built its semiconductor industry over nearly six decades, developing a diverse ecosystem and skilled workforce.

The two countries can complement each other and work closely together to develop human resources, Ang said, stressing that the workforce must be able to adapt and reskill as technology evolves, particularly as advanced manufacturing moves towards AI-supported smart manufacturing.

SSIA said no country can handle the entire chip-making process alone, nor can it develop the workforce independently. The programme therefore opens avenues for Việt Nam-Singapore cooperation in semiconductor training, research and workforce development.

(Source: VNA)

IMPLEMENTING THE CONNECTION OF VNeID WITH THE ELECTRONIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS OF ASEAN COUNTRIES

The Prime Minister has just issued Decision No. 1830/QĐ-TTg (dated September 22, 2026) on the promulgation of the Plan for implementing the task of connecting the national identification application (VNeID) with the electronic identification systems of ASEAN countries.

The plan aims to connect VNeID with the electronic identification systems of Singapore and Laos, and gradually expand to other ASEAN countries; clearly define the scope, target audience, roadmap, connection methods, and responsibilities of all parties involved in the implementation process.

In addition, it aims to simplify immigration procedures, reduce duplicate declarations and document requirements; shorten inspection, verification, and processing times at border crossings; and save time and costs for citizens through the exploitation, authentication, and cross-checking of electronic identification information on VNeID and the electronic identification systems of partner countries; thereby contributing to strengthening people-to-people exchanges and promoting trade and investment in the region. Simultaneously, it will pilot the connection, authentication, and exchange of cross-border electronic identification information to serve immigration procedures at Noi Bai International Airport and Tan Son Nhat International Airport, ensuring security, safety, data protection, and compliance with the law.

Regarding the completion of institutional frameworks, mechanisms, policies, and operational procedures, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Science and Technology are required to implement the following by October 30, 2026:

- Exchange information with competent authorities in Singapore and Laos on connecting VNeID with the electronic identification systems of Singapore and Laos;
- preside over the procedures for foreign affairs and provide coordinating opinions according to their functions and responsibilities; propose the content of exchanges and types of documents to be signed with the other countries;
- review and develop procedures for entry and exit procedures at border gates in Vietnam for the use of Singpass/LAeID and procedures for Vietnamese citizens using VNeID in Singapore and Laos;
- develop documents for connecting, sharing, and integrating information and data between VNeID and electronic identification applications of ASEAN countries; research, develop, and issue guidelines on standards and technical requirements for connecting with electronic identification applications of ASEAN countries and other systems.

The plan requires that in 2026 and subsequent years, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Science and Technology, and other ministries, agencies, and localities conduct pilot projects, operate, evaluate, and expand the connection.

(Source: Hanoimoi)

VIETNAM ENERGY FOCUS

INVESTMENT POLICY AND INVESTOR APPROVED FOR HONG LOC SOLAR POWER PLANT PROJECT IN HA TINH PROVINCE

Under Decision No. 35/QĐ-UBND dated September 14, 2026, issued by the People's Committee of Ha Tinh Province, the investment policy for the Hong Loc Solar Power Plant Project was approved and HLT Green Technology Joint Stock Company was approved as the investor. The project has the following key details:

The project will be implemented in Hong Loc Commune.

The project is expected to use approximately 55.5 hectares of land, including the solar power plant area, auxiliary facilities, grid connection facilities, and the expansion of a feeder bay at the Can Loc 110 kV Substation.

The project will have a designed capacity of 49 MW, with an expected average annual electricity output of approximately 68.62 million kWh.

The total investment capital is estimated at VND 763.312 billion.

The project will have an operating term of 50 years, starting from the date on which the State allocates or leases the land.

The project will have an implementation period of 12 months from the date on which the land is allocated or leased.

The project is expected to be completed in Q4 2027.

To ensure that the project is implemented in

accordance with regulations and on schedule, the People's Committee of Ha Tinh Province has requested the following:

Requirements for the investor:

First, before the State allocates or leases the land, the investor must complete the procedures for making a security deposit or implementing other measures to secure project implementation in accordance with investment laws, within a period of no more than six months from the effective date of the Decision.

Second, the investor must complete all required documents and procedures and commence construction of the project within six months from the effective date of the Decision. Construction of project components may only begin after all required procedures relating to investment, land, construction, environmental protection, forestry, fire prevention and firefighting, electricity and other relevant matters have been fully completed.

Third, during project implementation, the project must ensure that it does not affect irrigation works, drainage systems, protection corridors of technical infrastructure facilities, national defense and security facilities, or other lawful structures.

Fourth, the investor must implement measures to protect the environment and ensure effective drainage, prioritize the use of local labor, and coordinate with local authorities in communication activities to build consensus among residents.

(Source: VNA)

VIETNAM - CANADA: STRENGTHENING ENERGY COOPERATION AND CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION

During his state visit to Canada, in the presence of General Secretary and President To Lam and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, Minister of Industry and Trade Le Manh Hung exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding on energy cooperation and clean energy transition with Canadian Minister of Natural Resources Tim Hodgson.

The signing of the MOU marks a new step in energy cooperation between Vietnam and Canada, contributing to the concretization of the orientation to strengthen the partnership between the two countries, while expanding the scope of cooperation in the energy sector - a field of significant importance for economic development, ensuring energy security and promoting the clean energy transition.

The memorandum of understanding creates a framework for both sides to enhance dialogue, exchange information, and share experiences and best practices in the energy sector and clean energy transition; while encouraging private sector participation, thereby opening up opportunities for investment, financing, and development of energy projects. Based on the needs and advantages of each side, cooperation can be promoted in areas such as liquefied natural gas (LNG), liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), crude oil, hydrogen and hydrogen derivatives, renewable energy, hydropower, and other areas mutually agreed upon by both sides.

Notably, the MOU also opens up a

mechanism to strengthen connections between regulatory agencies, businesses, financial institutions, research facilities, and relevant partners of the two countries, thereby promoting the transformation of cooperation orientations into concrete opportunities and projects in the future.

The signing of the MOU in the presence of high-ranking leaders from both countries demonstrates the interest and determination of Vietnam and Canada in deepening energy cooperation, making practical contributions to economic growth, ensuring energy security, and promoting the transition to clean and sustainable energy.

Based on the contents of this MOU accordance with the laws, policies, and resources of each party.

Within the framework of General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and President To Lam's recent state visit to Canada, Minister of Industry and Trade Le Manh Hung held talks with Canadian Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Tim Hodgson, focusing on implementing the newly signed MOU on energy and clean energy transition cooperation.

The two ministers agreed to establish a joint working group to advance collaboration. The Vietnamese side assigned the Energy and Petroleum Department as the focal point, with the participation of the Electricity Authority of Vietnam, the Vietnam National Industry-Energy Group (Petrovietnam) and relevant agencies.

(Source: Vietnamenergy)

WORKSHOPS AND TRADE EVENTS

INVITATION TO ATTEND SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY WEEK 2026 (SIEW 2026)

The Vietnam Trade Office in Singapore is pleased to announce and cordially invite Vietnamese enterprises interested in the energy sector to attend the 19th Singapore International Energy Week 2026 (SIEW 2026), which will take place from 26 to 30 October 2026 at the Marina Bay Sands Convention and Exhibition Centre, Singapore.

The event is organized by the Energy Market Authority of Singapore (EMA), under the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), under the theme “Connecting Energy Systems, Powering Tomorrow.”

SIEW is an annual energy forum that brings together policymakers, experts, investors, businesses, and international organizations to exchange experiences, explore emerging trends, showcase solutions, and promote cooperation in the global energy transition. In 2025, the event attracted more than 23,000 participants from over 70 countries, further highlighting SIEW’s growing importance to the regional and international energy community.

SIEW 2026 will focus on building safer, more resilient, and better-connected energy systems amid rapidly growing electricity demand driven by the development of artificial intelligence, data centres, electric vehicles, and cooling needs.

Key areas of focus are expected to include regional power grids, cross-border energy connectivity, renewable energy, natural gas,

hydrogen, biomethane, geothermal energy, next-generation nuclear power, carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS), green finance, and technologies supporting the energy transition.

The programme is expected to feature a wide range of high-level activities, including:

- *Singapore–International Energy Agency Forum;*
- *Singapore–International Renewable Energy Agency High-Level Forum;*
- *IAEA@SIEW Forum on nuclear technology, safety, and readiness for nuclear energy development;*
- *Asia Clean Energy Summit;*
- *Asia Gas Markets Conference;*
- *Future of the Grid Conference;*
- *ASEAN Energy Regulatory Forum;*
- *Thematic programmes on refining and petrochemicals, ammonia, carbon capture, energy technology, investment, and innovation;*
- *SIEW Energy Showcase, featuring new energy technologies and solutions.*

Opportunities for Vietnamese Enterprises to Connect and Cooperate

Please visit the website of the event in <https://www.siew.gov.sg/>

or Contact the Vietnam Trade Office in Singapore via the following contact:

Address: No.10 Leedon Park, S267887

Email: Sg@moit.gov.vn



VnTradeSg

**VIETNAM TRADE
OFFICE IN
SINGAPORE (VTO)**

10 Leedon Park,
267887, Singapore
Tel: +6586455033

E-mail: sg@moit.gov.vn

Website:
<https://vntradesg.org>

USEFUL LINKS

Ministry of Trade and Industry of Vietnam: <https://moit.gov.vn/web/web-portal-ministry-of-industry-and-trade/home>

Export Opportunities in Vietnam: <http://vietnamexport.com/>

Investment Procedure: <http://fia.mpi.gov.vn/category/115/legal-facts>

Business registration in Vietnam: <https://dangkykinhdoanh.gov.vn/en/Pages/default.aspx>

Database portal of supporting industries in Vietnam: <http://vsi.gov.vn/en/Pages/HomePage.aspx>

Trade Fairs in Vietnam: en.vietrade.gov.vn

**STANDARD CHARTERED MAINTAINS POSITIVE
OUTLOOK AS VIỆT NAM'S Q3 GDP GROWTH LIKELY
REMAINED ROBUST**

Việt Nam's economy is expected to maintain strong momentum through the remainder of 2026.

Việt Nam's economy is expected to maintain strong momentum through the remainder of 2026.

Standard Chartered Bank forecasts Việt Nam's GDP growth at 8.7 per cent year-on-year in Q3 2026, up from 8.4 per cent in Q2, reflecting the economy's continued growth momentum despite a challenging external environment, according to its latest report released on Tuesday.

Việt Nam's economy is expected to maintain strong momentum through the remainder of 2026.

Standard Chartered forecasts GDP growth of 10.6 per cent year-on-year in the second half of the year and maintains its full-year 2026 GDP growth forecast at 9.5 per cent. Although external uncertainties persist, continued policy support is expected to support growth momentum in the coming months.

September indicators are expected to remain consistent with continued economic expansion. Industrial production is projected to increase by 13.2 per cent year-on-year, while trade activity is expected to remain strong in the third quarter. Standard Chartered estimates exports grew 27.2 per cent year-on-year in Q3 2026, while imports increased 40 per cent year-on-year.

Inflation is projected at 4.5 per cent year-on-year in September, broadly in line with the government's target.

Tim Leelahaphan, senior economist for Vietnam and Thailand at Standard Chartered, said: "Việt Nam continues to demonstrate strong economic resilience, underpinned by robust domestic demand, expanding industrial production and dynamic trade activity.

"We expect growth momentum to remain solid through the remainder of the year. While external uncertainties remain, continued policy support and sustained economic activity are expected to support Việt Nam's growth outlook through year-end."

(Source: Vietstock)