



- GDT collects \$1.5bn in taxes in first half of the year
- US helps Laos expand agriculture networks
- 5 more investment enterprises permitted in Myanmar
- Vietnamese tra fish exports to Malaysia rise sharply



## GDT collects \$1.5bn in taxes in first half of the year



*Cambodia News | 11 July, 2019*

Tax revenue reached \$1.5 billion during the first half of the year, about 66 percent of the full-year target. At the half-year mark in 2018, the General Department of Taxation (GDT) had only collected \$1.2 billion. In a statement issued earlier this week, GDT said it has been collecting at least 10 percent above target for the past few years. It pointed out that in 2017, tax revenue exceeded the target by 15 percent while last year it did so by 14 percent. Kong Vibol, Director general of GDT, recently said the increase in tax revenue is the result of sharp reforms, both in terms of regulation and tax administration, and stressed the importance of having companies officially register. "We will not reach our tax collection goals without proper registration," he emphasised. Last year, the government collected \$2.19 billion, an increase of 11.19 percent year-on-year.

*Source : <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50622816/gdt-collects-1-5bln-in-taxes-in-first-half-of-the-year/>*

## US helps Laos expand agriculture networks



*Laos News | July, 12/2019*

The United States has agreed to expand support for Laos through the Creating Linkages for Expanded Agriculture Network (CLEAN) project, which is helping improve the quality of farmers' products and expand exports. Winrock International on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Agriculture to carry out the CLEAN

project in Laos. The MOU was signed by the Director General of the Department of Agriculture, Mr Vilaysouk Khennavong, and Chief of Party, CLEAN project, Mr Alexandre Dahan. The signing was witnessed by Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Dr Lien Thikeyo, and the US Ambassador to Laos, Ms Rena Bitter. The project is funded with more than US\$9 million from the United States government through the US Department of Agriculture and implemented by Winrock International. CLEAN's activities are being implemented from 2018-2021 in targeted districts in the capital as well as the provinces of Vientiane, Champassak, Xekong, and Saravan. Under the agreement, the project will continue to focus on encouraging the improved cultivation of commercial crops such as oranges, cassava, cabbage, coffee, bananas, peanuts, and pepper with seven main activities to boost access to both domestic and international markets. The project will use a market-driven approach to develop market linkages and increase demand for Lao clean agriculture in domestic, regional and global markets by improving quality compliance and certification systems. These efforts will increase production and reduce post-harvest losses. Speaking at the MOU signing ceremony, Dr Lien said the CLEAN project was playing an essential role in helping Lao farmers to expand their agricultural production networks with an eye for exports. In 2018, the most exported commercial crop was bananas at US\$209 million, accounting for 30 percent of all agricultural exports, followed by US\$70 million in coffee exports and US\$24 million worth of dried cassava. The main export markets are China, Thailand, Vietnam, and the European Union. Dr Lien said the MOU would continue to strengthen the work between provincial

agriculture and forestry authorities and Winrock to achieve further farming development. Mr Dahan said there is a large and increasing demand for quality agricultural produce from international markets, and Laos' agricultural products still have export opportunities if they can meet those market requirements. The agreement represented the joint commitment to support Lao farmers and ensure they benefited across a number of value chains, increasing quality, income, and further competitive advantage, he added.

Source : [http://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeConten\\_US\\_160.php](http://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeConten_US_160.php)

## 5 more investment enterprises permitted in Myanmar



*Myanmar News | July, 11/2019*

YANGON, July 11 (Xinhua) -- Myanmar Investment Commission (MIC) recently permitted five local and foreign investment enterprises, the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) said on Thursday. Local enterprises with 7.83 billion kyats (5.2 million U.S. dollars) investments and foreign enterprises with a capital of 93.2 million U.S. dollars were approved on Wednesday at the commission's meeting led by MIC Chairman U Thaug Tun, who is also union minister of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations. The permitted investments entered the country's manufacturing, construction and other services sectors, creating over 530 local employment opportunities. According to the DICA's figures, Myanmar attracted a total of 80.2 billion U.S. dollars' foreign investments from 1,725 enterprises from the fiscal year 1988-1989 to May

31 of the present fiscal year 2018-2019. The country's oil and gas sector attracted 27.94 percent of total foreign investments while the power sector with 26.4 percent and the manufacturing sector with 13.59 percent. Regionally, Yangon region attracts 60 percent of both local and foreign investments, followed by Mandalay with 30 percent and the rest flows into other regions and states.

Source: [http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-07/11/c\\_138218102.htm](http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-07/11/c_138218102.htm)

## Vietnamese tra fish exports to Malaysia rise sharply



*Vietnam News | July, 11/2019*

NDO - The exports of Vietnamese tra fish (pangasius) to Malaysia in the first five months of 2019 surged sharply by 47.3% compared to the same period in 2018. According to the Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers (VASEP), Vietnamese tra fish exports to the ASEAN market reached US\$87.3 million in the first five months of 2019, up 14.6% compared to the corresponding period in 2018. Malaysia was among the ASEAN countries posting the highest rise in import revenue of Vietnamese tra fish with an import revenue of US\$18.8 million in five months, a year-on-year increase of 47.3%. In March alone, Vietnamese tra fish exports to Malaysia were reported at US\$5.51 million, a dramatic rise of 119% compared to the same period in 2019. During the five-month period, Vietnam shipped US\$32.5 million worth of tra fish to Thailand, up 9.2% compared to the same period in 2018. Vietnam also exported US\$19 million worth of tra fish to the Philippines in the first five months of this year, a year-on-year increase of

25%. ASEAN was the fourth largest export market of Vietnamese tra fish in 2018 after the US, China and the EU.

Sources : <https://en.nhandan.com.vn/business/item/7682902-vietnamese-tra-fish-exports-to-malaysia-rise-sharply.html>