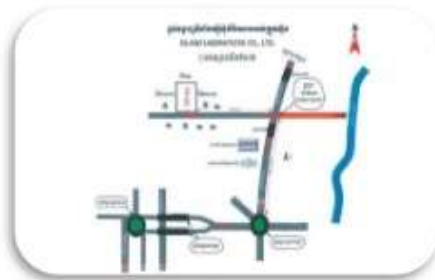


Highlight News / March 29, 2021



- Five investment projects valued at \$1.29 billion approved
- VLP, Jetro partner to promote Japanese investment in Laos
- Vietnam sees foreign investment rise to \$4.1 billion in first quarter
- Vietnam's textile and apparel industry may recover in 2H 2022



## Five investment projects valued at \$1.29 billion approved



*Cambodia News | 27 March, 2021*

The Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC) has approved five investment projects with an accumulated investment capital of \$1.299billion. The projects include a pharmaceutical factory in Phnom Penh, a furniture and bed furniture in Sihanouk province, an agriculture packaging production in the Phnom Penh Special Economic Zone, a light and lamp appliance factory in Svay Rieng province and a coal power plant capable of generating power 700 megawatts in Sihanouk province. The power plant project is being invested in by Huadian Sihanoukville Power Generational Co, at a cost of \$1.283billion. These five projects, once operational, will create some 2,250 new jobs.

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/50830802/five-investment-projects-valued-at-1-29-billion-approved/>

## VLP, Jetro partner to promote Japanese investment in Laos



*Laos News | 29 March, 2021*

The developer of the Vientiane Logistics Park (VLP) and a Japanese trade representative have partnered to promote Japanese investment in the park, where a number of incentives are set to be offered. VLP Co., Ltd. – the local developer of the VLP and the operator of Thanaleng Dry Port (TDP) - and the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Cooperation in Vientiane Capital to work together to boost Japanese investment in the

VLP, which is being developed in Hadxaifong district.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, President of VLP Co., Ltd. Mr Chanthone Sittthixay said that with the support of JETRO and investors, the VLP can become a business and logistics centre in Laos where investors can enjoy many investment and trade privileges. “For Japanese companies looking to diversify their supply chain, I would like you to see the opportunities to invest, manufacture, export or re-export from Laos and enjoy all the special trade privileges that Laos has to offer,” Mr Chanthone told those attending the ceremony. “The Vientiane Logistics Park will help Japanese companies by facilitating all the paperwork, processes and logistics services that will make investing in Laos fast, easy and profitable.” The VLP, which has strategic location, is an important project that will help transform Laos from a landlocked to a land-linked country. It is located near the 1st Lao-Thai Friendship Bridge with dedicated international checkpoint linking Vientiane with Nong Khai province in Thailand through the newly developed bonded access road and Lao-Thai railway, which will also connect to the Laos-China railway. Also speaking at the signing ceremony, JETRO Chief Representative Mr Katsuichi Iwakami said the VLP and JETRO would work together to promote Japanese investment in the logistics park by organising seminars, both offline and online, and other possible activities. “More importantly, establishing direct linkage for exchanging

information between VLP and JETRO based on the MOC (Memorandum of Cooperation), means that this could improve information access and deliver more useful and updated information on VLP to the Japanese business community, at any time," he said. He added that most Japanese companies would like to see detailed information, including concrete development plans, the legal framework and the timeframe of the project among other aspects. These are very important for their feasibility studies for new investment projects and business opportunities, with regard to the long-term sustainability and profitability of the project, as well as legal compliances with the local community. Presenting the Vientiane Logistics Park and Thanaleng Dry Port projects, VLP's Vice President Mr. Tee Chee Seng said investors can expect to enjoy a number of incentives including tax holidays. Works are being accelerated to develop infrastructure, facilities, and other essential systems of the Vientiane Logistics Park and Thanaleng Dry Port, which are located just one kilometre from the Lao-Thai Friendship Bridge. "We will put all the infrastructure in place. We will put the systems in place. We will put everything in place. Investors, just bring your know-how, your market and your products so you can sell them," Mr Tee Chee Seng said. Mr Chanthone told signing ceremony participants that the Vientiane Logistics Park is a legacy project born from cooperation between the Lao and Japanese governments, as initiated by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) and Nippon

Express in 2011. Mr Chanthone and Mr Iwakami signed the Memorandum of Cooperation, witnessed by Japanese Ambassador to Laos, Mr Keizo Takewaka; former Minister to the Prime Minister's Office and now PTL Holding Company Limited's President of the Executive Board of Strategy and Planning, Mr Alounkeo Kittikhoun; former Deputy Minister of Finance and now Vientiane Logistics Park Company Limited's Senior Advisor, Mr Sila Viengkeo; and relevant officials.

Source:[https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent\\_VLP\\_61.php](https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent_VLP_61.php)

## Vietnam sees foreign investment rise to \$4.1 billion in first quarter



*Vietnam News | 28 March, 2021*

HANOI -- Vietnam received \$4.1 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI) in the first three months of 2021, up 6.5% from a year earlier, government data showed on Saturday. FDI has been a key driver of Vietnam's economic growth. Companies with investment from foreign firms account for about 70% of the southeast Asian country's exports. FDI pledges — which indicate the size of future FDI disbursements — rose 18.5% from a year earlier to \$10.13 billion in the January-March period, the government said in a statement. Of the pledges, 49.6% would go to manufacturing and processing, while 38.9% are to be invested in electricity distribution, it added. Singapore was the top source of FDI pledges in the period, followed by Japan and South Korea.

Source: <https://tuoitrenews.vn/news/business/20210328/vietnam-sees-foreign-investment-rise-to-41-billion-in-first-quarter/60008.html>

## Vietnam's textile and apparel industry may recover in 2H 2022



*Vietnam News | 28 March, 2021*

HÀ NỘI — Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) has maintained the Government of Việt Nam's long-term issuer and senior unsecured ratings at Ba3 and changed the outlook to positive from negative. The drivers of the positive outlook include signs of improvements in fiscal strength and potential improvements in economic strength that may strengthen Việt Nam's credit profile over time. Sustained fiscal consolidation has led to improvements in fiscal and debt metrics, which Moody's expects to be only briefly interrupted by the pandemic. Moreover, Việt Nam's economic strength may benefit from global shifts in production, trade and consumption following the coronavirus pandemic. Over time, indications of higher fiscal and economic strength may point to improving policy effectiveness, also putting upward pressure on Việt Nam's credit profile. The affirmation of the Ba3 rating is underpinned by ongoing credit strengths and weaknesses, including a large, diversified economy with high growth potential offering resilience to shocks, and increasing capacity in the domestic financial system to finance government borrowing at low costs. Việt Nam's local- and foreign-currency ceilings are unchanged at Baa3 and Ba2,

respectively. In its evaluation, Moody's also considered other factors such as the environment, society, air pollution, extreme weather conditions, which it held that Việt Nam should give greater attention to. Moody's raising of two positions in outlook prospect is an unprecedented move in its ranking globally since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is a considerable recognition for Việt Nam. — VNS

Source: <http://hanoitimes.vn/vietnams-textile-and-apparel-industry-may-recover-in-2h-2022-316797.html>