

## Highlight News / November 11, 2022



- Cambodia approves more than 150 investments worth more than \$3 billion in 10 months
- Chinese-built international airport expected to play key role in boosting growth in Cambodia
- Lao farm products to hit Shanghai markets under CIIE deal
- Myanmar imports over 75,000 tonnes of fertilizer worth \$46.847 mln by sea in Oct
- Ports see Jan-Oct cargo throughput rising 3% y-o-y
- Measures sought to speed up digital transformation in SMEs



**Advisory Institute for Trade and Investment by TCC (AiTi)**

## Cambodia approves more than 150 investments worth more than \$3 billion in 10 months



*Cambodia News | 09 November, 2022*

In the first 10 months of 2022, Cambodia approved a total of 161 investment projects with a total investment capital of \$3.5 billion. While speaking at the Viêt Nam-Cambodia trade and investment promotion forum yesterday, Sok Chenda Sophea, Delegate Minister Attached to the Prime Minister and Secretary General of the Council for the Development of Cambodia (CDC), said that of the 161 investments approved, 41.5 percent was for industry and 51 percent is in infrastructure. He added that the Council for the Development of Cambodia has been actively fulfilling its mission with a high sense of responsibility in order to continue to attract more investment through participation in the preparation and implementation of policies, laws and regulations related to the modernization of investment project registration. The CDC, relevant ministries and institutions have been preparing a sub-decree on the implementation of the Investment Law of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year. The CDC Secretary General added that the roadmap is expected to contribute to increasing production and export of products in both sectors, increasing

employment and improving the Cambodian business and investment environment.

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501181326/cambodia-hopes-to-open-the-chinese-market-with-the-thai-fragrant-coconut-2/>

## Chinese-built international airport expected to play key role in boosting growth in Cambodia



*Cambodia News | 10 November, 2022*

The new Phnom Penh international airport, which is being constructed by the China Construction Third Engineering Bureau Group Co., Ltd, is expected to play a key role in boosting Cambodia's economic growth and tourism after being completed. The project, which is the fruit of close cooperation between Cambodia and China under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, has also contributed to developing skills and expertise for Cambodian engineers and workers. Upon completion, the airport will become a 4F-class airport, which allows the take-off and landing of all sizes of aircraft. The airport is expected to greatly relieve the country's pressure of airport operation, and play a role in attracting international tourists. Xinhua

Source: <https://www.khmertimeskh.com/501181671/chinese-built-international-airport-expected-to-play-key-role-in-boosting-growth-in-cambodia/>

## Lao farm products to hit Shanghai markets under CIIE deal



*Laos News | 10 November, 2022*

Fruit and vegetables from Laos will soon be available on market shelves in Shanghai, China, under a new deal signed at the ongoing 5th China International Import Expo (CIIE), local media reported. The Department of Trade Promotion of Laos' Ministry of Industry and Commerce signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Yangpu District government at the Expo, which is taking place from November 5-11 in Shanghai, according to SHINE - a new digital media product powered by the Shanghai Daily. Under the MOU, signed to boost trade and commerce between China and Laos, Yangpu will support more quality agricultural products from Laos to enter local markets and meet the needs of local residents, the report added. To facilitate the move, the Lao Imported Food Distribution Centre will be established in Yangpu to serve Shanghai and other cities in the Yangtze River Delta region. The main agricultural products from Laos include rice, bananas, potatoes and maize. Some products, including sweet maize, dried cassava and passion fruit are especially popular among Chinese consumers. Leading Internet firms in Yangpu will provide better digital resources and e-commerce

platforms for the sale of the Lao agricultural produce in China, the district government was quoted as saying. Cooperation between the Lao ministry and Yangpu in this regard will be facilitated by the Laos-China Railway and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP). Enterprises from all of RCEP's member countries are attending this year's China International Import Expo, while the number of countries along the Belt and Road Initiative and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation countries attending the annual event has also increased. Laos has been a participant for five consecutive years. China has become a key export market for Lao goods, especially agricultural produce, following the opening of the Laos-China Railway at the end of 2021. In 2021, the value of trade between the two countries soared to US\$4.35 billion, an increase of 21.4 percent compared to the previous year, according to the Laos-China Cooperation Commission. The value of goods imported by Laos from China was recorded at US\$1.67 billion, an increase of 11.9 percent, while the value of Lao exports rose to US\$2.68 billion, an increase of 28.2 percent. The Lao government believes that the Laos-China Railway, which is part of the Belt and Road Initiative, will be a major boost to economic and trade cooperation between the two neighbours in the coming years. As of October 31, 2022, the Lao section of the railway, which links

Kunming – the capital of China's Yunnan province to the Lao capital of Vientiane - has shipped more than 1.7 million tonnes of goods, with an average monthly growth rate of 17.09 percent.

Source: [https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent2022\\_Laofarm219.php](https://www.vientianetimes.org.la/freeContent/FreeContent2022_Laofarm219.php)

## Myanmar imports over 75,000 tonnes of fertilizer worth \$46.847 mln by sea in Oct

 Myanmar News | 11 November, 2022

Myanmar brought in over 75,000 tonnes of fertilizer worth US\$46.847 million in seaborne trade in October. Between 1 and 31 October, Myanmar imported over 25,000 tonnes of fertilizer from Oman, over 27,000 tonnes of fertilizer from China, over 8,500 from the UAE, over 5,200 from Viet Nam, over 3,800 from Thailand, over 2,700 from the Republic of Korea, over 30 from Malaysia, over 20 from Indonesia, over 15 from Spain and over five tonnes from India. The volume of fertilizer import is, however, down by over 35,000 tonnes compared with that of September. Meanwhile, the country imported over 11,000 tonnes of fertilizer worth \$4.281 million through a cross-border channel last month, with about over 3,700 tonnes from Thailand, over 1,100 from India and about 5,700 from China. China is the main supplier of fertilizer in border trade. The prices of fertilizer moved in the range between K65,000-170,000 per 50-kg bag depending on the brand (Myanma Awba, Thai Grow How, Pale) and

types of fertilizer in the second week of November. Despite perating fertilizer plants in Myanmar to produce bags of fertilizers, the country still needs such input for domestic consumption. —TWA/GNLM

Source: <https://www.gnlm.com.mm/myanmar-imports-over-75000-tonnes-of-fertilizer-worth-46-847-mln-by-sea-in-oct/#article-title>

## Ports see Jan-Oct cargo throughput rising 3% y-o-y

 Vietnam News | 10 November, 2022

HCMC – Cargo throughput at ports nationwide reached 608.3 million tons between January and October, meeting 84% of the year's target and rising by 3% year-on-year, according to the Vietnam Maritime Administration. According to SSI Research, the shipping sector's growth prospects remained grim in light of the weakening global economy. However, many domestic port operators saw positive results in operation despite socioeconomic challenges. In the north, the Port of Haiphong Joint Stock Company announced a consolidated pre-tax profit of VND222.2 billion in the third quarter of 2022, increasing by 20% year-on-year. The Danang Port Joint Stock Company in the central coastal city of Danang recorded that cargo throughput and total services earnings between July and September rose by 3.4% and 14.4%, respectively.

Source: <https://english.thesaigontimes.vn/ports-see-jan-oct-cargo-throughput-rising-3-y-o-y/>

## Measures sought to speed up digital transformation in SMEs



*Vietnam News | 10 November, 2022*

A forum discussing ways to help small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to accelerate digital transformation took place in Hanoi on November 9. Jointly held by the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and Meta Group, the event brought together representatives from the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the Ministry of Information and Communication, business associations and communities. The event created a venue for policy makers, business support organisations, economic experts, and credit institutions to discuss the challenges facing SMEs, as well as policies, trends, opportunities, tools and solutions related to digital transformation. Addressing the event, VCCI Vice President Bui Trung Nghia said digital transformation opens up opportunities for all countries, especially developing countries, to grow faster and upgrade their development ranking. According to Vice Director of the Enterprise Development Agency under the Ministry of Planning and Investment Bui Thu Thuy, in recent years, the VCCI has cooperated with multiple organisations to support tens of thousands of businesses in accelerating application of digital tools in developing their businesses, contributing to changing the awareness and ability

of the business community in this field. With a population of nearly 100 million, including 70% with internet access, and about 72% using smartphones, Vietnam is considered one of the countries with the highest growth in the digital economy in Southeast Asia. Vietnam's digital economy was valued at 21 billion USD in 2021, up 31% year-on-year, and making up 5% of national GDP. The country's economy has recorded rapid changes through the application of digital technology. Its digital economy is expected to reach 57 billion USD in 2025, ranking second in Southeast Asia, with annual growth of 29%. Digital transformation in the business community has recorded strong development in recent years to respond to changes in consumption behaviour well as management needs. Many businesses have applied software solutions and used digital platforms in accounting-financial management, sales, online marketing, distribution channel management, business administration, and creating new products and services.

Source: <https://en.nhandan.vn/measures-sought-to-speed-up-digital-transformation-in-smes-post119693.html>

---