

VIETNAM CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM VCSF 2017

Scaling-up business solutions to sustainability challenges

10 October 2017

Sheraton Hanoi Hotel, K5 Nghi Tam, 11 Xuan Dieu, Tay Ho District, Hanoi

A. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

I. Rationale

In late September 2015, Vietnam together with 192 member states of the United Nations adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the central focus of the global development agenda for the next fifteen years (the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development). Since then, the government of Vietnam has been developed a practicable action plan for the forceful implementation of this Agenda, notably including the localization of SDGs, which can be dubbed as V-SDGs. Of course, government's efforts alone would never be enough to realize these highly ambitious development goals. Efforts are imperative at all levels, across all sectors and by all stakeholders, of which the private sector has a critical role to play. Business leaders can translate the SDGs' ambitions and words into action underpinned by business solutions: business-led ventures that are impactful, scalable, measurable, replicable, and going beyond business as usual.¹

II. Objective

The 4th Vietnam Corporate Sustainability Forum (VCSF 2017) will build upon the success of the past three VCSFs which were convened in 2014, 2015 and 2016. Under the theme of "*Scaling-up business solutions to sustainability challenges*", this year's Forum will gather government, business and civil society leaders and representatives together to discuss ways to create an enabling environment for the thriving of innovative business solutions that are not only commercially viable but also effectively address environmental and social issues. VCSF 2017 aims to be an interactive platform for participants to update and exchange sustainable business practices, models and ideas, thus exploring untapped investment opportunities. The Forum will also facilitate the public-private dialogue to enhance governmental supports for business sustainable development.

Objectives of VCSF 2017 are as follows:

- To explain why and how SDGs and businesses matter to each other
- To facilitate the update and sharing of the latest information, knowledge, experience as well as good practices and models on sustainable development among companies and relevant stakeholders
- To provide updates regarding plans, programmes and initiatives of the government of Vietnam and international organizations that engage and support Vietnam's private sector in the realization of SDGs
- To promote and strengthen the Business-Government-Civil Society partnership for the successful implementation of SDGs in Vietnam
- To raise public awareness on sustainable development issues through the mass media

¹ Delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals: The inclusive business approach

III. Participants and expected outputs

To achieve the above objectives, VCSF 2017 involve:

- **Special Guest Speaker:** H.E. Vu Duc Dam – Deputy Prime Minister cum Chairman of the National Council for Sustainable Development and Competitiveness Improvement;
- Leaders of relevant ministries and state agencies, e.g. MPI, MONRE, MARD, MOLISA, VGCL, HOSE, etc.
- Leaders or senior representative of international and domestic organizations/NGOs and embassies in Vietnam;
- Leaders and representatives of companies and business associations in Vietnam
- The press and media

Expected outputs:

- Participants gain a better understanding about the relationship between SDGs and business sector;
- Wider and deeper adaptation of innovative business solutions to tackle sustainability challenges;
- Stronger commitments of the private sector, the Government and civil society organizations to intensify collaboration for SDGs implementation in Vietnam.

B. PRELIMINARY AGENDA

- ❖ Time: **08:30 – 16:00; Tuesday, 10 October 2017**
- ❖ Venue: Sheraton Hanoi Hotel, K5 Nghi Tam, 11 Xuan Dieu, Tay Ho District, Hanoi
- ❖ Language: Vietnamese and English (interpretation to be provided)
- ❖ **Special Guest Speaker: H.E. Vu Duc Dam – Deputy Prime Minister cum Chairman of the National Council for Sustainable Development and Competitiveness Improvement**

08:00 – 08:30	Registration
08:30 – 08:45	Opening Remarks <i>Dr. Vu Tien Loc – VCCI Chairman & President cum VBCSD Co-Chair</i>
08:45 – 10:35	PLENARY SESSION
08:45 – 09:00	<p>The need to catalyze and scale-up innovative business solutions for successful SDGs implementation</p> <p>In 2015, at an historic UN Summit, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by 193 world leaders. The 17 SDGs comprises 169 items to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind over the next fifteen years. The Agenda insists on the role of enterprises in the successful implementation of SDGs. This means that business plays a critical role and catalyzing and scaling up innovative business solutions shall help shorten the journey to achieve 17 SDGs in Viet Nam.</p>
	<p>Guest speaker:</p> <p><i>Mr. Kamal Malhotra – UN Resident Coordinator in Vietnam</i></p>
09:00 – 09:15	<p>Plan to deliver the Paris Agreement in Viet Nam: Engaging the private sector</p> <p>In April 2017, Viet Nam together with over 170 nations signed the Paris Agreement on tackling the defense of climate change. This action is seen as a historic movement in the fight against the climate change on a global scale. Among countries most vulnerable to climate change impacts, the implementation of Paris Agreement possibly enables Vietnam to take advantage of opportunities and turn challenges caused by climate change into new opportunities to boost the country's development on a green and sustainable agenda.</p> <p>There is an undeniably important role of the private sector in delivering this Agreement as their activities somewhat has effects on the community and environment where they operate as well as surrounding areas. Hence, it is mandatory to further engage</p>

	enterprises in environmental protection and climate change tackling campaigns following the agreed content in Paris Agreement.
	<p>Guest speaker: <i>Mr. Tran Hong Ha – Minister of Natural Resources and Environment</i></p>
09:15 – 09:30	<p>Sustainable agriculture and potential business opportunities</p> <p>In the context of the world currently facing complicated challenges in which the climate change, population explosion are threatening food security, such a country with enormous potential to create a prosper agriculture as Vietnam might enjoy a great deal of business opportunities derived from green and sustainable agriculture development. Accordingly, all sectors of agriculture, forestry and aquaculture should be included in this development orientation.</p> <p>From governmental perspective, which policies/guidelines have been established to motivate the enforcement of the national sustainable agriculture? What are opportunities associated with green farming?</p>
	<p>Guest speaker: <i>Mr. Nguyen Xuan Cuong – Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development</i></p>
09:30 – 09:50	<p>Embedding SDGs in business strategies and operation</p>
	<p>Guest Speaker: <i>Mr. Tran Vu Hoai, Vice President – Sustainable Business & Communications of Unilever Vietnam</i></p>
09:50 – 10:00	<p>Promoting sustainable business solutions nationwide</p> <p>It has been two years since 193 world leaders approved the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including 17 Sustainable Development Goals. How have enterprises explored and deployed these goals in their business? What challenges and opportunities do they have and what can be done for improvement?</p> <p>The issuance of the Resolution No.19 on business environment and competitiveness improvement in 2014 proved the determination of Vietnamese government in creating a new business environment that would catch up with other countries in the region. From business perspective, they are called for being more active in strengthening competence, grabbing new business opportunities, driving innovation, applying new and advanced business models, especially sustainable solutions for long-term gains instead of short-term benefits.</p>
	<p>Speaker: <i>Mr. Nguyen Quang Vinh – VCCI Deputy Secretary General cum VBCSD Vice Chairman</i></p>
10:00 – 10:15	<p>Innovative solutions to SDGs implementation: People, Prosperity, Planet</p>
	<p>Guest Speaker:</p>

	<i>Mr. Leo Evers – General Manager of Heineken Vietnam</i>
10:15 – 10:35	Speech by Special Guest Speaker, H.E. Vu Duc Dam – Deputy Prime Minister cum Chairman of the National Council for Sustainable Development and Competitiveness Improvement
10:35 – 11:00	TEA BREAK
	PANEL DISCUSSION
11:00 – 12:30	<p>Topic: Businesses’ initiatives in delivering SDGs</p> <p>Along with other 192 member countries of UN, Vietnam has actively been promoting the sustainable development in various fields namely education, health, environment, energy, gender equality, etc. to deliver 17 SDGs. With their operation’s impacts on every corner of daily life, businesses play an important role on that journey.</p> <p>Representatives from leading businesses in Vietnam and multinational companies such as Bao Viet, Vingroup, Unilever, Coca-Cola Vietnam, AES Mong Duong, Pepsico will bring to the Forum their experiences, lessons and good practices in realizing their initiatives and new business models towards sustainable development.</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Florian Beranek, Lead Expert Societal Responsibility, UNIDO</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mr. Tran Vu Hoai, Vice President of Corporate Affairs and Sustainable Development, Unilever Viet Nam</i> - <i>Ms. Le Tu Cam Ly, Director of Legal and PR in Indochina, Coca Cola Viet Nam</i> - <i>Mr. Dao Dinh Thi, President of Bao Viet Holdings</i> - <i>Ms. Duong Mai Hoa, CEO of Vingroup</i> - <i>Mr. David Stone, Managing Director of AES Mong Duong Power Ltd.</i> - <i>Mr. Le Mac Linh, Deputy General Director of Corporate Affairs and Communication, Suntory Pepsico Vietnam</i>
12:30 – 14:00	LUNCHEON
	BREAKDOWN SESSION
14:00 – 15:30	<p><u>Session 1: Sustainable Value Chain: <i>Developing human capital to achieve the SDGs – The role of Higher Education (BC Lead)</i></u></p> <p>Sustainable value chain is the business model in which sustainable development factors are integrated in the entire production and distribution process of products and services. With the scientific and technological revolution and the inevitable globalization, the world economy is increasingly based on knowledge and information, which leads to the vital role of the development of the human capital these days.</p> <p>14:00 – 14:05 Introduction</p>

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| 14:05 – 14:35 | Sharing on the British Council report on social enterprise/social innovation: roles of higher education
<i>Mr Tristan Ace, Consultant at British Council</i> |
| 14:35 – 14:50 | Sharing on business practices to facilitate the capacity building for SMEs in Vietnam
<i>Ms. Le Tu Cam Ly, Director of Legal and PR in Indochina, Coca Cola Viet Nam</i> |
| 14:50 – 15:10 | Sharing on the roles of Higher Education in developing human capital and knowledge to achieve the SDGs
<i>Dr Truong Thi Nam Thang, National Economic University</i>
<i>Dr. CHANDRA Yanto, City University of Hong Kong</i>
<i>Representative from Jakarta University, Indonesia</i> |
| 15:10 – 15:25 | Discussion |
| 15:25 – 15:30 | Conclusion |

Session 2: Circular Economy: Renewable Energy and Biomass Energy

In a linear economy, goods are made from raw materials, used and thrown away after its use. Whereas, the circular economy strongly adopts the redesign, reuse and remanufacturing of goods for their extended lifetime and value and creation of a zero waste economy in the end. Renewable energy and biomass energy are two indispensable aspects in this model.

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| 14:00 – 14:05 | Introduction |
| 14:05 – 14:30 | Application of renewable energy in production at Heineken Vietnam
<i>Ms. Le Thi Ngoc My, Head of CSR Dept., Heineken Vietnam</i> |
| 14:30 – 14:50 | Sharing by representative of DOW Chemical Vietnam
<i>Mr. Tomoyuki Sasama, General Director of DOW Chemical Vietnam</i> |
| 14:50 – 15:25 | Discussion |
| 15:25 – 15:30 | Conclusion |

Session 3: Transparency and Integrity in doing business: On the way to sustainability – Embedding transparency and integrity in business strategy to attract investment

Transparency and integrity are core components to create a healthy economy. They help encourage innovation, improve product quality and enhance productivity of enterprises in the sustainable development roadmap. Along with a well-developed legal framework, big efforts of the business community is needed for a non-corruption economy.

	<p>14:00 – 14:05 Introduction</p> <p>14:05 – 14:30 Introduction about Dean 12 and “Instructions of Corruption Defense for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SME)” toolkit <i>Ms. Dinh Thi Bich Xuan, Head of Office for Sustainable Development, VCCI</i></p> <p>14:30 – 15:00 Solutions to promote integrity in the financial sector Ms. Pham Thi Thu Ha, Corporate Relations Director, Citibank</p> <p>15:00 – 15:25 Discussion & Q&A</p> <p>15:25 – 15:30 Conclusion</p>
	<p><u>Session 4: Sustainability reporting & Corporate Sustainability Index: GRI Standard</u></p> <p>In the context of sustainable development becoming a global trend, more and more businesses invest on sustainability reporting which effectively measures and introduces their business performance information in not only financial angle but also environmental and social ones. In Vietnam, VCCI and VBCSD successfully developed the Corporate Sustainability Index (CSI) – the first and only Vietnamese-based index up to now. The index is a useful tool for business value measurement on economic, environmental and social basis, at the same time efficiently supports corporate governance towards sustainable development.</p> <p>14:00 – 14:05 Introduction</p> <p>14:05 – 14:25 Differences between GRI G4 and GRI Standard <i>PwC representative</i></p> <p>14:25 – 14:55 GRI Standard-based sustainability reporting <i>Mr. Pham Ngoc Tu, Deputy Director of Financial Management, Bao Viet Holdings</i></p> <p>14:55 – 15:10 Sharing by Traphaco JSC.’s representative <i>Ms. Dao Thu Ha, Head of Marketing Dept., Traphaco JSC</i></p> <p>15:10 – 15:25 Discussion</p> <p>15:25 – 15:30 Conclusion</p>
15:30 – 15:50	<p>BREAKDOWN SESSIONS WRAP-UP: Sustainable Value Chain, Circular Economy, Transparency and Integrity in doing business, Sustainability reporting & Corporate Sustainability Index</p> <p><i>Mr. Nguyen Quang Vinh – VCCI Deputy Secretary General cum VBCSD Vice Chairman</i></p>
15:50 – 16:00	<p style="text-align: center;">CLOSING</p> <p><i>Mr. Matt Wilson – Corporate Affairs Director, Heineken Vietnam cum VBCSD Co-Chair</i></p>

* The Forum agenda and guest speakers are subject to change for the best outcome.