

# NEWSLETTER

VIETNAM BUSINESS FORUM

## ESG COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY !?

**ESG** (*Environment – Social – Governance*) has become the global trend in recent years and a fundamental shift in how businesses and investors approach sustainability, responsibility, and governance.

**ESG** is also considered a significant tool to support the implementation of the governments' net-zero plans.

Given that context, VBF is pleased to conduct the **ESG survey** among **VBF** business community with the aim to identify businesses' interests and needs to effectively implement **ESG** initiatives in Vietnam. The survey has been circulated to all VBF Chambers and Working Groups' esteemed members for their responses and further action.

We do hope that the data-driven insights obtained from the survey will help the Government of Vietnam to make informed decisions, regulate effectively, incentivize sustainable practices, and engage stakeholders in their efforts to achieve net-zero target by 2050 and towards sustainable development. It is expected that survey will be followed up with a **ESG Report Launching** by end of this year.

Follow us and Stay tuned for more updates!



## HOW TO CONNECT US?



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# September Highlights

## Economic Outlook H2/2023 Workshop

*Hanoi, September 8th 2023*

On Friday, 8th September 2023 in Hanoi, with the support of BritCham Vietnam, VBF successfully organized the Vietnam Economic Outlook H2.2023 with participation of more than 300 people both in person and via online. This inaugural Vietnam Economic Outlook event marks the beginning of a significant annual VBF event within business community in the coming time.

Presented at the event, VBF Co-Chair Nitin Kapoor emphasized that the first half of 2023 witnessed an economic growth rate of 3.72%, which, though not exceptionally high, stands as a testament to Vietnam's stability. Vietnam's macroeconomy remains secure and inflation is under control.

There are 04 topics covered in the meeting:

1. Vietnam Economic Outlook - Managing Headwinds, presented by Mr. Andrea Coppola. Lead Economist at World Bank Group.
2. Banking Sector and Vietnam's economic growth and sustainable development, presented by Mr. Motokatsu Ban, Managing Director, Joint General Manager at Mizuho Bank, Ltd. Hanoi Branch.
3. Credit Growth Outlook and Key credit drivers, presented by from Ms. Pham Thuy Duong, Research Associate Director at Dragon Capital.
4. Real Estate Outlook, presented by Ms. An Nguyen, Hanoi Branch Director, Research & Consulting Services at CBRE Vietnam.

For details, the event presentations are available for downloading at the link below:

<https://vbf.org.vn/publications/vbf-event/>



*Panelists at the Economic Outlook H2/2023 Workshop (from left to right): Ms. An Nguyen - CBRE, Mr. Nitin Kapoor - VBF CoChair, Ms. Virginia Foote - VBF Board member, Mr. Andrea Coppola - WB, Mr. Motokatsu Ban and Mr. Hiep Dang - Mizuho Bank*

# September Highlights

## **Businesses' comments on the Draft Decree replacing Decree 72/2013/ND-CP on management, provision and use of internet services and online information**

*VBF Digital Economy Working Group*

Regarding the latest draft decree to replace Decree 72/2013/ND-CP on the management, provision and use of Internet services and online information and Decree 27/2018/ND-CP which amends Decree 72, VBF Digital Economy Working Group has submitted its recommendations/ comments to the Authority of Broadcasting and Electronic Information (Ministry of Information and Communications - MIC) for their consideration. As planned, the official Decree will be approved and issued in October 2023.

We do hope VBF inputs to the Draft will provide useful information for the drafting team in the process of completing this important Draft Decree.

For detailed papers, please kindly click in the button below:



# Virtual Briefing on Decree 70/2023/ND-CP regarding foreign workers working in Vietnam and recruiting and managing Vietnamese workers working for foreign organizations and individuals in Vietnam

VBF Human Resources Working Group

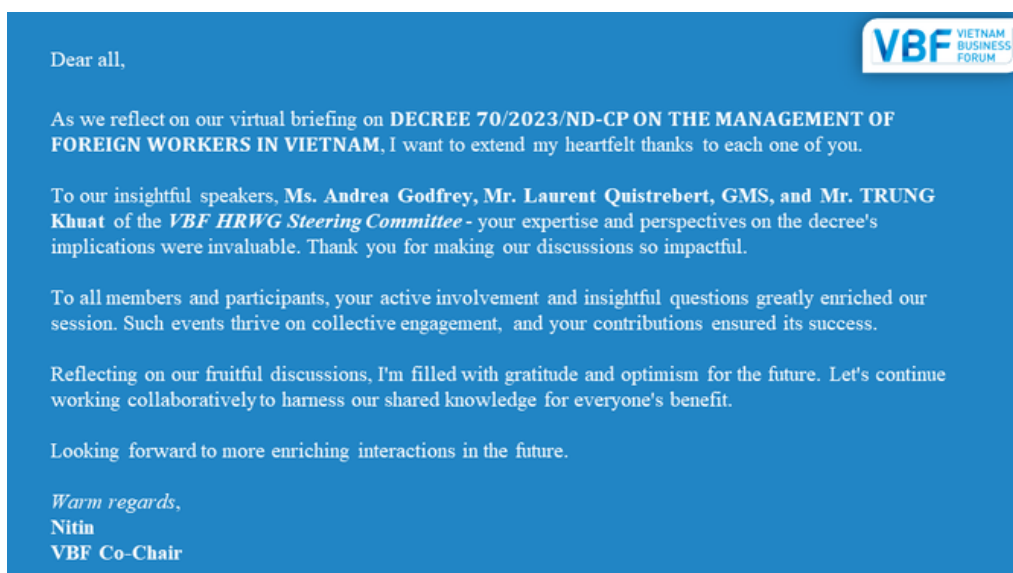
Given the spread interest of the business community on the new Decree 70/2023/ND-CP regarding foreign workers working in Vietnam and recruiting and managing Vietnamese workers working for foreign organizations/ individuals in Vietnam, VBF Human Resources Working Group has organised two virtual briefings respectively on 22nd Sep and 29th Sep, 2023. The both webinars attracted more than 400 audiences in total and offered excellent opportunities for in-depth discussions on this new released Decree.

There were 04 key topics presented by our insightful speakers from VBF Human Resources WG Steering Committee at the seminars, including:

1. Foreign labor demand
2. Authority to grant work permits
3. Changes in work permit application
4. Expats working in multiple locations

For reference, meeting materials and recordings are available as below for your download.

<https://lnkd.in/gtXpTwW2>



*Thank-you letter from Mr. Nitin Kapoor - VBF CoChair*

# September Highlights

## Banking Working Group's activities

### 1. Law on Credit institutions (LOCI) Drafting session of NA' Economic Committee:

From August 30 to September 11, 2023, BWG Secretariat & representatives attended the meeting on reviewing the 4th Draft LOCI with the SBV's drafting team, NA Economic Committee and respective ministries (MOF, MOJ, etc.). BWG also joined another meeting on the 5th Draft LOCI with the above-mentioned related parties on September 21, 2023. These close discussions helped to effectively convey BWG opinions to the regulators.

### 2. VNBA's workshop on Anti-Money Laundering

BWG representatives presented some key issues in regard to Circular 09/2023/TT-NHNN and Decree 19/2023/NĐ-CP guiding AML Law on workshops on Regulations on Anti-Money Laundering and the Role of Anti-Money Laundering in E-Transactions held by VNBA, in collaboration with BlockChain Vietnam Association, on September 20 in Hanoi and 22 in HCMC, respectively.

# Ongoing advocacy focuses

- ESG Survey
- Stock market: KRX and C-bonds trading systems
- Dialouge between GDT/GDC and TCWG members
- Meeting on the draft Law on Credit Institutions with National Assembly, SBV & respective ministries,
- Workshop on E-Signature with MIC

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