

Caveats

There are four important caveats to state here.

- First, the information on Vietnam's legislative framework and administrative processes ages quickly. In their quest to accommodate investors, Vietnamese legislators and administrators are constantly changing laws and administrative practices. Between the first draft and final version of this Handbook, for example, two major laws were introduced, several minor ones were amended, and several changes were made to the administrative processes.
- Second, it is very difficult to obtain all relevant information. There are many ministries and agencies at different levels of government active in the FDI arena. Unfortunately, the various players are not always coordinated, but instead often work in isolation or even at cross purposes. It is difficult if not impossible to keep track of all FDI-related actions.
- Third, investors should expect variations in both the legislation and administrative processes. As with most regulatory systems, the real meaning of laws and practices lies in their daily implementation.
- Finally, this Handbook is meant as a general guide to present and potential investors. The Handbook cannot be expected to provide detailed information on specific sectors and industries such as financial services, hospitality, oil and gas, and others.

Endnotes

- ¹ One source reports that Canada is the tenth largest investor in Vietnam, with 10 projects worth US \$160 million. It should be noted, however, that most of this involvement is thanks to PetroCanada's activities in oil and gas exploration. Subtract PetroCanada from the total and Canada's involvement shrinks considerably.