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**PROGRESS REPORT 2020**  
**VIET NAM ENERGY PARTNERSHIP GROUP**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. OVERVIEW .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.1. VEPG Structure .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.2. VEPG SECRETARIAT .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. VEPG in 2020 and early 2021 .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.1. Steering Committee: Key Representatives and the Upcoming Meeting .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2.2. Technical Working Groups: Leadership and Highlights .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2.3. Energy Sector Support: Decision-making Processes and Stakeholders .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>3. Communication and Networking .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>4. A Closer Look: Technical Working Groups and VEPG Policy Recommendations in 2020 .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4.1. Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4.2. Technical Working Group on Energy Efficiency .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>4.3. Technical Working Group on Energy Sector Reform .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4.4. Technical Working Group on Energy Access .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4.5. Technical Working Group on Energy Data and Statistics .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5. Conclusions and Forward Planning .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>ANNEX I – OVERVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENT OF VEPG POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>20</b>

## 1. OVERVIEW

In June 2017, the Government of Viet Nam and its international Development Partners formally established the Viet Nam Energy Partnership Group (VEPG) with the aim to strengthen cooperation, dialogue and exchange of experiences and knowledge in the country's Energy Sector.

The overall objective of the Viet Nam Energy Partnership Group (VEPG) is to work towards effective and efficient international support to sustainable energy development in Viet Nam, in line with national law and international agreements of which Viet Nam is a member.

Specific Objectives of the VEPG:

- To provide a forum for high-level policy dialogue and technical dialogue between the Government of Viet Nam and Development Partners, as well as stakeholders in the energy sector.
- To provide a platform to facilitate alignment of ODA with Viet Nam's energy and climate change strategies and action plans as well as shared international commitments, and private investment in the energy sector.
- To provide a platform to facilitate implementation of development cooperation activities in the energy sector, and to reinforce coherence and effectiveness of international support while avoiding duplication and fragmentation of aid delivery.
- To enhance learning through information sharing and communication between national and international participants.

This Progress Report provides the progress and status of the activities of the Viet Nam Energy Partnership Group (VEPG) in the period from the 3<sup>rd</sup> High-Level Meeting held on 10 December 2019 to the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Committee of the VEPG, taking place on 10 March 2021.

The report provides a detailed overview of the progress and achievements of the Technical Working Groups during the reporting period and the activities of the VEPG Secretariat carried out in support of the energy sector in Viet Nam.

### 1.1. VEPG Structure

The VEPG Steering Committee is chaired by a Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) and co-chaired by two representatives of the Development Partners, the VEPG Co-Chairs (VEPG Co-Chairs). It includes further senior representatives of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

The VEPG Steering Committee guides the management, work planning and operations of the VEPG, including its Technical Working Groups and the VEPG Secretariat.

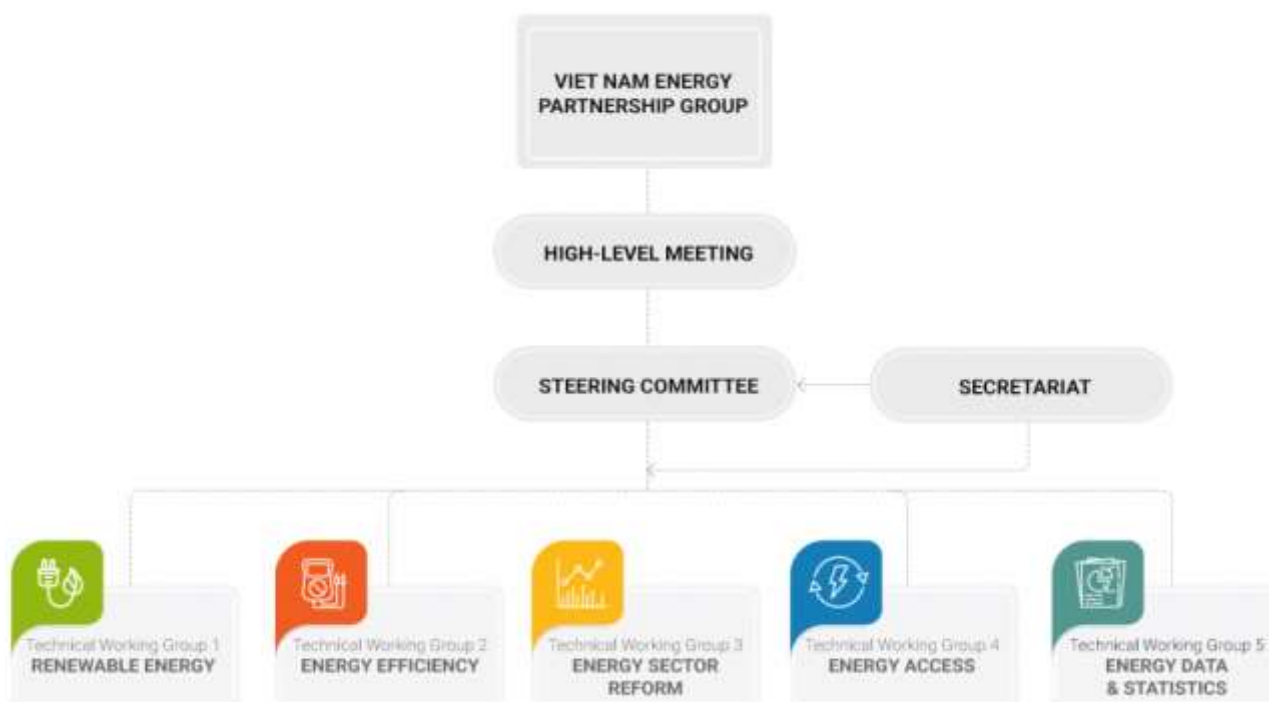
The VEPG focuses on five priority areas through Technical Working Groups Chaired by the relevant MOIT department and Co-Chaired by an International Development Partner; the five Technical Working Groups focus on renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy sector reform, energy access and energy data & statistics. The Technical Working Groups provide relevant, high-level inputs and recommendations to inform Viet Nam's energy sector policy development and planning processes.

The VEPG holds an annual High-Level Meeting (HLM), which focuses on enabling and maintaining a continuous energy policy dialogue towards achieving the objectives set forth

under the partnership. It is a keystone occasion to convene high-level stakeholders of Viet Nam's Energy Sector to address priority topics relevant to ongoing and future energy policy and energy sector planning processes. Furthermore, it serves as a platform to present the work of the VEPG's five Technical Working Groups (TWG) and to showcase and report on the progress of activities and commitments made in the framework of the partnership.

## 1.2. VEPG SECRETARIAT

The VEPG Secretariat was established to provide support to the VEPG and foster the mutual exchange and political dialogue between the Government of Viet Nam and development partners within the framework of the VEPG. Since August 2018, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH has been hosting the VEPG Secretariat as part of the "Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the EU-Viet Nam Energy Facility", co-funded by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. The main function of the Secretariat is to support the operation of the VEPG which includes logistical, conceptual, technical and monitoring support.



## 2. VEPG in 2020 and early 2021

During the period between 10 December 2019 and 10 March 2021, the VEPG and its stakeholders faced a number of challenges stemming from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, the planned Mid-Term Review of the VEPG had to be cancelled when, after two attempts, no short-term international consultants could be recruited due to the travel restrictions and worsening situation in many countries. As a result, the Secretariat is working with government and international donor partners to **support the transition and planning for the future of VEPG beyond the current funding phase** which ends in November 2021. This includes supporting MOIT in gathering stakeholder satisfaction feedback via a short survey

where organizations were able to indicate their interest in both participating and possibly contributing financially to the next phase of the VEPG.

### **Stakeholder Survey Results Summary**

33 responses to the stakeholder survey have been received to date: the European Union Delegation and the World Bank; 2 Ministry of Industry and Trade departments representing the Chairs of Technical Working Groups (EREA and DEESD); UNDP and the German Embassy representing the Co-Chairs of energy efficiency and renewable energy Technical Working Groups; 5 additional Embassies; bilateral development organizations including GIZ hosting the VEPG Secretariat and USAID as well as USTDA; international organizations including IRENA, UNIDO and OECD; other responses came from a bank (KfW), a university (Hanoi University of Science and Technology), civil society (GreenID), an international NGO (Oxfam) and private sector (consulting, solar industry, EuroCham).

**Stakeholders are largely satisfied with the VEPG as respondents were nearly equally split between somewhat satisfied (15) and very satisfied (13);** five respondents were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. 6 additional comments were received related to this question—4 were completely positive and 2 included constructive criticism:

- from MOIT department representative: *we also recognize that the VEPG WGs operation is still having some limitations in term of the DPs' participation in WG meetings and discussion topics / policy recommendations.*
- from EU Delegation representative: *it will take more time and effort to achieve the specific objectives of the VEPG. Some concerns about sustainability of funding of VEPG.*

**55% of stakeholders shared that the VEPG is extremely or very supportive to their daily work.** Another 36% of respondents indicated that the VEPG is somewhat supportive. There were 3 respondents that indicated that the VEPG wasn't able to support their daily activities (1 respondent was yet to participate in the VEPG; the other two included a representative of a bank that finds the VEPG useful, but not able to support day-to-day activities and a representative of a private sector organization).

**Stakeholders mainly describe the VEPG as:**

- **useful (19)**
- **policy-relevant (14)**
- **reliable (11)**
- **high quality (10)**

To a lesser degree they find it well-positioned and effective. At least two respondents feel that the VEPG is not as relevant to their organization as it could be. Furthermore, And, even stakeholders that indicated that the VEPG is useful might have also indicated that it is not as useful as it could be (5). **32 stakeholders saw sufficient added value for continued participation in the VEPG.**

**Increased government engagement, including working with additional ministries and local government where relevant, private sector participation and structural changes (different or new themes and/or Technical Working Groups, for example) were identified as critical needs for the future of the VEPG. Funding proposals and next steps will need to be approved by the Steering Committee.**

Similarly, the planned activities in 2020 and early 2021 were adjusted to accommodate the risk and uncertainty the organization and stakeholders were facing. Some delays were inevitable and **the agreement to cancel this year's High-Level Meeting** was deemed prudent. Several organizations have had personnel changes impacting the wider VEPG membership during the past year as well and the Secretariat itself recruited a new International Coordinator. Still, the VEPG Technical Working Groups and Secretariat, managed to deliver important and timely support for Viet Nam's energy sector.

And, opportunities presented themselves as well during this challenging year. For example, when VEPG was unable to schedule regular meetings, due to restrictions to protect health, the organization was able to pivot. The hybrid format of the Technical Working Groups, a combination of in-person and online meetings, allowed **wide and diverse participation** from within Viet Nam and around the world. Furthermore, with the successful addition of a Vietnamese language channel, this hybrid format allows **full participation in both English and Vietnamese** at Technical Working Group meetings. This framework will allow VEPG to better serve the sector going forward.

It is in this dynamic and challenging context that the VEPG has also supported national priorities through activities such as the translating and posting of key laws and regulations as well as other key sector documents on its website—alone this year there have been over **8000 unique downloads** from the VEPG site. Likewise, international organizations and MOIT government departments have demonstrated their trust in the VEPG to provide **independent and transparent support**, be it to align their bilateral activities or to coordinate international feedback as with recent interactions around the Energy Master Plan with the Department of Oil, Gas and Coal demonstrate. The Secretariat also was able to **support Viet Nam in its Chairmanship of ASEAN** and meet with a wide range of stakeholders to prepare for activities in 2021. All in all, VEPG has established and maintained itself as a key resource for the sector, **facilitating dialog and information exchange.**

### **2.1. Steering Committee: Key Representatives and the Upcoming Meeting**

2020 saw a number of changes in representatives of the VEPG. **Vice Minister Đặng Hoàng An** assumed the role of the **Chair of the Steering Committee** taking over from Vice Minister Hoàng Quốc Vượng, **Ms. Carolyn Turk** replaced Mr. Ousmane Dione as the Country Director of the World Bank and assumes the role of the **Co-Chair of the Steering Committee** of the VEPG. In the Technical Working Groups, **Ms. Trần Hồng Việt**, Senior Programme Manager, Embassy of Denmark, is now serving as interim **Co-chair of the Technical Working Group on Energy Data and Statistics** replacing Mr. Jakob Stenby Lundsager, **And** at the VEPG Secretariat, **Ms.**

**Amber Sharick** replaced Mr. Rainer Bohm as the **International Coordinator and Technical Advisor**.

The Steering Committee Meeting on **10 March 2021** will approve **the 2021 Operational Plan**, discuss the **Technical Working Group activities** over the past year and provide a brief update on the previously agreed upon policy recommendations for the energy sector in Viet Nam. There will also be a high-level discussion on plans for the VEPG after **the end of this funding phase in November 2021**.

## 2.2. Technical Working Groups: Leadership and Highlights

The most recent round of Technical Working Groups took place between **18 June 2020** and **30 September 2020**. (table 1).

The Technical Working Groups of the VEPG supported several departments within the Ministry of Industry and Trade including the Electricity and Renewable Energy Agency (EREA), the Department of Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development (DEESD), and the Electricity Regulatory Authority of Viet Nam (ERAV). Support included feedback on biomass and solar energy circulars under the leadership of the Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy as well as input into the development of the implementation plan for the **Viet Nam Energy Efficiency Programme for the period 2019 – 2030 (VNEEP 3)** under the Technical Working Group on Energy Efficiency. The VEPG Technical Working Group on Energy Sector Reform continued its work to support the implementation of the **Viet Nam Wholesale Energy Market (VWEM)** and the competitive retail energy market (VREM) as well as the preparation for the pilot programme for Direct Power Purchasing Agreement (DPPA). The Technical Working Group on Energy Access efforts included supporting the development of pricing mechanisms for targeted technologies particularly critical to access goals. MOIT development of the Power Development Plan VIII (PDP8) attracted the attention of various stakeholders which through the Technical Working Group on Energy Data and Statistics were able to provide feedback and input to the process. Each of the Technical Working Groups has its own Work Plan and momentum and, despite all the challenges of this particular year, each of the VEPG Technical Working Groups were able to add-value and support the government-led trajectory for the energy sector. Participation in the most recent round of meetings was on par, or even exceeded, the previous round.

The leadership of each of the Technical Working Groups and brief highlights of achievements of this round of the technical working group meetings are below:

- **Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy**  
Chair: Mr. Nguyễn Ninh Hải, Director of Division of New and Renewable Energy, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority, Ministry of Industry and Trade  
Co-Chair: Co-chair: Dr. Sebastian Paust, First Counsellor, Head of Development Cooperation, German Embassy in Viet Nam  
Highlight: consultation on biomass power project development and solar power project development circulars
- **Technical Working Group on Energy Efficiency**  
Chair: Mr. Trịnh Quốc Vũ, Deputy Director General, Department of Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Industry and Trade  
Co-Chair: Ms. Sitara Syed, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP/~~UN~~ Vietnam

Highlight: support the implementation of the Viet Nam Energy Efficiency Plan for the period 2019 to 2030 (VNEEP 3) and discussions on financing options for energy efficiency

- **Technical Working Group on Energy Sector Reform:**

Chair: Mr. Phạm Quang Huy, Deputy Director General, Electricity Regulatory Authority of Vietnam, Ministry of Industry and Trade

Co-Chair: Mr. Rahul Kitchlu, Sector Lead for Infrastructure and Energy Sector Coordinator, The World Bank in Vietnam

Highlight: Competitive electricity market development input and the preparation for the launch of the pilot program Direct Power Purchasing Agreement

- **Technical Working Group on Energy Access:**

Chair: Mr. Nguyễn Duy Hòa, Director of Division of Rural Electricity and Power Grid, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority, Ministry of Industry and Trade

Co-Chair: Mr. Koen Duchateau, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Vietnam

Highlight: Target Programme for Rural Electrification based on Decision 1740/QĐ-TTg and support for the development of the feed-in-tariffs for biogas and biomass

- **Technical Working Group on Energy Data and Statistics:**

Chair: Mr. Nguyễn Tuấn Anh, Deputy Director General, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority, Ministry of Industry and Trade

Interim Co-Chair: Ms. Trần Hồng Việt, Senior Programme Manager, Embassy of Denmark

Highlight: support to the implementation of the Viet Nam Energy Information System and the development of the Technology Generation Catalogue developed by Denmark as input to the Power Development Plan VIII

**Table 1 – TWG meetings in the reporting period**

TWG	5 <sup>th</sup> Meeting	Key Topics/Highlights
 TWG on RE	 18. June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on <b>renewable energy policy and planning</b> including consultation on Draft Circular on Project Development and Standardized PPA for Solar Power</li> <li>Update on the development of the <b>Rooftop Programme</b></li> </ul>
 TWG on EE	 24. June 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on implementation of the VNEEP 3/ National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP)</li> <li>Discussion on the <b>Concept of an Energy Efficiency Foundation in Viet Nam</b></li> </ul>
 TWG on ESR	 09. September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the Wholesale Electricity Market and future of Viet Nam's Competitive Electricity market</li> <li>Update on the <b>DPPA pilot programme development and project approval process</b></li> </ul>
 TWG on EA	 30. June 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates on <b>Rural Electrification Programme</b></li> <li>Focus topic <b>Bioenergy for Rural Areas</b> – <b>agir</b>-food processing and waste management</li> </ul>
 TWG on D&S	 30. September 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the <b>implementation of the Viet Nam Energy Information System (VEIS)</b></li> <li><b>Update on the Power Development Plan VIII (PDP8)</b> in the context of sector planning including the <b>Energy Master Plan</b></li> </ul>



### 2.3. Energy Sector Support: Decision-making Processes and Stakeholders

Complementing the trajectory laid out by the Steering Committee and further developed under the Technical Working Groups, the VEPG Secretariat worked tirelessly to ensure continuous support to the development of the energy sector even through the most challenging of circumstances:

- **Viet Nam’s ASEAN Chairmanship Year in 2020**  
The VEPG Secretariat supported EREA/MOIT in providing timely support and input to the 38th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting (AMEM).
- **Power Development Plan VIII and Energy Master Plan**  
The year 2020 was a landmark year for the development of the energy sector in Viet Nam. The **Decree 55/NQ-TW** of the Politburo of the Communist Part of Viet Nam has laid out the orientation of the development of sector to 2030, with vision 2045. Both the **Power Development Plan VIII** and **Energy Master Plan** were developed in parallel. The VEPG Secretariat supported the MOIT in providing support and inputs to the PDP VIII via the work of the Technical Working Group on Energy Data and Statistics. The VEPG Secretariat also reached out to the **Department of Oil, Gas and Coal** as well as the consultants of the Energy Master Plan to provide further support in dissemination of information and gather inputs for the development of the Plan.
- **Rooftop Solar Steering Committee**  
As a member of the Rooftop Solar Steering Committee, the VEPG Secretariat provided support for the development of rooftop solar in Viet Nam. In this capacity, the VEPG Secretariat disseminates monthly factsheets providing crucial information for stakeholders on the development of the rooftop solar market in Viet Nam.
- **International Cooperation & Coordination**  
Throughout the reporting period, the Secretariat provided **information and expertise** to support organizations active in Viet Nam’s energy sector. The Secretariat aims to integrate activities into the VEPG and TWGs where appropriate as well as to identify ways to better leverage resources and opportunities in line with partner goals. Meetings with stakeholders are a means to identify potential agenda items for upcoming TWG meetings, to proposed cross-cutting activities that may not fit neatly within the TWG structure and to find better ways to incorporate the private sector going forward.

### 3. Communication and Networking

The VEPG serves the energy sector in Viet Nam by: 1) providing monthly updates in English and Vietnamese to a growing list of stakeholders across the world; 2) keeping the community updated on relevant activities through the website calendar and direct emails where appropriate; 3) routinely being available for stakeholder consultations to better link and align existing or proposed activities; 4) offering in-kind support and incorporation of activities under the VEPG; 5) adding value to partner activities through substantive contributions of content; 6) maintaining a legal and knowledge database and 7) proposing timely interventions to benefit agreed upon goals.

The Steering Committee meeting on 10 March 2021 will be followed by the first cross-cutting networking event of the VEPG. This is an opportunity for government to share and discuss the outcomes of **38th ASEAN Ministers on Energy Meeting** with the Chairs and Co-Chairs of the Technical Working Groups. This activity stems from discussions with the Technical Working Group Chairs and Co-Chairs and specific requests for more opportunities to meet across the TWGs and discuss issues that impact all of their themes.

## 4. A Closer Look: Technical Working Groups and VEPG Policy Recommendations in 2020

An extensive VEPG progress report was submitted in December 2019 at the High-Level Meeting with particular attention being paid to progress made on the implementation of the 40 policy recommendations of the Technical Working Groups endorsed at the 2nd High-Level Meeting in 2018. The Technical Working Groups Policy Recommendations Papers is available in both English and Vietnamese and can be found [here](#). Likewise, the 2019 Progress Report is available on the VEPG [website](#). This current progress report reflects on activities since then and briefly highlights developments critical to the policy recommendations.

### 4.1. Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy



**Chair:** Mr. Nguyễn Ninh Hải, Director of Division of New and Renewable Energy, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority/ Ministry of Industry and Trade

**Co-Chair:** Dr. Sebastian Paust, First Counsellor, Head of Development Cooperation, German Embassy

**Meetings in reporting period:** 18 June 2020

#### 4.1.1. Activities and Highlights

The main focus of the Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy in the reporting period was to **support EREA/MOIT in developing key policy processes on Renewable Energy**, in support of Decision 13/QĐ-TTg which stipulated the FiT for solar power projects and other types of renewable energy such as biomass.

In this context, the Technical Working Group conducted two official consultations: 1) in April on the Draft Circular on biomass power project development and 2) in May 2020 on the Draft Circular on solar power project development and standardized power purchase agreements. This process resulted in two comprehensive consultation documents that were submitted to EREA/ MOIT as inputs to the formal consultation process of the Ministry prior to the issuance of **Circular 16/2020/TT-BCT dated 7 July 2020** and **Circular 18/2020/TT-BCT dated 17 July 2020**.

Furthermore, the Technical Working Group continued to **support the development of the rooftop solar market through monthly updates** with the data provided by the Chair of the Technical Working Group. The most recent update can be found [here](#) on the VEPG website.

The Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy held its most recent meeting on 18 June 2020. The meeting addressed the consultation for the Draft Circular for Solar Power Project Development and the Standardized Power Purchasing Agreement; the Chair of the Technical Working Group responded to all inputs and comments from stakeholders. In addition, the meeting also discussed the **options for solar power auctioning** developed by MOIT with the support from the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank as well as the **roadmap for offshore wind development** developed with support from the World Bank and the Danish Energy Agency. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) also presented a new initiative on Clean Energy Finance and Investment and Mobilization (CEFIM). The meeting was also **the first hybrid meeting of the VEPG** which featured options for stakeholders to attend in person and online via the Microsoft Teams platform which attracted nearly 40 online participants.

#### 4.1.2. Progress on Policy Recommendations Implementation

In 2020, the Politburo of the Communist Party of Viet Nam issued **Resolution 55/NQ-TW** dated 11 February 2020 which sets out the orientation for the development of the energy sector in Viet Nam. In particular, the Resolution set the objective of increasing the **share of renewable energy sources in the total primary energy supply to 15 - 20% in 2030 and 25 - 30% in 2045.**

The Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy has made remarkable achievements in 2020, particularly around the **further improvement and support of the legal framework for renewable energy investment and deployment.**

- **Decision 13/2020/QD-TTg dated 6 April 2020 stipulated new feed-in-tariffs for ground mounted, floating and rooftop solar power projects.** Following Decision 13/2020/QD-TTg, the Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy provided formal inputs into the consultation process of a draft circular on project development and standardized power purchasing agreement, resulting in the issuance of the Circular 18/2020/TT-BCT. **Decision 13/2020/QD-TTg and Circular 18/2020/TT-BCT resulted in a remarkable development in the rooftop solar market. By the end of October 2020, a total of 64,883 rooftop solar systems with the installed capacity of 2,024.90 MWp were installed around the country. The target installed capacity of rooftop solar of 1,000 MWp which was set out in MOIT Decision 2023/QD-BCT had been met and surpassed by April 2020.**
- The **roadmap for the development offshore wind power** is being developed with the support from World Bank and Denmark.
- In terms of integration of fluctuating renewable energy in the national grid, the policy recommendation to invest in grid expansion to support future RE development has been partially completed with the **Dispatch No: 2199/BCT-DL Supplements of transmission grid projects published**, issued on 27 March 2020, and the **Resolution No. 55-NQ/TW on the orientation of Vietnam's National Energy Development Strategy to 2030, vision to 2045**, issued on 11 February 2020.
- To further support the review of grid code for integration of utility-scale renewable energy and rooftop solar projects, the MOIT has issued **Circular 30/2019/TT-BCT** to revise the code for the transmission and distribution systems.

- The development of an auctioning pilot program is ongoing, the competitive auctioning mechanism is being developed by MOIT with the support from the World bank and the Asian Development Bank.

## 4.2. Technical Working Group on Energy Efficiency



**Chair:** Mr. Trịnh Quốc Vũ, Deputy Director General, Department of Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development/ Ministry of Industry and Trade  
**Co-Chair:** Ms. Sitara Syed, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Viet Nam  
**Meetings in reporting period:** 24 June 2020

### 4.2.1. Activities and Highlights

The Technical Working Group on Energy Efficiency continued its work to **support the implementation of the Viet Nam Energy Efficiency Programme (VNEEP 3)**. The Technical Working Group meeting was held on 24 June 2020.

- **Stakeholders discussed the updates on the implementation of the VNEEP 3 alongside the development of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP). More than 40 provinces have issued their regional action plans to implement the VNEEP within their jurisdiction, following Decision 280/QĐ-TTg.** In addition, several provinces are developing their energy efficiency action plans with the support from Denmark, the World Bank and ADB.
- The VEPG Secretariat conducted **a survey on the activities of Development Partners in support for the implementation of the VNEEP 3.** The matrix was disseminated to development partners and presented at the meeting and can be found [here](#) listed as the Mapping of Current Partner Projects in Viet Nam Energy Sector 2019. The VEPG Secretariat is now in the process of updating and improving on the matrix as **a tool to leverage resources rather than duplicating efforts and better coordinate international activities to complement government goals.**
- The issue of **financing for energy efficiency** was also another focus topic at the meeting. The UK's Low Carbon Trust presented the **Energy Efficiency Foundation concept**, effectively a one-stop-shop to enable organizations to adopt EE measures via access to knowledge, technical support and capital.

As follow up to the meeting, the VEPG Secretariat has met with a number of stakeholders as an independent facilitator and is supporting dialogue between the DEESD and a consortium of the development partners including GIZ, UNIDO, UK Low Carbon Fund, UNDP and others on the topic of **financing energy efficiency at-scale**. Small group discussions are anticipated in mid 2021.

### 4.2.2. Progress on Policy Recommendations Implementation

In 2019, with the input from the members of the Technical Working Group on Energy Efficiency and support of the VEPG Secretariat, the Chair and Co-Chair assessed and captured the

substantial progress on implementing the Policy Recommendations resulting from the launch of the VNEEP3 with the **PM Decision 280/2018 in March 2019** and the establishment of the **Steering Committee of the VNEEP3** at **Decision No. 1664/QĐ-TTg** dated 19th November, 2019 with 16 members from ministries and sectors led by the Prime Minister.

In 2020, the institutional framework for the implementation of the VNEEP 3 was further improved with the establishment of the **Assistance Office for the Steering Committee** with **Decision No. 1474/QĐ-BCT** dated 5 June 2020.

The **national action plan** to implement the VNEEP3 is being finalized. **40 provinces and centrally administrated cities** have promulgated their energy efficiency action plans. Denmark, World Bank and ADB are supporting other cities and provinces to finalize their energy efficiency action plans as well.

To prepare for the implementation of the VNEEP3 in 2021, MOIT sent official dispatches to other Ministries and People's Committees of provinces and cities to **propose and coordinate to develop the 2021 implementation plan**. In July, the consolidated plan was sent to Ministry of Finance for review and approval for funding.

Further activities in **awareness raising and capacity buildings** for key actors such as banks, energy auditors, and other actors are planned and are being implemented by ADB, World Bank, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Denmark, UK, and GIZ.

DEESD has welcomed the VEPG Secretariat **to coordinate international discussions and appropriate input around energy efficiency financing at-scale**.

### 4.3. Technical Working Group on Energy Sector Reform



**Chair:** Mr. Phạm Quang Huy, Deputy Director General, Electricity Regulatory Authority of Viet Nam/ Ministry of Industry and Trade

**Co-Chair:** Mr. Rahul Kitchlu, Sector Lead for Infrastructure and Energy Sector Coordinator, The World Bank in Vietnam

**Meetings in reporting period:** 09 September 2020

#### 4.3.1. Activities and Highlights

The main focus of Technical Working Group on Energy Sector Reform in the reporting period was to support ERAV/MOIT in implementing the **Viet Nam Wholesale Energy Market (VWEM)**, as well as to support the process of developing the **pilot scheme for a Direct Power Purchase Agreement (DPPA)**.

For the meeting of the Technical Working Group, organized on 9 September 2020, the members reflected on the implementation of the first six months of operation of the **Viet Nam Wholesale Energy Market (VWEM)**. The result showed significant improvement in the capability of power companies and market participants in the VWEM. The demand forecasting ability was also noticeably improved in support of the operation of market. The trading and dispatching intervals of the VWEM were also reduced from 60 minutes to 30 minutes as of 1 September 2020 to allow for more flexible trading of the market.

The Technical Working Group was also updated on the anticipated implementation timeline for the **Viet Nam Retail Energy Market (VREM)**; the preparatory phase will begin in 2021. The

coordination and functioning of the soft infrastructure that supports competitive electricity markets—legal frameworks, information platforms, market exchanges and the like—is critical as the implementation of the VREM will mark the implementation of the final stage of **reform of the competitive electricity market** in Viet Nam as set out in **PM Decision 63/2013/QĐ-TTg**.

The **Pilot DPPA** was also discussed with the design of the pilot completed. The Pilot programme has attracted the attention of private sector stakeholders who are eager to participate in the market. The pilot program is expected to be approved in late 2020 and implemented in Q2 or Q3 of 2021. The pilot will identify challenges to private sector participation and might lead to further policy recommendations.

#### 4.3.2. Progress on Policy Recommendations Implementation

Key progress on the implementation of Viet Nam’s competitive electricity market was made over the past year. The Competitive Generation Market was implemented and the Wholesale Electricity Market entered full operation, the MOIT prepared the final stage of the road map for the competitive market with **Decision 2093/QĐ-BCT on the Approval of the Project to Design the Competitive Retail Market**, issued on 7th August 2020.

The **Vietnam Wholesale Electricity Market (VWEM)** entered official operation in 2020 has showed improvement in the capacity of the participants in the market. In addition, demand forecasting ability for National Load Dispatch Center was also further improved with shortened trading and dispatching intervals from 60 to 30 minutes, allowing great flexibility in the operation of the market.

**The Pilot for Direct Power Purchasing Agreement** mechanism at the legal approval stage and is planned to be launched by the end of 2020. **MOIT Proposal No. 544** has been submitted to the Prime Minister along with a new draft Decision on approval of the pilot program on direct power purchase agreement mechanisms between renewable energy developers/power generation companies and private power buyers/consumers.

#### 4.4. Technical Working Group on Energy Access



**Chair:** Mr. Nguyễn Duy Hòa, Director of Division of Rural Electricity and Power Grid, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority/ Ministry of Industry and Trade

**Co-Chair:** Mr. Koen Duchateau, Head of Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Vietnam

**Meetings in reporting period:** 30 June 2020

##### 4.4.1 Activities and Highlights

The main focus of the Technical Working Group on Energy Access in the reporting period was to **support MOIT in implementing the Target Programme for Electrification of Rural, Mountainous and Islands Areas for the 2016 -2020 Period** (hereafter referred to as *Target*

Programme), based on the Prime Minister Decisions 2081/QĐ-TTg (dated 08/11/2013) and 1740/QĐ-TTg (dated 13/12/2018).

The meeting of the Technical Working Group took place on 30 June 2020. The Technical Working Group was updated on the progress of the implementation of the Target Programme. Significant progress was made at the end of the implementation period 2016-2020. However, **a substantial financing gap (18% of the total needed funding was allocated for the implementation)** and **low prioritization of energy access** prevents the Target Programme from reaching 100% of households electrified.

Several options for electricity access for mountainous and island areas were explored including **grid extension, small household renewable energy solutions and hybrid systems combined diesel generators with solar and/or wind.** However, there is no one-size-fit-all energy access model and the choice must be made based on the local conditions.

At the meeting, **Oxfam** presented a new EU-financed project on biomass gasification technology for agri-food processing and waste management in rural areas. The presentation generated a lively discussion on the project, its expected sustainable impacts as well as the efficiency in the use of biomass as a method to ensure environmental sustainability and income generation for local communities.

#### 4.4.2 Progress on Policy Recommendations Implementation

In 2020, several policy recommendations on promoting energy access saw gradual progress.

The current phase of the target programme for rural electrification was implemented with some degree of success. However, substantial funding is still needed to close the remaining gap in electrification. MOIT has sent the proposal to extend the Target Program (2021 – 2025) to the Government and the National Assembly. In addition, the MOIT is still seeking support for the Program through loans from **development banks** (e.g World Bank and Asian Development Bank) and **grants**. In addition, access to the **Green Climate Fund and other financial mechanisms** is an option to explore further.

Sustainable energy and mini-grid solutions for rural, mountainous and islands areas are being explored with the **pilot projects in Cao Bang province and Bach Long Vy Island.** Operation and maintenance of these off-grid systems and their sustainability are key areas of concern.

Biogas and Biomass energy saw development in 2020. The study for the **FiT mechanism for Biogas** is under development and is expected to be completed in **December 2020.** The **FiT for biomass** projects was issued on **5 March 2020** with the **Decision 08/2020/QĐ-TTg.** Actions promoting energy access in rural areas using efficient biomass and biogas technology are being implemented by organizations such as **SNV and Oxfam.** These projects promote better use of these resources for improved quality of life and carbon emission reductions.

#### 4.5 Technical Working Group on Energy Data and Statistics

**Chair:** Mr. Nguyễn Tuấn Anh, Deputy Director General, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority/ Ministry of Industry and Trade

**Interim Co-Chair:** Ms. Trần Hồng Việt, Senior Programme Manager, Embassy of Denmark



**Meetings in reporting period: 30 September 2020**

#### 4.5.1 Activities and Highlights

Replacement of the Co-Chair: Ms. Trần Hồng Việt, Senior Programme Manager, Embassy of Denmark accepted the role of the interim Co-Chair of the Technical Working Group replacing Mr. Jakob Stenby Lundsager.

The main focus of the Technical Working Group is to support MOIT in developing the framework and foundation for the **Viet Nam Energy Information System (VEIS)** as well as support the development of the **Power Development Plan VIII** and data input needs.

At the meeting of the Technical Working Group, held on 30 September 2020, the members of the Technical Working Group were updated on the progress of the implementation of the VEIS. In 2020, the legal framework for the establishment of the VEIS was completed. The next steps include the design of the VEIS Website (<http://www.erea.gov.vn/veis>), the finalization of the VEIS Operational manual and the management model of the Viet Nam Energy Information Center. Mr. Nguyễn Thế Vĩnh was appointed as the leader of the VEIC early this year. Mr. Nguyễn Tuấn Anh, Deputy Director-General of EREA recognized the support of the development partners and encouraged continuous support for the VEIS and VEIC as an important instrument for the development of the Viet Nam energy sector.

**The Technology Catalogue for Power Generation 2020** was also presented at the meeting with the request for comment and inputs for the finalization of the Catalogue.

The members of the technical working groups were also updated on the development of the **Power Development Plan VIII** in terms of Load forecasting and future power mix scenarios. The topics of high-voltage direct current transmission and offshore wind were also addressed within the context of the PDP8.

This meeting was the first meeting of the VEPG Technical Working Groups to feature simultaneous translation in both English and Vietnamese for online participants.

#### 4.5.2 Progress on Policy Recommendations Implementation

The legal framework for the establishment for the Viet Nam Energy Information Systems was fully completed in 2020. Following **MOIT decision 4651/QĐ-BCT**, issued on 14 December 2018 on the action plan for the energy information system, the MOIT issued **Circular 34/2019/TT-BCT** regulating the energy information system which came into effect on 1 April



2020. In 2021, the Operational Manual of the Viet Nam Energy Information System and the Management Model of the Viet Nam Energy Information Center (VEIC) will be developed.

Preparing the institutional framework for Viet Nam Energy Information Center is ongoing as EREA submitted the proposal on the investment for the VEIS to the Ministry of Planning and Investment for comments. The Prime Minister will then approve the feasibility study to create the legal framework to establish the structure of the VEIC. Once the proposal is approved, EREA will take steps to establish the VEIC based on the feasibility study. In the meantime, **Mr. Nguyễn Thế Vĩnh** was assigned as the leader of the Viet Nam Energy Information Center.

The **Energy Outlook Report 2019**, published in November 2019, served as input for the Power Development Plan VIII. In 2020, the **Technology Catalogue for Power Generation** was updated and developed by Denmark/ Danish Energy Agency. In 2021, the **Energy Outlook Report 2021** will also be developed and will serve as input for further planning activities.

## 5. Conclusions and Forward Planning

In 2020, the Viet Nam Energy Partnership Group has demonstrated that the organization is both critical and resilient. Going into 2021, the world is still battling a pandemic and other risks and uncertainties persist; because of this, it should be assumed that many of last year's challenges will continue or be compounded. What the VEPG did not have in 2020 was much flexibility in terms of budget or clear mandate that allowed it to respond to the changing needs of its stakeholders. The VEPG 2021 Operational Plan intentionally includes two mechanisms to increase flexibility and allow the VEPG Secretariat to respond to requests from the Technical Working Groups and the larger group of stakeholders.

The two flexible budget mechanisms:

- 1.1.6 This budget would be used for activities led by the Chairs/Co-Chairs of the VEPG Technical Working Groups. These activities might stem from the TWG meetings, e.g., small group activity on energy efficiency, or work the Chair/Co-Chair has agreed to incorporate under the TWG, e.g., feedback on the Energy Master Plan).
- 1.2.3 This budget could be used for cross-cutting activities, stakeholder-driven activities, activities that potentially involve additional key ministries or other government bodies—e.g., current discussions with OECD and other stakeholders (KfW, BIDV) about need for coordination/support around at-scale financing of renewables and energy efficiency activities. In this case, the VEPG Secretariat would briefly scope a proposal (1 page identifying key stakeholders/interest, proposed role for VEPG, activities and estimated budget). The proposal would be sent to the Steering Committee by email for approval.

With the current funding for the VEPG concluding in November of 2021, the Operational Plan also includes time and resources to support a smooth transition. There will be a physical and digital handover to make sure that **the legal database and other resources** remain accessible and institutional knowledge and experience are not lost.

It has been agreed that, should circumstances allow, the **High-Level Meeting** will take place in **August 2021**. The High-Level Meeting is expected to be framed by the Technical Working Group meetings, one round taking place early in 2021 (March) and the second later in the year (September). Should an early TWG round not be possible, the Secretariat will support the finalization of the TWG workplans early in 2021. The Steering Committee is expected to be convened in March, as well as following the first round of Technical Working Group meetings (before the High-Level Meeting), and just prior to the end of the funding phase. Stakeholder and sector support will be provided throughout the year into November. Ad hoc activities through the flexible budget mechanisms are dependent on time and resources of the Secretariat.

The content of the Technical Working Groups is ultimately approved by the Chairs and Co-Chairs. Coming off the intense planning processes of 2020 (PDPVIII, Energy Master Plan, etc.), the first round of Technical Working Group meetings in 2021 will be an opportunity to take stock and lay the direction of future work for the year and the VEPG beyond 2021. It is recommended that each of the TWGs include an agenda item to discuss stakeholder expectations related to the theme of the TWG for VEPG beyond 2021 (so the Technical Working Group on Data & Statistics would discuss how best the VEPG should address data & statistics after 2021); a discussion that can be supported and/or facilitated by the Secretariat. The outcomes of these discussions will be included as input to the Steering Committee. How best to incorporate private sector organizations and work on issues across Ministries are also topics that could be considered.

Many of the VEPG policy recommendations are completed or partially completed with activities and support on-going. Barriers in legislation and regulation will continue to need to be addressed as the sector evolves. The VEPG has proven itself with the ability to publicize, translate and gather timely feedback on proposed measures. Likewise, the dedicated Technical Working Groups provide a forum to address the details and proposed impacts.

Investment and financing frameworks require similar attention and cooperation with multiple ministries as well as the private sector. International support is available for this process though there is currently no dedicated forum where key international and domestic stakeholders can dialogue and exchange. It has been suggested that the specific challenges of energy transition financing & investment would benefit from a dedicated TWG under the VEPG—albeit one with diverse stakeholders from government, private sector and international development.

Technical challenges exist, but in most cases, technical assistance is available to support Viet Nam's domestic capabilities. This is especially the case for renewables and efficiency. Where it is less available is in support of energy transition (coal phase out and NDCs, for example). Any adjustment to the structure of the VEPG going forward should consider such critical themes and align future policy recommendations accordingly.

Data and information gathering, timely processing and accessibility is an area where the needs are complex and growing. Cooperation, whether with private sector or amongst government agencies and partners, is required—whether to improve forecasting, to monitor implementation or to do any number of routine activities.

Cooperation amongst ministries is critical to implementation of domestic and international goals. It is recommended that the success the VEPG has had in partnership with MOIT be extended to include the wider government. To meet Viet Nam's aspirations in e-mobility, for example, the Ministry of Industry and Trade as well as the Ministry of Transport could benefit from the policy exchange and support of development partners. Likewise, private sector solutions are required and defining how the VEPG interacts with such stakeholders will benefit all parties.

The Steering Committee will update the Technical Working Groups regarding progress on funding arrangement for the VEPG after November 2021. The March 2021 Steering Committee meeting draft agenda includes a discussion of the future of the VEPG. The Secretariat is prepared to facilitate stakeholder input and support the Steering Committee as they develop a common vision and structure to carry the VEPG beyond 2021.

## ANNEX I – OVERVIEW OF ACHIEVEMENT OF VEPG POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

### Technical Working Group on Renewable Energy

	Policy Recommendations	Actions	Status 2019	Status 2020	Activities	Comments
1	<b>Revision of the PPA for Solar and Wind Energy</b>	Revision of PPA for Solar	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>MoIT Circ. 18/2020/TT-BCT</b> issued on 17 July 2020 and take effect on 31 August 2020 revised the PPA for Solar Power	
		Revision of PPA for Wind	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>MoIT Circ. 02/2019/TT-BCT</b> with revised PPA for Wind published (28.02.19)	
2	<b>Improvement of the solar rooftop incentive mechanisms</b>	Revision of the net metering scheme	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>PM Dec. 2/2019/QĐ-CP</b> amending Dec. 11/2017 issued 8.1.19) changing net metering to FIT mechanism. <b>MoIT Circ. 5/2019/TT-BCT</b> amending Circ. 16/2017 published (11.03.2019).	
		Investment incentive for Solar Rooftop projects	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>PM Decision 13/2020/QĐ-TTg</b> issued on 6 April 2020 and came into effect on 22 May 2020 Stipulate FiT for Rooftop Solar <b>MOIT Decision 2023/QĐ-BCT</b> , took effect on 5 July 2019 approved the Rooftop Solar PV promotion programme.	

3	Develop future wind and solar support mechanisms (including auctioning)	Revision of Solar Support mechanisms	On-going	Completed	<b>PM Decision 13/2020/QĐ-TTg</b> issued on 6 April 2020 and came into effect on 22 May 2020 Stipulate FiT for Rooftop Solar	
		Development of auctioning pilot for Solar/ Wind	On-going	On-going	The competitive auctioning mechanism will be considered to be applied in the power purchase agreement.	
		Further development of other incentive mechanisms for RE	On-going	Partially Completed	<b>MoIT Proposal No. 544/TTr-BCT</b> on issuance of decision on approval of Pilot DPPA (21 January 2020) <b>VWEM</b> entered full operation since Jan 2020	MOIT has completed the first draft of the DPPA circular for comments and consultation
4	Integration of fluctuating renewable energy in the national grid	Development of a transparent and comprehensive RE project approval process	On-going	Partially Completed	<b>MOIT Decision 2023/QĐ-BCT</b> on the Approval of the Rooftop Solar PV Promotion Program (5 July 2019)	
		Invest in grid expansion with future RE development	On-going	Partially Completed	The draft PDP 8 is submitted to PM for approval Dispatch No: 2199/BCT-DL Supplements of transmission grid projects published Orientation for grid investment from private sector - Decree 55	The supplements of transmission grid projects will be included in PDP 8. Orientation for grid investment from private sector: will be taken into consideration in the process of amending the electricity law

	Designate zone for RE development	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>PM Decision 13/2020/QĐ-TTg</b> published (6 April 2020)	The designation zone is not yet implemented.
	Increase frequency of PDP updates align with grid and RE capacity planning	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>The draft PDP 8 is submitted to PM for approval</b> <b>PM Decree 37/2019/NĐ-CP</b> Elaboration of the Planning Law (7 May 2019)	There is not yet increase frequency of PDP8 updates
	Review of grid codes for utility-scale RE and rooftop Solar Project	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>MoIT circ. 30/2019/TT-BCT</b> on amending and supplementing circular 25/2016/TT-BCT and circular 39/2015/TT-BCT issued (effective date: 3 January 2020)	

## Technical Working Group on Energy Efficiency

	Policy Recommendations	Actions	Status 2019	Status 2020	Activities	Comments
1	<b>Policy framework for energy efficiency</b>	Establish Energy Efficiency (EE) with VNEEP 3 as a priority topic and strengthen the respective legal framework	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>VNEEP3</b> approved and launched with PM Decision 280/2018 (13.3.19) <b>Energy Efficiency</b> law (Decree 21) is under revision	
		Introduce sector-specific and gradually mandatory EE targets	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	Ongoing: Development of EE Action Plan (NEEAP) and consultation process with provinces, municipalities and further public agencies; Many provinces and centrally run cities have <b>promulgated implementation plans for the VNEEP 3</b>	
2	<b>Institutional Framework for Energy Efficiency</b>	Implement VNEEP with a robust monitoring and reporting system	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>PM Decision 461/QĐ-TTg</b> on the operating mechanism of the National Steering Committee for the VNEEP period 2019-2030 <b>Decision 1474 /QĐ BCT dated 5 June, 2020</b> established the Assistance Office for the Steering Committee <b>Decree 21</b> is under revision <b>MOIT Decision 3693/QĐ-</b>	

					<b>BCT</b> on Action Plan in 2020. Official dispatch to develop 2021 implementation plan has been submitted for approval	
		Establish coordination mechanisms	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>PM Decision 461/QĐ-TTg</b> on the operating mechanism of the National Steering Committee for the VNEEP period 2019-2030. <b>Decision 1474 /QĐ BCT</b> dated 5 June 2020 established the <b>Assistance Office</b> for the Steering Committee	
<b>3</b>	<b>Financing energy efficiency</b>	Establish an innovative and inclusive financing mechanism	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Donors support group and EESD</b> are working to discuss the EE financing mechanisms AfD and WB are supporting private banks to develop financial instruments for EE projects.	The financial mechanism for energy efficiency proposed to MOIT has been refused, it is unlikely to be implemented in the future, we can remove it from the list.
		Review existing financing mechanisms and financing framework and develop new solutions/partnerships.	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Donors support group and EESD</b> are working to discuss the EE financing mechanisms <b>OECD</b> and <b>UK's</b> projects will further review financing mechanisms and framework in 2021.	The financial mechanism for energy efficiency proposed to MOIT has been refused, it is unlikely to be implemented in the future, we can remove it from the list.



4	Technical capacity and awareness-raising	Raise awareness and build capacities of key target groups	On-going	Partially Completed	<p>Ongoing: Development of Action Plan (NEEAP)</p> <p><b>Provincial EE Action Plans</b> are being supported by on-going technical assistance projects funded by ADB, WB, UNIDO, UK, Denmark, EU/GIZ and others.</p> <p><b>Capacity building activities</b> for banks, energy auditors, and other key target groups are planned</p> <p><b>Small Energy Efficiency Group</b> - training for 30 companies to be implemented in 2021</p> <p>TUEWAS - regional DSEEG</p> <p>Vietnam Energy Efficiency Community - 2021</p> <p>Further training by KOICA planned in 2021 - 2025</p>	
		Develop and implement a public database on Energy Efficiency.	On-going	On-going	<p>The <b>national action plan</b> to implement the VNEEP3 is under finalization.</p> <p><b>Energy Efficiency Database</b></p>	Completed, the Energy Efficiency database is available
		Develop further instruments and measures for specific capacity building and awareness-raising for ESCO models.	On-going	Partially Completed	<p>EVEF + DEESD Organized ESCO Workshop in November 2020.</p>	

		develop and implement a public education campaign to raise the awareness	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	Annual Earth Hours event organized by DEESD raised awareness on Energy Efficiency On-going public awareness raising campaign with World Bank	
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## Technical Working Group on Energy Sector Reform

	Policy Recommendations	Actions	Status 2019	Status 2020	Activities	Comments
1	Implementation of the Viet Nam Wholesale Energy Market (VWEM)	Improve the detailed VWEM design and implement cross-subsidy mechanism among Power Corporations	Partially Completed	Completed	<p><b>MOIT Decision 8266/QD-BCT</b> approved the Detailed Design of the Viet Nam Wholesale Market.</p> <p><b>MOIT Dec. 45/2018</b> issued 15.11.2018 regulating details of VWEM operation</p> <p>Cross-subsidy mechanism under development</p>	
		Fully implement VWEM and VCRM.	On-going	Partially Completed	<p><b>Start of VWEM officially started operation since beginning of 2019:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capacity of PC and Market participants has been significantly improved</li> <li>- Demand forecasting ability has been improved</li> <li>- dispatching interval shortened from 60 to 30 min.</li> </ul> <p><b>Decision 2093/QD-BCT</b> on the Approval of the project on the Design of the Competitive Retail Market</p>	

2	Development of a Direct Power Purchase Agreement (DPPA) mechanism	Prepare and implement pilot DPPA model.	On-going	Partially Completed	MOIT <b>Proposal No. 544</b> has been submitted to the Prime Minister along with a <b>new draft Decision</b> on approval of the pilot program on direct power purchase agreement (DPPA) mechanisms
		Analyze pilot DPPA model for further implementation of VWEM and VCRM.	On-going	On-going	<b>May - Dec. 2019:</b> Consultation on DPPA design <b>Q4, 2020:</b> Internal government review and approval process ongoing <b>Q1 2021 - Q2 2021:</b> Project Selection <b>Q4 2021 - Q2 2022:</b> Project Implementation
		Develop legal base for a Distribution Charge	On-going	On-going	<b>May - Dec. 2019:</b> Consultation on DPPA design <b>Q4, 2020:</b> Internal government review and approval process ongoing <b>Q1 2021 - Q2 2021:</b> Project Selection <b>Q4 2021 - Q2 2022:</b> Project Implementation

## Technical Working Group on Energy Access

	Policy Recommendations	Actions	Status 2019	Status 2020	Activities	Comments
1	<b>Financing for increased energy access</b>	Increase state budget for rural electrification programme	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	MOIT is seeking support for the Program from development banks through projects and <b>ODA for rural electrification</b>	
		Encourage and facilitate the development and implementation of new financial mechanisms (i.e. blending ODA grants with loans or results-based financing).	<b>On-going</b>	<b>On-going</b>	MOIT is seeking support for the Program from development banks through projects and <b>ODA for rural electrification</b>	
		Develop an incentive mechanism to encourage private investments	<b>On-going</b>	<b>On-going</b>	MOIT has sent the proposal to extend the Target Program (2021 – 2025) to the Government and the National Assembly	
		Develop a policy to promote independent power supply systems for off-grid areas.	<b>On-going</b>	<b>On-going</b>	the policy is under review by related stakeholders	
		Consider a Feed-in-Tariff (FiT) for biogas	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	The FiT for biomass project was issued on 5 March 2020 with the <b>Decision 08/2020/QĐ-TTg.</b>	
2	<b>Mini-grids in remote areas</b>	Draw lessons from international experience and pilots in Viet Nam	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	Pilot for Cao Bang province and Bach Long Vy Island are being implemented with the budget approved	

		(Cao Bang, Bach Long Vy) with mini-grids				
		Prioritize off-grid projects, conduct feasibility studies and allocate State budget for implementation.	<b>Partially Completed</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	Pilots for Cao Bang province and Bach Long Vy Island are being implemented with the budget approved	
		Develop the capacities of local workers and other stakeholders	<b>On-going</b>	<b>On-going</b>		
3	<b>Biomass and biogas (for cooking)</b>	Promote a nationwide biogas sector approach	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Partially Completed</b>	The study for the FiT mechanism for Biogas is under development and is expected to be completed in December 2020	
		Establish a harmonization and coordination mechanism	<b>On-going</b>	<b>On-going</b>	needs to be discussed with MARD, with MOIT as lead.	
		Facilitate and promote access to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other public climate funds	<b>On-going</b>	<b>On-going</b>	Still need more stakeholder involvement for proposal to access GCF.	

## Technical Working Group on Energy Data and Statistics

	Policy Recommendations	Actions	Status 2019	Status 2020	Activities	Comments
1	<b>Establish the legal framework for Vietnam Energy Information System (VEIS)</b>	Issue a MoIT decision on the approval of the VEIS Roadmap and Action Plan.	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Completed</b>	VEIS Action Plan (MoIT Decision 4651/2018) issued on 14.12.2018	
		Develop and issue a legal decision on the implementation of the VEIS Roadmap and Action Plan.	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>MOIT Circular 34/2019/TT-BCT</b> issued (Effective date: April 1, 2020)	
		Parallel preparatory work should be conducted on the terms of reference for the coordination platforms, a multi-annual VEIC work plan and the drafting of data sharing agreements.	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>MOIT Circular 34/2019/TT-BCT</b> issued (Effective date: April 1, 2020)	

2	Establish the institutional framework for Vietnam Energy Information System (VEIC)	Allocate State budget for institutional structure of VEIS (incl. VEIC). (to be specified, which budget period etc.)	On-going	Partially Completed	<p><b>MOIT Circular 34/2019/TT-BCT</b> issued (Effective date: April 1, 2020)</p> <p><b>VEIS Operational Manual</b> is expected to be complete in Q1/2021</p> <p><b>Management model of the VIEC</b> is expected to be complete in Q2/2021</p> <p><b>EREA</b> submitted proposal on the Investment for the VEIS to the MPI for comments and approval</p> <p>PM will approve the feasibility study to create the structure of VEIC</p>	
		Install VEIS leader and inception team.	Partially Completed	Completed	Head of VEIC Installed	
		Install VEIS Steering Committee, ESWG and VEIC.	On-going	Partially Completed	<p><b>MOIT Circular 34/2019/TT-BCT</b> published (Effective date: April 1, 2020)</p> <p><b>VEIS Operational Manual</b> is expected to be complete in Q1/2021</p> <p><b>Management model of the VIEC</b> is expected to be complete in Q2/2021</p> <p><b>EREA</b> submitted proposal on the Investment for the VEIS to the MPI for comments and approval</p>	



					PM will approve the feasibility study to create the structure of VEIC	
3	<b>Viet Nam Energy Outlook Report (EOR 2019)</b>	Utilize EOR 2019 for the development of PDP VIII.	<b>On-going</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>EOR 2019</b> published (November 2019) <b>EOR 2021</b> is under development	