



Viet Nam Energy Partnership Group (VEPG)

THE VEPG STEERING COMMITTEE

8th Meeting

Hanoi, 16 September 2024

14:20-15:00: Secretariat Report: VEPG activities from 2023 till September 2024; and implementation of conclusions from the 7th VEPG Steering Committee Meeting and proposed follow-up actions

Mr. Adrian Twomey, Team Leader, KE1, VEPG Secretariat/EVSET Facility

- Report on VEPG activities from 2023 until September 2024*
- Report on the implementation of conclusions from the 7th VEPG Steering Committee Meeting and proposed follow-up actions*

Introduction of the VEPG Governance and VEPG Secretariat

VEPG Steering Committee

Co- Chair:



H.E. Julien Guerrier
*EU Ambassador to
Viet Nam*



Chair:



H.E. Nguyen Hoang Long
*Vice Minister of Ministry of
Industry and Trade*



Co-Chair:



Ms. Mariam Sherman
*World Bank Country
Director for Viet Nam*



VEPG Focal Points



Ms. Tran Thuy Duong
*Programme Manager,
Delegation of the
European Union to
Vietnam*



Ms. Nguyen Thi Thuy
*Official,
EREA, MOIT*



Ms. Chiara Rogate
*Senior Energy Specialist
World Bank in Viet Nam*

Technical Working Group chairs and Co-chairs

TWGs	Chair	Co-chair
TWG 1 on Power Sector Strategic Planning	Mr Tang The Hung Deputy Director General, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority, MOIT	Mr Rasmus Munch Sørensen Long term Advisor, Danish Energy Partnership Program Danish Energy Agency
TWG2 on Renewable Energy	Mr Doan Ngoc Duong Deputy Director General, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority, MOIT	Mr Santiago Alonso Rodriguez Head of Development Cooperation, German Embassy in Viet Nam
TWG3 on Grid Integration and Grid Infrastructure	Mr Nguyen The Huu Deputy Director General, Energy Regulatory Authority of Viet Nam, MOIT	Ms Anna Gibson Climate Counsellor, the British Embassy
TWG4 on Energy Efficiency	Mr Trinh Quoc Vu Deputy Director General of Department of Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development, MOIT	Mr Patrick Haverman Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP
TWG5 on Energy Market	Mr. Đang Hai Anh Deputy Director General Oil, Gas and Coal Department, MOIT	Mr John Harris deputy director of the Office of Energy, Environment and Climate Change, USAID

EU – Vietnam Sustainable Energy Transition Facility (EVSET Facility)

Core Activities	What do we do?	What is expected?
Component 1: Technical Assistance to MOIT	<i>Provide high demand-driven technical assistance and capacity development in areas of, but not limited to, technology and knowledge transfer through cooperation on areas (research, higher education and R&D for renewable energy and energy efficiency, renewable energy and energy efficiency policy, legal and regulatory frameworks, norms and technical standards, power market analysis, energy governance, energy information systems, energy budgeting and planning)</i>	<i>Enhanced institutional capacities and legal and technical framework for a sustainable energy transition</i>
Component 2: Technical Assistance to non-MOIT entities		
Component 3: VEPG Secretariat	<i>Provide support to the operation of the VEPG</i>	<i>Strengthened energy sector policy dialogues through VEPG</i>
Component 4: Monitoring the SETP	<i>Support monitoring and implementation of the SETP's budget support component</i>	<i>Evidence-based monitoring and verification of the disbursement of EU budget support</i>
Component 5: Communication and Visibility	<i>Support communication and visibility of the SETP and EU support to the energy sector in Viet Nam</i>	<i>Public acknowledgement of the EU and its support to the sustainable energy transition pathway in Viet Nam.</i>

VEPG Secretariat/EVSET Facility Team



1- Mr. Adrian Twomey
Facility Team Leader -
Senior Sustainable Energy Expert



2- Dr. Tuan Nguyen Anh
Technical Advisor - Energy Policies and Energy
Sector Institutional and Regulatory Framework



3- Dr. Khanh Nguyen Quoc
Senior Expert on Sustainable Energy and
Facility Coordinator



4- Ms. Do Thi Huyen Trang
Facility Executive Assistant



5- Ms. Thuy Trinh Ngoc
VEPG Executive Officer





6- Mr. Duong Van Tho
Liaison, Communication and Visibility officer




VEPG activities from 2023 until September 2024

- The 5th High-Level Meeting of the VEPG, initially planned for September 2023, has been postponed to 2024 due to delays in TWG meetings, the Steering Committee (SC) meeting, and the rotations of chairs and co-chairs.
- In March 2023, one VEPG Steering Committee meeting was successfully convened.
- Throughout 2023, the VEPG Secretariat supported six TWG meetings as follows:
 - 2 meetings for TWG 2 (Renewable Energy)
 - 2 meetings for TWG 3 (Grid Infrastructure and Grid Integration)
 - 1 meeting for TWG 4 (Energy Efficiency)
 - 1 meeting for TWG 5 (Energy Market)
 - No meetings were held for TWG 1 (Power Sector Planning) in 2023.
- The TWGs in 2023 primarily focused on sharing international experiences and perspectives to guide the implementation of current policies and provide recommendations to the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT).
- By September 2024, four out of the five TWGs have organized their first meetings.
- The VEPG Secretariat continues to play a key role in coordinating activities, maintaining information exchange, and supporting the sector via the VEPG website.

TWGs Meetings and Task Forces Status in 2023 -2024

	TWG	Meetings in 2023 -2024	Task Force
	1. Power Sector Strategic Planning	No meeting in 2023. The first meeting in 2024 will be held in October	None
	2. Renewable Energy	<p>9 March 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of the legal framework concerning the auction mechanism for RE. Evaluation of technical standards for energy storage, forecasting, dispatch, and smart grids. Assessment of coal plants and development of a roadmap for coal phase-out. <p>24 November 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenges and opportunities in implementing RE under the PDP8 plan. Update on the regulatory framework for RE, with discussions on rooftop solar (RTS) and geothermal energy. Progress update on the Offshore Wind Development Task Force. <p>31 May 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion on renewable energy policies aligned with the implementation of the PDP VIII and revisions to the Electricity Law. Development partners' perspectives on RE development in Viet Nam. Private sector experiences and insights on developing RE projects in Viet Nam. 	<p>Offshore Wind (OSW) Task Force, led by GIZ, has made significant progress in 2023, with the following key activities and outputs:</p> <p>Key Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organized monthly meetings. Organized a technical workshop with EVN focused on grid infrastructure for offshore wind. Conducted technical workshops with VBF and GWEC on scaling up finance for offshore wind development in Viet Nam. Hosted meetings and workshops on priority offshore wind topics. <p>Key Outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified critical barriers to the development of the offshore wind market in Vietnam (completed). Established six prioritized sub-working groups and four secondary sub-working groups (completed). Prepared reports on crucial topics, including marine spatial planning and the roadmap for offshore wind development (final drafts completed). Initiated studies on key issues, such as supply chain, center of excellence, PPA bankability, and fast-track mechanisms (upcoming).

TWGs Meetings and Task Forces Status in 2023 -2024

	TWG	Meetings in 2023 -2024	Task Force
	3. Grid Integration and Grid Infrastructure	<p>8 February 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart Grid, Grid modernization Financing grid modernization <p>25 September 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grid technology trends when integrating large amounts of VRE; Assess the inter-regional and cross-country transmission grid strategy <p>27 June 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for investment of Vietnam's power transmission grid Attract private investment in power transmission grids Green capital sources 	The Battery Storage System Task Force , led by GEAPP, has been agreed upon, and discussions are ongoing regarding the development of the concept note. This initiative aims to explore and advance the deployment of battery storage systems to enhance energy reliability and support the integration of RE sources into the grid.
	4. Energy Efficiency	<p>16 November 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EE policies for enterprises and compliance of enterprises <p>16 June 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on energy efficiency policies and the status of the revision of the EE law Promoting the application of energy efficiency in SMEs and industry in Viet Nam Recommendations for advancing the Energy Service Company (ESCO) model to improve energy efficiency implementation. 	Closed Task Force The Energy Efficiency in Buildings Task Force , led by UNDP, has successfully completed its work. The final report has been submitted to the TWG chair and co-chair. This report includes key insights and recommendations to enhance energy efficiency in buildings, supporting Viet Nam's broader sustainable energy goals.
	5. Energy Market	<p>9 June 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas competitive market LNG market development <p>23 May 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National orientation on the development of a Hydrogen energy strategy and LNG The role of LNG & Hydrogen to integrate renewable energy in Viet Nam Private sector's perspective on potentials of green hydrogen development in Viet Nam 	Proposed Task Force: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LNG market development (led by PV Gas) Hydrogen development

Challenges

1. **Coordination between VEPG and JETP:** There is a need for more discussion on how to strengthen coordination and synergy between VEPG and JETP.
2. **Challenges for TWGs:** TWGs are facing difficulties in organizing two meetings per year, as required. Availability of meeting venues is limited, which risks postponing meetings and restricting the number of participants who can attend in person.
3. **Venue for TWG meetings:** According to the ToR of VEPG, MOIT is responsible for providing in-kind contributions, such as office space, venues for technical meetings, and technical expertise. Limited availability of meeting rooms is a significant challenge.
4. **VEPG's Role:** The role of VEPG in policy advocacy and assistance coordination appears to be diminishing, activities are now more focused on information sharing and technical discussions rather than directly influencing policy or coordinating assistance efforts.

VEPG Partner Support

News and Events:

- More than 70 workshops and events have been featured on the VEPG website, with relevant information disseminated to members through TWG email groups.

Sector Reports:

- A total of 40 sector reports from DPs have been shared on the VEPG website, offering valuable insights into energy-related developments in Viet Nam.

Legal Database:

- The VEPG's Legal Database is regularly updated, with over 100 legal documents and translations uploaded. These include Prime Ministerial Decisions, MOIT circulars and decrees, consultation documents, guidelines, and more.

Project Mapping:

- Coordination with VEPG's DPs has been ongoing to update the VEPG Donor's project mapping results for 2023, ensuring an up-to-date view of projects and funding in the energy sector.

VEPG DP/Donor's Project Mapping updated for 2023

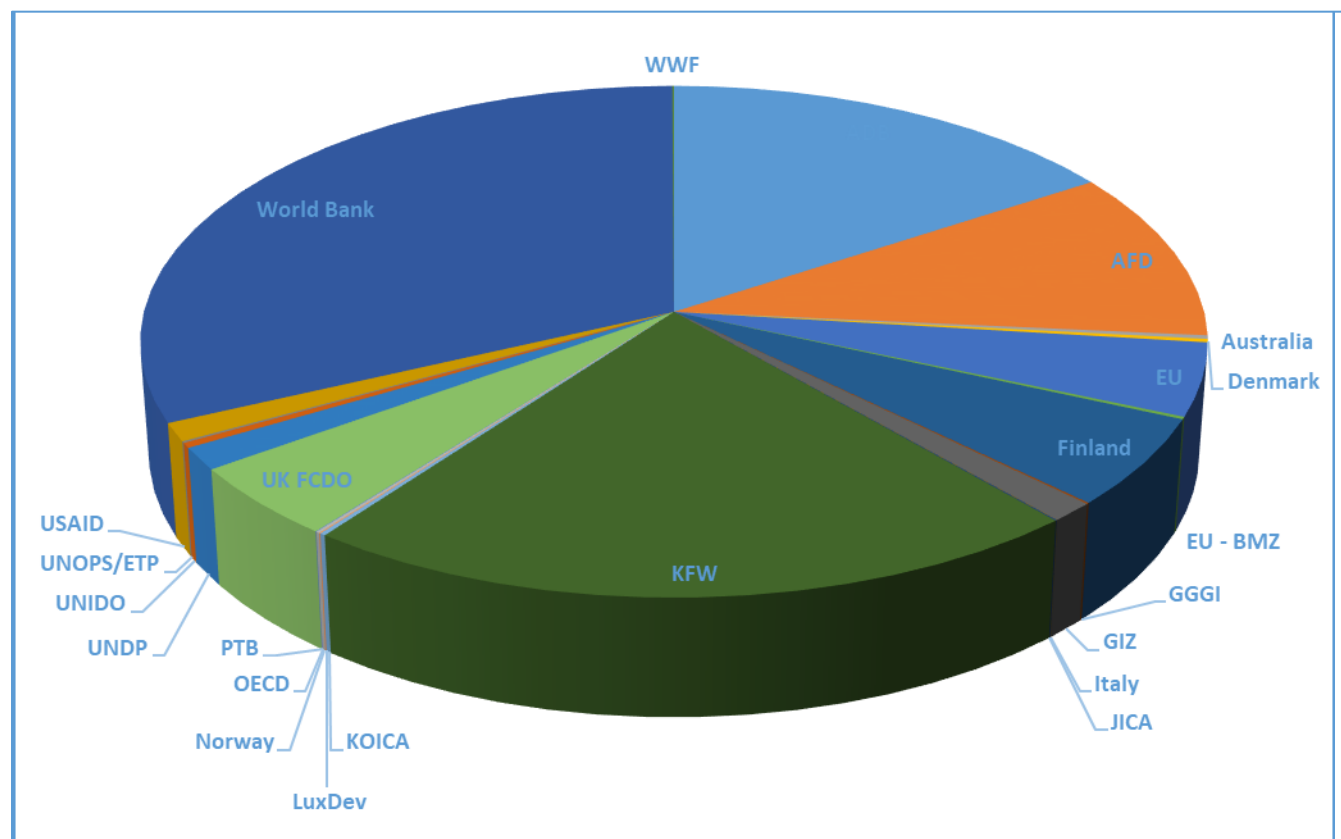


Figure 1: Partition of the DP support for Vietnam energy sector up to 2024.

ADB	902,975,000
AFD	610,137,000
Australia	12,740,000
Denmark	12,209,773
EU	262,516,772
EU - BMZ	8,745,000
Finland	319,710,000
GGGI	3,805,000
GIZ	70,687,605
Italy	713,585
JICA	2,640,000
KFW	1,233,650,000
KOICA	9,130,000
LuxDev.	2,420,000
Norway	5,785,500
OECD	-
PTB	1,650,000
UK FCDO	263,244,000
UNDP	81,217,394
UNIDO	18,108,800
UNOPS/ETP	5,733,063
USAID	66,124,519
World Bank	1,819,800,000
WWF	3,300,000
Grand Total (rounded)	5,717,000,000

Table 1: Summary of the DPs funded activities on Energy sector up to 2024

VEPG DPs/Donor's Project Mapping updated for 2023

- VEPG Secretariat has gathered updated information on **192 entries** (programs, projects, activities), which will be incorporated into the previous DPs mapping survey. While some updates are still pending, particularly regarding details from certain DPs, the total reported budget for these 192 activities stands at **\$ 21.2 billion**. The significant contributors among the DPs include the **WB**, **EU**, **ADB**, **KfW**, **AFD**, and the **UK**.
- **Shifting Focus:**
- In comparison with earlier reports (e.g., the **EU 2015 report** and the **ADB 2014 report**), there has been a significant shift in the focus of DP funding.
- Previously, much of the financial support was directed towards large-scale infrastructure projects, such as the development of fossil fuel-based power plants and the expansion of transmission and distribution networks.
- Currently, the focus has shifted towards **RE**, **energy access**, and **EE**. This reflects a growing alignment between donors and the government's commitment to a more sustainable and environmentally conscious energy future.
- This evolution underscores the increasing prioritization of clean energy initiatives and the strategic alignment of international support with the energy transition goals.

Follow up with the conclusions of the 7th VEPG SCM

Conclusion	Progress	Proposed follow-up actions
1. Enhance the participation of and cross-ministerial dialogue with relevant ministries, line government agencies and non-state actors. EREA, as MOIT’s focal point of VEPG, is tasked to review the participation of these actors and report back to the VEPG chair in early April.	<p>Progress: partially completed</p> <p>Collaboration with other ministries has begun, with MONRE, MOD, MPI, and state-owned enterprises (EVN, PVN, IoE) designating representatives to the Offshore Wind Development Task Force. However, overall engagement with VEPG remains limited.</p> <p>Main reasons: Representatives may not consider VEPG relevant to their work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthen MOIT's leadership and ownership of VEPG.• Make VEPG more appealing to a wider audience by refining the TWG agenda to be more relevant to all stakeholders.• The TWG format should allow flexibility in meeting frequency (at least 2 per year) and content to accommodate various interests (ministries, government agencies).
2. The Technical Working Groups need to follow and work in line with the latest drafts of PDP VIII and the Energy Master Plan	<p>Progress: Ongoing</p> <p>TWG meeting agendas have started reflecting the priority topics of PDP VIII and the Energy Master Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TWGs need the freedom to design their work and be proactive in reflecting the PDP VIII Implementation Plan within the meeting agendas.

Conclusion	Progress	Proposed follow-up actions
3. All TWGs need to concentrate only on the few most critical and specific issues to develop and propose concrete solutions and practical recommendations.	<p>Progress: Ongoing</p> <p>TWG meetings now focus on a single topic, featuring sessions on MOIT policy updates, international experience, and priority topics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWGs should develop yearly work plans focused on key critical issues. Meetings should occur twice a year to facilitate updates and agreement on next steps. • More proactive guidance and involvement of TWG chairs.
4. The 5 MOIT TWG chairs are requested to list/order specific tasks for their related TWG work.	<p>Progress: on hold</p> <p>Main reasons: lack of information and guidance from MOIT</p>	
5. Prioritised thematic topics for TWGs could be (i) development and application of the DPPA mechanism: Assess the four models proposed by the project under the framework of the cooperation with USAID; and (ii) Research on the fuel conversion technologies of thermal coal power plants;	<p>Progress: On- going</p> <p>Discussions on the DPPA are active within TWG 5, while coal power discussions are happening in TWG 1.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritized thematic topics are to be defined by each TWG and integrated in TWG annual workplans.
6. VEPG meetings could be combined with field visits to solve potentially specific energy transition issues in the locality, as needed;	<p>Progress: not yet needed</p> <p>Main reasons: Depends on the actual needs of each TWG and allocation/identification of needed financial resource.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be decided by each TWG for potential integration in TWG annual workplan
7.The VEPG should maintain at least 10 Technical Working Group meetings per year (2 meetings for each TWG);	<p>Progress: partially completed: Six TWG meetings were organized in 2023.</p> <p>Main reasons: Job rotation among TWG chairs and lack of MOIT direction while awaiting approval of PDP VIII and revision of the Energy Efficiency Law.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure proper handover of leadership roles during chair/co-chair rotation. • Strengthen MOIT leadership and ownership of VEPG.

Conclusion	Progress	Proposed follow-up actions
1. VEPG meetings could be combined with field visits to solve potentially specific energy transition issues in the locality, as needed;	<p>Progress: not yet needed</p> <p>Main reasons: Depends on the actual needs of each TWG and allocation/identification of needed financial resource.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be decided by each TWG for potential integration in TWG annual workplan
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1. There is a need for synergies and coordination between JETP and VEPG. The JETP Secretariat could be invited as an observer of the VEPG SC.	<p>Progress: on hold</p> <p>Main reasons: The relationship between VEPG and JETP remains unclear and VEPG is not officially mandated to support JETP or its sub-groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convene an ad-hoc SC meeting to discuss VEPG’s potential contribution to JETP and complementarities. Ensure a smooth handover process during chair/co-chair rotations.
1. Organise at least 2 Steering Committee meetings per year. In 2023, given the urgency to support the JETP and the broader net zero commitments, they could organise a 3 rd SCM or an ad-hoc SC meeting.	<p>Progress: partially completed:</p> <p>Only one SCM and no ad-hoc SC meeting was convened in 2023</p> <p>Main reasons: Changes in VEPG leadership and chair/co-chair (MOIT/WB) availability.</p>	
1. Agreed to organise additional coordination meetings to avoid duplication of efforts and maximise synergies in support of the	Progress: Not implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No longer needed



Thank you!

Contact:

VEPG Secretariat

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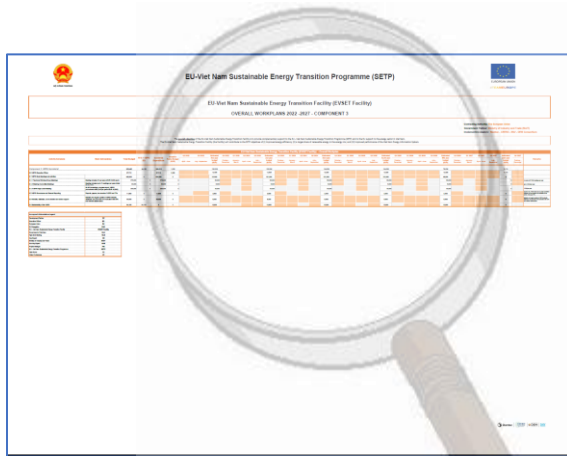
Address: MOIT building, 54 Hai Ba Trung, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi

15:00-15:30: VEPG work plan for 2025

Mr. Nguyen Quoc Khanh, KE3, VEPG Secretariat/EVSET Facility

- *Propose the VEPG work plan for 2025*

2. Overall Workplan of the VEPG 2022-2027



- Period: 2022-2027
- VEPG year:
*September to
August of next year*

General activities

Total BG

• VEPG body meetings:		
• TWG meetings: <i>10 per year</i>	→	275,00
• Steering Committee meeting: <i>up to 2 meetings per year</i>	→	30,000
• VEPG high-level meeting: <i>one per year</i>	→	200,000
• General Reporting	→	11,600
• Website, database	→	30,000
• Study on the sustainability of VEPG	→	64,150
• VEPG Executive Officer	→	67,712
		EUR 623,462

2. Annual Workplan of the VEPG in 2025 (see *the printout*)

Key activities	Sept 2024	Oct 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2024	Jan 2025	Feb 2025	Mar 2025	Apr 2025	May 2025	Jun 2025	Jul 2025	Aug 2025
TWG meetings (2 rounds)	M	M	M					M	M	M		
Support TWG TFs												
SC meetings (2 meetings)	M									M	M	
Ad-hoc SC meetings on JETP support		M	M									M
VEPG high-level meeting				M								
General reporting												
Website, database												
Sustainability of VEPG												
On-going activities												
Meeting	M											

- Budget in 2023: EUR 192,624 including EUR 106,727 for meetings



Thank you!

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15:30-15:50: Preparation Plan for the 5th High-Level Meeting of the VEPG

Mr. Nguyen Anh Tuan, KE2, VEPG Secretariat/EVSET Facility

- *Plan for the 5th High-Level Meeting of the VEPG*

5th HIGH-LEVEL MEETING
THE VIET NAM ENERGY PARTNERSHIP GROUP (VEPG)
Tentative date: November/December 2024 (TBD)
Melia Hotel, 44 Ly Thuong Kiet (TBD)
Format: Hybrid meeting

13:00-13:30	Registration
13:30-13:35	Welcome Opening by the Master of Ceremony, Ms Nguyen Thi Thuy, EREA
13:35-13:55	Opening Remarks
13:35-13:45	H.E. Nguyen Hoang Long, Vice Minister of Ministry of Industry and Trade
13:45-13:50	H.E. Julien Guerrier, Ambassador of the European Union to Viet Nam
13:50 -13:55	Ms. Mariam Sherman, the World Bank Country Director for Viet Nam
13:55-14:35	The VEPG in the pathway to the net zero targets.
13:55 -14:00	Video: the VEPG in the pathway to the net zero targets.
14:00-14:20	VEPG report: progress of Technical Working Groups and Task Forces: policy dimensions and recommendations.
14:20 -14:35	Reflections and guidance of the VEPG Steering Committee
14:35-14:45	Official Ceremony Strengthening the cooperation and commitment of the VEPG on the energy transition target. Group Photos.

Chair of the Panel Discussion: MOIT Vice Minister Nguyen Hoang Long

Moderator: Mr/Ms xxxx, Energy Expert/Specialist (TBD)

Proposed Topics (TBD):

1. Implementing energy transition in view of the net zero by 2050: PDP 8, Energy Master Plan, and JETP resource mobilization plan.
2. Enabling the rollout of investments: regulatory challenges to public and private financing;
3. Financing energy transition: role of public and private financing and of international investors;

Proposed panellist (TBC):

- MOIT
- MONRE
- MPI or MOF
- The EU Delegation (to be determined)
- The World Bank (Ms Chiara Rogate)
- The British Embassy or GIZ

Q&A Session

Conclusions from the MOIT Vice-Minister Nguyen Hoang Long.

Master of Ceremony

Meeting Outcomes and VEPG orientation Summarized by VEPG Chair and cochairs

Moderator: Ms Nguyen Thi Thuy, Electricity and Renewable Energy Authority, Ministry of Industry and Trade



Thank you!

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