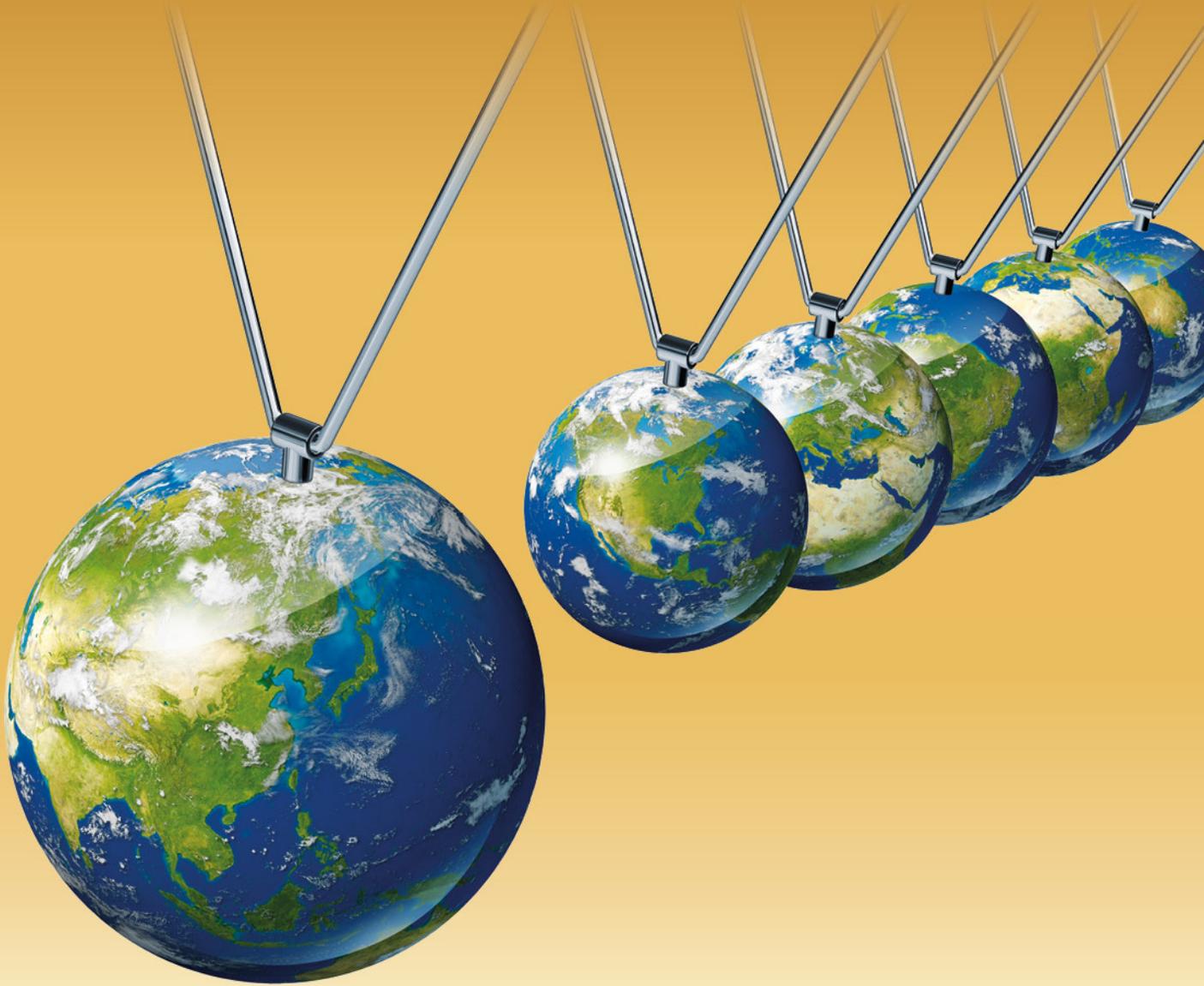


BIDV **R**eview

BIDV  A Newsletter of Bank for Investment and Development of Vietnam JSC • Issue No.27 | May 2017



BIDV makes
Forbes Global 2000



BIDV Headquarters in Hanoi

ABOUT BIDV

Established in 1957, BIDV is the largest commercial bank in Vietnam by assets. As of 31 December 2016, the bank's total assets reached over VND1 quadrillion (approx. USD45 billion). The bank boasts subsidiaries in finance, banking, securities and insurance. BIDV has expanded its business to the international markets including Lao PDR, Cambodia, Myanmar, Czech Republic, Russian Federation and Taiwan (China). BIDV stock (BID) is listed on the Ho Chi Minh City Stock Exchange (HOSE). For more information, please visit www.bidv.com.vn



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Editor's Letter

Dear readers,

*I*n May's issue we are pleased to publish positive news regarding BIDV's business results, awards and other significant market developments.

The bank released its Q1 business results, reporting total operating income of USD350 million, up 17.6 percent year-on-year, and profit before tax of USD102 million, up 9.6 percent year-on-year.

The bank's latest assessment from Moody's, one of the world's leading credit ratings agencies, was wholly positive, with the credit rating outlook of BIDV's local currency deposit and local and foreign currency issuer ratings upgraded to "positive", from the previous rating of "stable".

Further, BIDV has signed a comprehensive cooperation agreement with Korea Development Bank, strengthening its international cooperation. The agreement between the two banks is evidence of both parties' commitment to establishing a fully functioning and effective relationship, laying the foundations for strong

cooperation and the promotion of business activities in areas where each bank has strengths.

Upon official approval from the State Bank of Vietnam, BIDV and SuMi Trust officially launched its leasing company in Ho Chi Minh City, marking the first ever cooperation between a local company and a foreign partner in the field of financial leasing.

As a bank of choice, BIDV received two Sao Khue awards for its online registration app and VAT invoice management software. In a separate event, BIDV was proud to be awarded first place in the list of top 10 enterprises in the Vietnam Top Trade Services Awards 2016, and was the only bank to make the list.

The lifestyle corner features Vietnam's central coast beaches, rated amongst the top 25 beaches in Asia in global travel site TripAdvisor's reader polls. Heading south, we take a look at specialty cuisine from Bac Lieu and visit the province's magical bird sanctuary. ♦



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H.E Pany Yathotou, chairwoman of the National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and leaders of BIDV and BIDV's Transaction Center 1

Lao NA chairwoman visits BIDV Branch

During a visit to Vietnam to attend the 60th anniversary of BIDV, Mrs. Pany Yathotou, chairwoman of the National Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, paid a visit to BIDV Transaction Centre 1 Branch.

Mr. Doan Viet Nam, head of the branch, reported to the chairwoman about the branch's achievements as well as its plans for future operations. Established on 28 March 1991, BIDV Transaction Centre 1 is the first of its kind in Vietnam's commercial banking system. To date, the branch has over 3,000 corporate

customers and 120,000 individual ones. The branch has affirmed its brand and position and is a trusted partner for large corporations and financial institutions in the market.

In recent years, the Transaction Centre 1 has become one of the top leading branches of BIDV in terms of scale, quality and effectiveness. The bank's total assets as of 31 March 2017 reached over VND38 trillion (USD1.7 billion); deposits were more than VND33 trillion (USD1.5 billion) with annual average growth rate of over 35 percent; and outstanding loans exceeded VND20 trillion (USD890 million). The Transaction Centre 1 is the sole branch in the BIDV system to have received the

title of Labour Hero, awarded by the Party and State of Vietnam.

Addressing the meeting, Mrs. Yathotou expressed her satisfaction with the comprehensive development of BIDV in general and the outstanding performance of the Transaction Centre 1 in particular. The Laotian chairwoman confirmed her belief that BIDV will continue to make efforts to achieve good results, making great contributions to the socio-economic development of Laos and contributing to further strengthening the traditional and friendly relations, special solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between Laos and Vietnam. ♦

THAO NGUYEN

BIDV's profits rise in Q1

BIDV has recently released its Q1 business results, reporting pre-tax profits of nearly VND2.3 trillion (USD102 million) that fulfill almost 30 percent of the year's target.

As of 31 March this year, BIDV's total assets reached over VND1.026 quadrillion (USD47 billion), up 1.98 percent year-to-date. Loans to customers reached over VND746,941 billion (USD33.5 billion), slightly up 4.66 percent year-to-date. Retail loans grew by 4.3 percent year-on-year while retail loans to total outstanding loans ratio was 24.2 percent. Total credit and investment reached nearly VND980,000 billion (USD44 billion), an increase of 3 percent year-on-year.

Customers' deposits as of 31 March reached over VND762,402 billion (USD34 billion), up 5 percent, of which retail deposits have been stable since the beginning of the year (up 6.34 percent), accounting for 56.4 percent of total deposits. Total deposits increased by 1.6 percent year-to-date.

Total operating income reached VND7,886 billion (USD350 million), up 17.6 percent year-on-year. Profit before tax stood at VND2,277 billion (USD102



BIDV's profit before tax in Q1 reached USD102 million, up 9.6 percent year-on-year

million), up 9.6 percent year-on-year, fulfilling 29.3 percent of the year's target. BIDV made sufficient provisions according to regulatory requirements.

The bank's business activities in the first quarter of 2017 were stable, seeing growth over the same period last year. The business targets set for the first quarter were fulfilled, creating momentum to complete the business

targets for the remainder of the year.

BIDV has set targets for 2017 of deposits to increase 16.5 percent; outstanding loans to increase a maximum of 16 percent; profit before tax to reach VND7,750 billion (USD345 million); NPL ratio to remain at less than 3 percent and dividend payout ratio to be at least 7 percent and not lower than the VND-denominated 12-month savings rate. ♦



Mr. Phan Duc Tu, BIDV CEO (L) and Mr. Mr. Lee Dong Geol, chairman and CEO of KDB shake hand after signing the cooperation agreement

BIDV signs cooperation agreement with KDB

BIDV has recently signed a comprehensive cooperation agreement with Korea Development Bank (KDB).

The agreement between BIDV and KDB is evidence of both parties' commitment to establishing a comprehensive and effective relationship, laying the foundations for strong cooperation and the promotion of business activities in areas where the two banks have strengths. These include corporate financing; short-term and medium and long-term bilateral lending; international payments and trade finance and business matching as well as serving Korean customers in Vietnam to bring benefits to businesses and residents of the two countries. Utilising these strengths

will contribute to the long-term development of both banks.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Phan Duc Tu, chief executive officer of BIDV, emphasised the similarity of BIDV and KDB in terms of history and operation, especially in serving key national projects and enterprises within each country, considering this a solid foundation for the two sides to promote a close and comprehensive partnership. BIDV expressed confidence that the agreement will be implemented practically and effectively.



South Korea continued to be the biggest investor in Vietnam with registered FDI capital accounting for 36.4 percent

Mr. Lee Dong Geol, chairman and chief executive officer of KDB, extended his thanks to BIDV for the cooperation plan with KDB related to various fields, and expressed the desire that both sides will actively look for new business opportunities such as financing future technology or derivative transactions in the capital markets.

Earlier, Vietnamese prime minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc met with Mr. Lee

About KDB

Established in 1954, KDB is both a commercial bank and development and investment bank, wholly owned by the Korean government. The bank plays an important role in supplying long-term capital for Korea's strategic industries, particularly high-tech areas. According to Banker's Almanac, as of 31 December 2015, KDB was South Korea's leading bank and ranked 94th globally in terms of total assets (USD262.37 billion) with owners' equity of USD28.75 billion, covering a network of 82 branches in South Korea and 22 presences overseas.

Dong Geol, chairman and CEO of KDB. The PM expressed his appreciation of KDB's activities in Vietnam, namely successful projects undertaken and the cooperation between KDB and BIDV. The prime minister expressed his hope that KDB will continue to cooperate and carry out business successfully in Vietnam, and provide substantial capital to Korean businesses in the country. KDB's chairman and CEO praised Vietnam's economic prospects and said that KDB will endeavor to expand investment and cooperation with its Vietnamese partners including BIDV.

2017 marks the 25th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Korea (1992 - 2017). Cooperation relations between the two countries have improved over the years, from bilateral to comprehensive partnership (2001) and strategic partnership (2009). The two sides signed a Vietnam-Korea Free Trade Agreement (VKFTA) in May 2015, which took effect in December 2015. As of end-2016, Korea is the country with the largest capital invested in Vietnam reaching nearly USD50 billion.

Korea is also Vietnam's third largest trade partner, ranks second in terms of ODA supply and Vietnam's second largest market for export of labourers.

As the leading banks of Vietnam and Korea, the signing of the agreement between BIDV and KDB is a significant event to celebrate the 25 years of relations between the two countries, marking developments in cooperation in the field of finance and banking and opening a new page of cooperation between the two banks in particular and the banking systems of the two countries in general. ♦

About BIDV

Established in 1957, BIDV is Vietnam's largest commercial bank with total assets of more than VND1 quadrillion (USD45.5 billion) as of 31 December 2016. BIDV's operations cover banking, insurance, securities and investment. BIDV has a network of more than 1,000 branches and transaction offices and commercial presences and representative offices in foreign countries.

Moody's raises credit rating for BIDV

Moody's, one of the world's leading credit ratings agencies, has upgraded the credit rating outlook of BIDV's local currency deposit and local and foreign currency issuer ratings to "positive", from its previous level of "stable".

In its latest assessment released on 3 May Moody's Investors Service affirmed the long-term and short-term deposit and, where applicable, issuer and senior debt ratings of eight banks in Vietnam as B1 positive.

The eight banks assessed by Moody's were BIDV, Vietcombank, Vietinbank, An Binh Bank, ACB, Military Bank, VIB and Techcombank. Baseline credit assessments (BCAs), adjusted BCAs and counterparty risk assessments assigned to these eight banks are unaffected by the most recent rating actions.

The rating actions on the eight Vietnamese banks are driven by Moody's affirmation on 28 April of Vietnam's B1 sovereign rating, and the change in the country's rating outlook to positive from stable on the same date.

Vietnam's sovereign credit strength is a key input in Moody's deposit and issuer ratings for Vietnamese banks, because the country's credit strength affects Moody's assessment of the government's capacity to provide support to the banks in times of stress.



BIDV's local currency deposit and local and foreign currency issuer ratings are upgraded to "positive"

Moody's revision of the outlook on Vietnam's B1 sovereign rating to positive from stable signals the government's potentially higher capacity to provide such support to BIDV and the said banks.

The positive outlook on the Vietnamese government rating is based on Moody's expectations that strong foreign direct investment inflows, fostered by ongoing economic reform, will continue to diversify the economy and enhance economic performance when compared to rating peers; macroeconomic and external stability will be maintained; and the resulting strong growth and stable macroeconomic environment will help

stabilise government debt around current levels.

The B2 foreign currency deposit ratings of the eight Vietnamese banks were affirmed with stable outlooks, because these ratings are constrained by the B2 foreign currency deposit ceiling for Vietnam.

The ratings and ratings outlooks assigned to BIDV by Moody's are as follows: foreign currency long-term bank deposit ratings at B2, with outlook stable; local currency long-term bank deposit ratings at B1, with outlook positive; local and foreign currency long-term issuer ratings at B1, with outlook positive. ♦

NAM HAI

BIC among Top 100 brands in Vietnam

On 8 April BIDV Insurance Corporation (BIC) was named amongst the 100 most excellent brands in Vietnam for 2016. This is the sixth time BIC has received this title.

The award aims to recognise and incentivise enterprises with outstanding performance in their business transactions and provision of services, solutions and environment-friendly technology as well as those who comply with tax obligations, ensure employees' benefits and actively participate in social security activities. It also aims to connect media agencies with

regulators, policy-makers, economists and the wider business community, as well as producers and consumers.

The award recognises BIC's efforts and success over the past few years. In 2016, BIC sustained high performance and sustainable growth. The company's consolidated insurance premiums reached nearly VND1,800 billion (USD80 million) of which VND1,671 billion (USD74 million) was contributed by BIC alone. The company's consolidated profit before tax was VND165.7 billion, placing it amongst the top five insurance companies with highest profitability ratio in Vietnam's non-life insurance market.

Receiving the award provides motivation for BIC to continue its

company restructuring, applying advanced management measures and innovating technology to match the development trend of the world's 4.0 technological revolution.

This year 61 FDI enterprises received Golden Dragon awards and 100 local companies received the title of Excellent Brand.

BIC's strategic shareholder is Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited owning 35 percent of the company's outstanding shares, with the rest owned by BIDV. According to its 2017 plan, BIC targets insurance premiums of VND1,900 billion (USD84.4 million) and consolidated pre-tax profit of VND186 billion (USD8.25 million). ♦



A BIC representative receives the cup and certificate of excellent brand in Vietnam

VNBA - a bridge for success

On 5 May the Vietnam Banks Association (VNBA) held its first annual meeting of the sixth tenure, reviewing the performance of the past years and setting goals to improve future operations.

CONNECTING MEMBERS

In his opening address, Mr. Phan Duc Tu, chief executive officer of BIDV and chairman of VNBA, affirmed that the association has strengthened its role as a bridge between member organisations and state regulators, protecting the legitimate rights and interests of its members and providing input on developing mechanisms and policies related to banking and credit operations.

Mr. Tu added that VNBA is currently one of the largest associations in Vietnam, managing total assets of more than VND7 quadrillion (USD311 billion). The association is an active and responsible member of the Asia Bankers Association, ASEAN Bankers Association and many other prestigious international organisations.

Mr. Nguyen Toan Thang, general secretary of VNBA reported that,



Mr. Phan Duc Tu, BIDV CEO, Chairman of VNBA speaks at the association's annual meeting

in 2016 credit institutions strictly followed the policies and guidelines of the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) related to monetary, credit and banking operations, playing an important role in fulfilling the set targets such as curbing inflation, stabilising the macroeconomy, supporting economic growth and ensuring social security.

According to Mr. Thang, credit growth and structure were in line with the SBV's regulations and directions. Total credit of the whole sector increased

by 18.71 percent, channeled mainly into business and production and the government's priority areas. At end-2016, credit institutions achieved positive financial results, with improved deposits, loans, total assets and profits.

In 2016, VNBA was also actively involved in the drafting of legal documents which significantly impacted the operation of its members, such as a draft law on supporting small and medium enterprises and a draft decree on debt



VNBA leaders and its members' representatives in a group photo after the meeting

trading conditions. VNBA also worked closely with the SBV's departments and other relevant agencies to convey new policies and guidelines of the government and the State Bank to its members for effective implementation. The association reported the obstacles encountered by its members to the competent state authorities for their consideration in a timely manner, helping to create favourable conditions for the former to work within.

The association organises regular seminars, workshops and training courses on topics of interest, thus providing new and useful information to its members and enhancing cooperation and experience sharing amongst them.

WORKING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS

The VNBA general secretary said that the banking sector has been set heavy tasks for 2017 by the national assembly and the government to control the inflation rate at 4 percent while

effectively supporting economic growth to reach 6.7 percent. In addition, the banking sector must continue restructuring credit institutions while dealing with bad debt, and applying international standards to modern banking management.

The VNBA defined the key tasks for 2017 as follows: promoting its role as a bridge; representing the voices and protecting legitimate rights and interests of members; effectively supporting the development of members; and closely working with the SBV to develop and implement the SBV's communication plans. The VNBA leader said the association would utilise resources to successfully organise the 47th annual meeting of ASEAN Bankers Association which is scheduled to take place in November in Danang, Vietnam.

Addressing the meeting, Mr. Nguyen Phuoc Thanh, deputy governor of the State Bank of Vietnam remarked upon the improved performance of the association, willing it to further

strengthen cohesion among its members for improved operation. The deputy governor said that to promote the role of the association in the context of the economy and the banking sector integrating more deeply into the world, each bank must improve its competitiveness. "If you want to go fast, go alone, if you want to go far, go together," Thanh stated. In order for the whole banking industry to progress further, the deputy governor asked the VNBA members to work together on the basis of fair competition to drive the banking sector forward. ♦

On 24 April 2016, the Vietnam Banks Association held its 6th tenure meeting in Hanoi. At the first meeting session held shortly afterwards, the board of VNBA agreed to elect Mr. Phan Duc Tu, BIDV's CEO, to the position of chairman of the association. Mr. Nguyen Toan Thang, former deputy governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, was elected general secretary.

BSC becomes eligible for trading derivative securities



On 19 May the State Securities Commission granted a certificate of eligibility for trading derivative securities to BIDV Securities Company (BSC). BSC is among five Vietnamese securities companies to be granted the certificate.

The certificate permits BSC to implement the following activities: derivative securities brokerage; proprietary derivative securities trading; and derivative securities investment advisory.

On the same day the State Securities Commission (SSC) also issued a certificate of eligibility for provision of clearing and settlement services on derivative securities transactions to the company.

According to the SSC's notification, during the operation, BSC must comply with Vietnam's laws on derivative securities and the derivative securities market, other relevant legal documents and the company's charter.

The five securities companies receiving the two certificates of eligibility from the SSC includes: BIDV Securities Company (BSC), VPBank Securities Company (VPBS), Saigon Securities Inc. (SSI), VNDIRECT Securities Corporation (VND), and MB Securities Company (MBS).

Hanoi Stock Exchange (HNX) confirmed that Vietnam's derivative securities market will be officially launched in June this year.

In 2016 BSC was among the top seven companies with the largest stock brokerage market share on the Ho Chi Minh City Stock Exchange (HOSE) while maintaining the highest position on Hanoi Stock Exchange (HNX) for government bond brokerage market share. Last year BSC was awarded "Best Investment Management" by the World Finance Magazine and "Vietnam's Best Brokerage" by Capital Finance International (CFI) - one of the UK's leading financial magazines.♦

THANH THAO

BIDV listed among top 2000 biggest public companies

BIDV has joined the list of the world's 2000 biggest and most powerful listed companies for three consecutive years.

Forbes magazine has released its Global 2000 - a list of the 2000 biggest and most powerful listed companies. This year Vietnam has four companies in the list including BIDV, Vietinbank, Vietcombank and Vinamilk - Vietnam's largest dairy company. The three banks have been in the list since 2015 while Vinamilk has joined the list for the first time.

According to the Global 2000, BIDV currently ranks 1682nd with revenue of USD3.3 billion and market value of USD2.6 billion. The ranking of BIDV improved from last year, up 9 places.

The Forbes Global 2000 ranking is based on a composite score from equally-weighted measures of revenue, profits, assets and market value. The list as a whole is significantly more valuable than the year prior, with aggregate market capitalisation up 10 percent.

Despite slowing GDP figures, China and the U.S., whose companies make up more than 40 percent of the list, continue to dominate the top 10, with financial giants including #1 Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) and #4 JPMorgan Chase. China's two-year stronghold of the top three spots was disrupted this year with Warren Buffett's



BIDV has been among Top 2000 largest public companies for 3 consecutive years

Berkshire Hathaway snagging the third spot, another signal that U.S. companies were largely unaffected by the market uncertainty that defined the year, as Berkshire owns many other American staple stocks.

Amongst the top 10 were Industrial & Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), China Construction Bank (CCB),

Berkshire Hathaway, JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Agricultural Bank of China (ABC), Bank of America, Bank of China, Apple and Toyota Motor.

U.S. companies account for the most members of the list, at 565, followed by China and Hong Kong, which is home to 263 Global 2000 companies. The world's biggest companies have grown even bigger, more profitable and more valuable in the past year. 58 countries were represented, with

The 2017 list features public companies from 58 countries, down from last year's 62, that together account for USD35.3 trillion in revenue, USD2.5 trillion in profit, USD169.1 trillion of assets, and have a combined market value of USD48.8 trillion. Cyprus, Kazakhstan, Romania and Malta no longer saw any of their companies on the list. ♦

Rank	Company	Country	Sales	Profit	Assets	Market Value
#1079	Moody's	United States	\$2.4 B	\$297 M	\$2.2 B	\$21.4 B
#1081	Juroken Bank	Japan	\$1.8 B	\$202 M	\$54.7 B	\$1.1 B
#1082	AU Optronics	Taiwan	\$61.2 B	\$242 M	\$2.2 B	\$2.2 B
#1082	Commercial Bank For Investment & Development Of Vietnam	Vietnam	\$2.2 B	\$175 M	\$42.1 B	\$2.1 B
#1084	Shaw Communications	Canada	\$1.8 B	\$207 M	\$1.2 B	\$6.1 B
#1085	Haseko	Japan	\$1.2 B	\$477 M	\$2.8 B	\$1.1 B

2017 Rankings by Forbes



Sixty year journey for BIDV branches

On 27 May 1957, just one month after the establishment of the Bank for Construction of Vietnam, BIDV’s predecessor, Vietnam’s finance minister issued Decree 233/ND-TC-TCCB, for the establishment of the first 11 branches of the bank. This May, the 11 branches celebrated their 60th anniversary, marking a milestone in their development journey and path to success.

BIDV HA NOI: A FLAGSHIP BRANCH

On 17 May, BIDV Ha Noi – one of the bank’s flagship branches - celebrated its 60th anniversary. Located at 4B Le Thanh Tong street, after 60 years BIDV Ha Noi has risen to become a major branch of the bank. As of end 2016, the branch’s total assets reached USD1 billion, 23 times higher than 1995, and deposits were VND21,263 billion. The branch has five transaction offices with 252 officers.

Since opening, BIDV Ha Noi has strongly transformed, tapping new opportunities and overcoming challenges to move

forward. Ms. Nguyen Quynh Giao, head of BIDV Ha Noi branch, affirmed that the branch would strive to remain among the top three branches of BIDV by scale and operation efficiency, continuing to strengthen its position, increase its market share in the area, and significantly contribute to the socio-economic development of the capital and the country as a whole.

In recognition of the important contributions BIDV Ha Noi has made, the branch received honours and awards from the state president, prime minister, governor of the State Bank of Vietnam, and the chairman of Hanoi People’s

Committee. These included the Third-class Independence Medal and First-class Labour Medal, amongst others.

BIDV NAM DINH: BUILDING A STRONG BRAND

On 5 May this year BIDV Nam Dinh branch celebrated its 60th anniversary and customers conference. As the first branch established in the area it has maintained its leading position among the top three branches in the Red River Delta.

Concluding 2016, the branch fulfilled its business targets with total assets as of end 2016 of VND3,567 billion, deposits of VND3,036 billion and outstanding loans of over VND3,382 billion, and pre-tax profit meeting 108 percent of the target. Mr. Pham Thanh Huong - head of the branch affirmed that in the coming time the branch would promote its role in the area with scale growth of 20-25 percent per year and profit growth of



BIDV Nam Dinh



BIDV Lao Cai

over 20 percent annually.

In addition to its business activities, the branch has been active in community programmes, contributing to building the brand of a bank with community responsibility in the area.

BIDV PHU THO: TRANSFORMING TO LEAD

Celebrating its 60th anniversary on 20 May, BIDV Phu Tho Branch proved its position as one of the leading bank branches in the area. Over the years, BIDV Phu Tho has progressively transformed its operation model to improve competitiveness and position in the area. In the last 10 years, the branch saw strong growth in scale and operation: total operating scale reached VND7,800 billion and pre-tax profit increased by 30 percent annually on average.

At the ceremony BIDV’s senior

executive vice president Tran Xuan Hoang encouraged BIDV Phu Tho to continue to promote its role as a branch of one of the province’s largest commercial banks, taking key measures to improve its competitiveness, expand its market share and ensure fair wages for its employees, with annual growth targeted at 20-25 percent in the period 2017 - 2020, and profit growth of over 20 percent annually.

BIDV LAO CAI: SUPPORTING IMPOVERISHED COMMUNITIES

On 21 May, BIDV Lao Cai branch celebrated its 60th anniversary. Since experiencing both a split and a merger, BIDV Lao Cai has proactively moved forward in its business activities, fulfilling all tasks assigned and significantly contributing to the overall success of the bank as well as the economic development of Lao Cai province.

As of end 2016, BIDV Lao Cai had total assets of VND4,950 billion, outstanding loans of VND4,800 billion and deposits of VND1,200 billion. Many works in the province of Lao Cai have been financed by BIDV Lao Cai, including Tuynel Brick Factory, Lao Cai Cement, Nam Tha Hydropower Plants 3, 4, 5 and 6 in Van Ban district, and Minh Luong Hydropower, amongst others.

BIDV Lao Cai has also been recognised for its community activities. In the period 2011 - 2015, the branch contributed over VND50 billion for school construction, the purchase of learning equipment in disadvantaged areas, and for new year gifts to impoverished communities. ♦

BIDV-SuMi TRUST Leasing launched

On 26 May BIDV-SuMi TRUST Leasing Co., Ltd was officially launched, becoming the first leasing company in Vietnam to apply the joint venture model between a domestic commercial bank and a foreign financial institution.

Earlier on 21 February this year the State Bank of Vietnam issued the Official Document No. 946/NHNN-TTGSNH on the principle approval for the conversion of BIDV Financial Leasing Company (BLC) into BIDV-SuMi TRUST Financial Leasing Company (BSL). On 12 April the SBV granted an official operation license to BIDV - SuMi TRUST Financial Leasing Co. Under the new company, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank (SMTB) owns 49 percent of the company’s charter capital while BIDV owns 50 percent.

BSL has charter capital of VND895.6 billion (USD40 million) and operates in all fields under the laws for a financial leasing company. BSL will add an important financial product to BIDV’s existing product portfolio, enabling the system to better satisfy the diverse needs of customers in credit, insurance, financial leasing, and securities.

The launch of BSL marks a key milestone in BIDV’s leasing operation and the comprehensive cooperation between



Representatives of the State Bank of Vietnam, BIDV and Sumi Trust at the launch of BIDV-SuMi Trust Leasing

BIDV and SMTB, laying solid foundations for building trust and fostering the partnership between the two.

By adopting the new business model and benefiting from BIDV in utilising its wide network to implement a cross-selling model, and from SMTB in establishing relationships with suppliers of Japanese leading brands, BSL will launch its competitive financial leasing products to the market. Both banks also bring to the company technological know-how, capital, and an extensive Japanese and Vietnamese customer base.

BSL will bring a new channel for medium to long term capital for businesses to meet their needs in investing more in machinery and equipment to expand their business. BSL said it would initially focus on developing financial leasing services for Vietnamese small and medium enterprises and Japanese FDI enterprises investing in Vietnam. The company will also connect manufacturers and suppliers to assist end-users to select machinery and equipment that meet their production needs as well as offer appropriate financial solution. ♦

MINH NAM

Spotlights in Vietnam's economy

The General Statistic Office of Vietnam has released a summary of Vietnam's economic picture, with US remaining the biggest export market and China being the largest import market.

According to Foreign Investment Agency, in the first five months of 2017, FDI capital continued to rise. Total registered FDI capital reached USD12.13 billion, up 10.5 percent year on year while disbursed capital stood at USD6.15 billion, up 6 percent over the same period of 2016.

Export turnover in the first five months of this year was estimated at USD79.3 billion, up 17.4 percent over the same period last year, of which the domestic economic sector gained USD22.1 billion, up 13.6 percent, while the foreign-invested sector (including crude oil) reached USD57.2 billion, an increase of 19 percent.

The US still remains the biggest export market of Vietnam with turnover of USD16 billion, up 9.9 percent year-on-year; followed by the EU with USD14.6 billion, up 9.5 percent; China with USD10.5 billion, up 40.3 percent; ASEAN with USD8.6 billion, up 26 percent; Japan with USD6.4 billion, up 16.6 percent; and South Korea with USD5.7 billion, up 34.4 percent.

Import turnover over the first four months was estimated at USD82 billion, up 23.9 percent year-on-year, of which the domestic economic sector posted USD32.4 billion, up 18.9 percent and the foreign invested sector

hit USD49.6 billion, up 27.5 percent.

China still remains the largest import market of Vietnam with turnover reaching USD22 billion, up 15.7 percent year-on-year; followed by South Korea with USD18.6 billion, up 51.9 percent; ASEAN with USD11.1 billion USD, up 16.6 percent; Japan USD6.5 billion, up 15.5 percent; EU USD4.6 billion, up 13.9 percent; and the United States USD3.8 billion, up 22 percent.

The general trade deficit in the first five months of this year was USD2.71 billion, equivalent to 3.4 percent of the total export turnover, of which the domestic economic sector saw USD10.36 billion in trade deficit and the foreign invested sector (including

crude oil) had a trade surplus of USD7.65 billion.

According to BIDV Research Center, since early April, interest rates on the market 1 have been stabilized. Deposit rates denominated in Vietnamese dong were between at 4.5-5.4 percent per annum for terms of 1 month to less than 6 months, 6.5-7.6 percent per annum for term of 12 months, even up to 8 percent per year for longer term. The VND lending rates were around 6.8-9 percent per annum for short term loans; 9.3-11 percent per year for medium and long term loans. Short-term US dollar lending rates were around 2.8-4.8 percent per annum, while medium and long-term lending rates were between 4.8-6.0 percent per annum. ♦



Export turnover in the first five months of this year was USD79.3 billion, up 17.4 percent year-on-year

Moody's and S&P affirm Vietnam's sovereign rating

On 28 April two major credit rating agencies, Moody's and Standard & Poor's (S&P), affirmed Vietnam's sovereign rating, citing the country's strong foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, macroeconomic and external stability and modest external debt burden as key factors.

Moody's affirmed the Vietnamese government's B1 issuer and senior unsecured debt ratings, while it raised the outlook to positive from stable.

Moody's B1 rating, four steps below investment grade, is considered relatively stable, with a moderate chance of default.

The company also raised its assessment of Vietnam's local-currency bond to Baa3 from Ba1, while the foreign currency bond remained at Ba2.

The positive outlook for Vietnam is based on three key drivers, including strong FDI inflows, spurred in part by ongoing progress in economic reform and liberalisation; macroeconomic and external stability; and the stabilisation of prospective debt and an improved funding profile.

Moody's noted that robust FDI inflows will continue to sustain Vietnam's dynamic economic performance relative to similar-rated peers, as it

allows the country to diversify its economy and gain a market share in international trade.

Vietnam's improving competitiveness and reform impetus have supported net FDI inflows averaging 5.2 percent of GDP between 2014 and 2016, higher than the B1-rated median of 3.6 percent. The country has also benefited from its entry into several free trade agreements in recent years, which have spurred economic liberalisation. As a result of improvements to the investment climate, Vietnam's ranking rose to 60th out of 138 countries in the 2016-2017 World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Index, up from 70th in 2013-2014, while its showing in the World Bank's Doing Business Indicators similarly rose to 82nd out of 190 countries in 2017 from 99th in 2014.

Robust FDI inflows have spurred gross fixed capital formation, allowing export growth to outperform regional and rating peers amidst slow global trade and lower commodity prices. Vietnam has become a more important node in the regionally dispersed supply chain for electronics, especially for mobile phones, as foreign investments have helped to diversify the economy towards higher value-added manufacturing. As a result, Vietnam has gained a significant market share, with its share of world exports nearly doubling to 1.2 percent in 2016 from 0.7 percent in 2013. Moody's expects the country's economic growth to





Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Moody's raised Vietnam's outlook to positive from stable

remain robust at around 6.3 percent per annum through to 2019.

On the same day, S&P Global Ratings affirmed Vietnam's long-term 'BB-' credit ratings and short-term 'B' credit ratings with a stable outlook.

These ratings reflect Vietnam's status as a predominantly lower middle-income country, weaknesses in its banking sector, as well as the country's emerging institutional settings that hamper policy responsiveness. These weaknesses are offset by Vietnam's external settings that feature broadly balanced external accounts, strong foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, and a modest external debt burden. According to the rating company, financial and technical assistance that Vietnam has received from donors also contributed to the rating.

The assessment of stable outlook given reflects the company's expectation that Vietnam's growth prospects will continue to improve, leading to gains in its key economic and fiscal measures.

However, S&P has cautioned that the large fiscal deficit and rising debt burden, with net general government debt at 46.6 percent of GDP in 2016, signal a further delay in fiscal consolidation. The company estimates that fiscal deficits will average 4.9 percent of GDP over 2017-20, down from an average 6.4 percent over 2012-16. ♦

Cambodia's banking sector sees steady growth

Cambodia's financial sector saw healthy growth last year with increased deposits and profits amid slower credit growth, reflecting sustainable development and increased public confidence in the sector.

According to a recently released annual report of the National Bank of Cambodia (NBC), the country's banking sector remains dominant and plays an important role in Cambodia's financial system. As of December 2016, the total assets of all banks increased to USD24 billion, equal to 118.2 percent of GDP, while credits and deposits rose by 20.5 percent to USD13.7 billion and 21.8 percent to USD13.6 billion, equal to 68.8 percent and 68.4 percent of GDP, respectively.

Financial services within the banking system have been widely used, as shown by the increasing number of borrowers and depositors. By the end of 2016, the number of depositors increased by 12.9 percent while borrowers increased by 45.7 percent. In addition, deposits and credits increased by 21.8 percent and 20.5 percent year-on-year respectively.

Deposits at Cambodia's seven deposit-taking microfinance institutions (MDIs) increased by 12.7 percent to USD1.48 billion, while the combined loan portfolio of all microfinance institutions (MFIs) increased by 4.7 percent to USD3.16 billion at the end of 2016.



Headquarters of the National Bank of Cambodia in Phnom Penh

According to the NBC in the report, while economic growth is gradually moving forward, the banking and financial system is also developing as reflected by the scope and scale of the banks and financial institutions. By the end of 2016, Cambodia's banking system comprised of 37 commercial banks, 15 specialised banks, seven microfinance deposit-taking institutions, 64 microfinance institutions, and 12 financial leasing companies.

Banking institutions have effectively managed capital and liquidity positions, as illustrated by the solvency ratio of 22.3 percent and liquidity ratio of 118.3 percent, which are higher than the regulatory requirement of 15 percent and 60 percent, respectively. Furthermore, banking institutions still manage to maintain their profitability with ROA

and ROE around 1.8 percent and 10.0 percent, respectively.

Microfinance operation in Cambodia has continued to flourish significantly, actively contributing to the country's forward development. The rate of credit growth in the microfinance sector declined to just 4.7 percent last year, due in part to the merger between Sathapana microfinance and Maruhan Japan Bank, which meant the Sathapana loans were excluded from the calculations of the microfinance sector in 2016.

BIDV' operations in Cambodia cover banking (BIDC), insurance (CVI) and securities (CVI). These commercial presences have been operating effectively, significantly contributing to the economic development of the country. ♦

LE HANG

BIDV wins IT awards for third year in a row

BIDV has received two Sao Khue awards for its online registration app and VAT invoice management software.

This is the third consecutive year BIDV has been honoured through these awards. As many as 64 outstanding information and technology (IT) products and services were presented with the 2017 Sao Khue Awards at a ceremony on 15 April in Hanoi. The event was organised by the Vietnam Software and IT Services Association (VINASA). According to the selection criteria, the winning products and services have proven themselves not just outstanding and technologically innovative, but have also generated significant revenue and demonstrated good market orientation and trend capturing.

BIDV was awarded in the category of banking and financial software solutions.

VAT invoice management software is a product that provides service for VAT invoice management and printing for all BIDV customers, with a particularly focus on major and VIP customers. The bank can provide all kinds of invoices



BIDV representatives receives Sao Khue awards

including remittance fee, trade finance fee, collection fee, period payment fee and online. In 2016, the program processed 1,046,794 invoices with the number of transactions amounting to 148,149,960. The invoice management software has helped save time and reduce errors for BIDV, thereby improving the bank's service quality and reputation.

The online registration app allows users to directly register their banking

services without needing to visit a branch. Users can register services including card issuance, e-banking, loan, and foreign currencies. In 2016, the online registration system supported 53,000 online service registrations, bringing greater benefits for customers.

BIDV won Sao Khue awards for its IMAP and BIDV HomeBanking products in 2016; and electronic tax payments and online bill payment in 2015. ♦

BIDV leads in trade services

An awards ceremony held by the Ministry of Industry and Trade on 22 April honoured ten enterprises with excellent trade services and 100 outstanding trade services companies. Amongst them, BIDV was the only bank and ranked first in the list of top 10 enterprises receiving the Vietnam Top Trade Services Awards 2016.

The “Vietnam Top Trade Services Awards” are given to domestic businesses and FDI enterprises operating in 11 categories of trade services to which Vietnam has committed to open upon accession to the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

The awards aim to honour and encourage domestic and FDI enterprises and entrepreneurs operating to an excellent standard in the fields of trade services and industrial production.

The winners of the awards satisfied the criteria set by the organising committee, including operating efficiently; actively participating in social activities; complying with laws; having a clear business development strategy; and having a solid reputation in terms of quality of goods and services.

In 2016, BIDV’s position and brand received local and international recognition. The bank was rated by Brand Finance firm as the most valuable bank brand in Vietnam, ranked 26th among ASEAN banks, and 401st globally, up 12 places compared to 2016; Forbes Magazine listed BIDV in the Top Global 2000 of the world’s largest and most powerful listed companies; and The Asian Banker Magazine awarded BIDV

with “Best Retail Bank in Vietnam” for three consecutive years and “Best Mortgage Product in Vietnam” for two consecutive years. BIDV was also the only bank in Vietnam to be honoured the “Outstanding Retail Bank 2016” at Vietnam Retail Banking Forum 2016. Added to these achievements, the bank also won many prizes in various fields such as cards, currency trading and information technology. ♦



A BIDV representative (3rd, L-R) receives “Vietnam Top Trade Services” award



BIDV rewards special prize to customer

On 23 May BIDV awarded one of two first prizes of Hyundai Grand i10 Sedans worth VND500 million (USD23,000) under the savings programme ‘Tet with Love 2017’.

The awarding ceremony was held at BIDV Tu Liem branch, where the lucky winning customer Mr. Hoang Yen Binh, a customer of the branch, was presented with the special prize.

The Tet with Love 2017 programme took place between 20 February and 25 April 2017 and was well received by customers nationwide. The programme awarded nearly 340,000 prizes totaling VND19 billion (USD850,000).

During the effective period BIDV held a lucky draw each Tuesday to select winners of 40 iPhones 7 Plus 32GB and 10 iPhones 7 32GB.

Over the past 60 years BIDV has been innovative in providing the best banking products and services to customers. The bank has given special priority to retail banking business and

achieved outstanding results in terms of scale, efficiency and quality.

BIDV has been named best retail bank in Vietnam by the Asian Banker Magazine for three consecutive years. The bank was also honoured with the outstanding retail bank 2016 award as voted by Vietnam Banks Association (VNBA) and International Data Group (IDG).

BIDV is the bank mobilising the most capital among commercial banks. The bank has been running promotion programmes in conjunction with capital mobilisation to offer attractive prizes and bonuses totalling hundreds of billion dong, creating winning opportunities for customers. The trust from customers incentivises BIDV to continually improve its quality of products and services in order to best serve its customers. ♦

HUYEN TRANG

Enjoy an active summer with BIDV



BIDV has launched a savings programme entitled “Active Summer with BIDV” effective from 29 May to 22 August 2017. A total of 190 special prizes worth VND17.8 billion (USD790,000) are ready to be won by lucky customers.

For a minimum deposit of VND20 million with terms of 18, 24 or 36 months and interest paid at maturity, customers will be entered once into the lucky draw for the chance to win cash of VND20,000 to VND50,000.

Over 10 days from 13 to 22 June, for every five lucky draw entries awarded (equivalent to the minimum deposit of VND100 million with terms of 18, 24 or 36 months), customers will receive one extra to increase their chance of winning.

The electronic lucky draw held at every branch will also determine the winners of special prizes of one Ipad mini 4 wifi cellular 32GB or a savings books of up to VND15 million value. ♦

TUNG LAM

Loan package offers attractive rates and prizes

BIDV has launched a new credit package worth VND10 trillion (USD445 million) with attractive offers, valid from 26 April to 30 September 2017 or until the package is fully disbursed.

Different package options are available to meet customers’ requirements, with preferential interest rates at only 6.5 percent per annum for loans with term of less than six months and from 6.8 percent per annum for loans with term of six to 11 months. The programme applies to new disbursements during the effective period.

Offering preferential interest rates and rolled out across the BIDV system, the VND10 trillion credit package reflects BIDV’s commitment to accompanying and actively supporting individual customers in their production and business activities.

During the effective period customers will also be entitled to attractive services as part of the promotion programme such as money transfer and e-banking, amongst others. ♦

BINH THANH

Preferential loans for start-ups and micro-businesses

In mid-May BIDV launched preferential credit programmes aimed at start-ups and micro-businesses, with total credit of VND3 trillion (USD133.5 million).

The credit programme for start-ups amounts to VND2 trillion (USD89 million), applicable for short, medium and long-term loans.

The credit programme for micro-businesses is worth VND1 trillion (USD44.5 million), applicable for short-term loans only.

The lending rates available to the start-ups and micro-businesses are competitive, at 1 to 1.5 percent per year lower than the normal rate. Both programmes are effective until 31 December 2017 or until the packages are fully disbursed.

As well as the programmes for start-ups and micro-businesses, BIDV has been active in supporting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) through capital from the SME Development Fund, JICA (SMEFP), Vietnam Sustainable Agriculture Transformation Project (VnSAT), and Green Investment Fund (GIF), among others.

In recent years, start-ups in Vietnam have experienced strong growth. The year 2016 was heralded by the Vietnamese government as the year for the country to become a “start-up nation”. However, the number of successful start-ups is still limited due to difficulties in such areas as human resources, production processes and

legalities. Furthermore, start-ups have encountered difficulties accessing and using capital for business. In response to these difficulties BIDV, the leading commercial bank in Vietnam’s banking system, has launched regular programmes to support SMEs, particularly start-ups and micro-enterprises. ♦



Vietnam's central coast beaches win travellers' hearts

A recent survey conducted by global travel site TripAdvisor placed Vietnam's Non Nuoc and An Bang beaches amongst the top 25 beaches in Asia.

Non Nuoc beach in the central city of Danang was voted tenth among the top 25 Asian beaches in TripAdvisor's 2017 Traveller's Choice Awards. An Bang beach in the central province of Quang Nam came in at 25th.

Travellers said that they had fallen in love with Non Nuoc's fine white sands and crystal clear waters, adding that the best time to catch the beach is at sunrise or when the fishermen are setting out to sea.

Though the beach is one of the top attractions in Danang, many voters described how surprised they were to find it so calm and quiet. Non Nuoc beach stretches five kilometres along the shore of Hoa Hai ward at the foot of Ngu Hanh Son mountain.



An Bang beach

The beach is famous for its seaweed, which reaches exportation standards. Many five-star hotels have been built in Non Nuoc to accommodate the high number of domestic and foreign tourists coming to the area. With good waves, pleasant year-round climate, and suitable salinity, Non Nuoc beach is an excellent place for watersports, especially surfing.



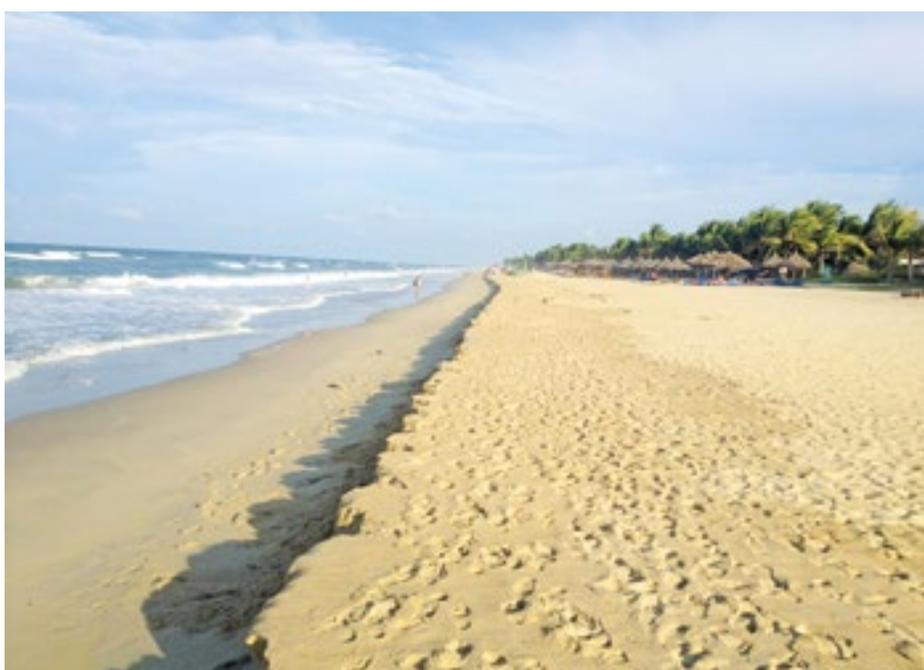
Coconut trees on Non Nuoc beach



Fishing boats on An Bang beach



Non Nuoc beach



An Bang beach

An Bang beach lies 3km to the east of Hoi An town. The 4km long stretch features a wild natural landscape, clean air and diverse flora. It is one of the few stretches of beach in Hoi An that is relatively unspoiled by development, making it a popular destination.

An Bang connects to My Khe beach in Danang and is surrounded by pretty fishing villages, lending it a peaceful,

romantic feel. Visitors can observe the simple way of life of fishing folk, where children gather at sunset to play with kites or to collect shells while they wait for their parents to return from sea.

The best time to visit An Bang is between May and September, and Non Nuoc between February and August.

The Traveller's Choice Awards are

the highest honour TripAdvisor can bestow. Established in 2002, these annual travel-industry-based awards are the only ones of their kind that are actually based on millions of reviews and opinions from travellers around the world. In more ways than one, they reflect 'the best of the best' for service, quality and customer satisfaction. ♦

HOANG LINH

Specialty cuisine and bird watching in Bac Lieu



Amateurs perform music instruments in the ancient longan orchard



For a chance to observe endangered birds in their natural habitat and delicious specialty dishes, head to Bac Lieu Province, a short hop from Ho Chi Minh City.

BAC LIEU BIRD SANCTUARY

Bac Lieu Bird Sanctuary lies just six kilometres from Bac Lieu Town on the way to the beach. The 385-hectare lowland mangrove forest is home to 46 species of birds, many of which are listed as endangered. The marsh was looked after by a single household until 1962, when it was taken over by the local authorities.

The sanctuary contains a rich ecosystem of fish, amphibians and reptiles as well as a diverse range of wading birds such as storks, herons, night herons and cormorants. Current estimates suggest in the region of 40,000 birds and 5,000 nests can be found in the sanctuary, which serves as a breeding ground for numerous bird species between May and October.

At first glance the area appears dotted with smooth white stones, which are in fact bird eggs. An observation tower offers views of the sanctuary, best experienced towards sunset when its inhabitants head back to rest.

ANCIENT LONGAN ORCHARD

Bac Lieu longan orchard spans over 50 hectares, stretching from Nha Mat ward to Vinh Trach Dong village near the coast. Here, hundred-year-old longan trees can be seen. The orchard is a good model of garden tourism, where visitors can enjoy the fragrance of bundles of aromatic sweet longans and sample local seafood specialities. The garden is a tranquil spot, offering fresh sea air and performances of Southern don ca tai tu music.

FOOD SPECIALTIES

Bon bon

Bac Lieu produces sour white crops called bon bon. Easy to cook, tasty and



Ba khia (three-striped sesarmid)



Bon bon vegetable



Birds in Bac Lieu bird sanctuary



Xa pau (salted and sweetened radish)



Radish pie

nutritious, the vegetable is used to make pickles, and the fresher part is perfect to fry with shrimp, or add to sour soup, sour hot pot or salad. Bon bon pickle is one of the most famous products of Bac Lieu. The pickle is a delicious accompaniment to rice and braised fish. Sweet and soft, it helps the cooked fish retain its shape.

Xa pau

Xa pau (salted and sweetened radish) is one of Bac Lieu's tastiest side dishes. It is often served with hot rice soup, which complements its sweet flavour and distinctive smell.

In the past, xa pau was only eaten

during the Tet (Lunar New Year) festival. However, nowadays, xa pau is served throughout the year. It is a popular side dish for vegans. Xa pau is sold along national roads throughout Bac Lieu Province, making it easily accessible to tourists.

Radish pie

Visitors to Bac Lieu should head to a local market to try the rather peculiar radish pie. The crust of the simple pie is made of standard flour mixed with ground white radish flour. It is filled with a mixture of fried dried shrimp, marinated with flavourful ingredients. The filling is stuffed into the crust, rolled, and then baked. It is best eaten with sauteed green onions, herbs and lettuce. The bold flavour of the radish complements the sweetness of the shrimp, and the sour saltiness of

the fish sauce. The pie makes a great brunch or teatime snack or side dish.

Ba khia

Ba khia (three-striped sesarmid) live in salty and brackish water. The sesarmid look very similar to paddy field crabs, however, they are much smaller and live in saltwater areas. Previously a common everyday food of countryside folk, the sesarmid is now listed as one of the most famous dishes of Bac Lieu.

Ba khia can be used to make a paste, one of the most delicious of the Mekong Delta and the perfect accompaniment to crispy fried rice. Many dishes can be made from the sesarmid, the simplest being salty sesarmid. Once cleaned, the crab is shredded, mixed with sugar, chili, garlic, salt, and lemon, and served with white rice. ♦



BIDV representatives hand over a symbolic key to a representative of the beneficiaries

BIDV provides ambulances for rural provinces

BIDV has furthered its commitment to helping improve the standard of medical provision in rural areas by donating 46 high quality ambulances worth over VND55 billion (USD2.5 million) to provincial medical clinics in the Northwest Highlands, Central Highlands, Central and Southwest Regions.

The Toyota Hiace ambulances were manufactured in Japan and come complete with modern emergency equipment. They were presented during a special ceremony held on 16 May in Hanoi.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Quach Hung Hiep, BIDV’s senior executive vice president said, “Community orientation continues to be one of BIDV’s main social security focuses, in addition to its business mission. The bank’s management and employees take their responsibility to the community seriously, investing time,

energy and resources to implement beneficial projects and initiatives. The social security programmes put in place by BIDV adhere to national targets on health care, education, poverty reduction, and disaster relief and affirm the bank’s social responsibility, particularly during difficult economic times.

On behalf of the beneficiary units, Prof. Dr. Nguyen Anh Tri, director of the National Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion, said: “BIDV has been active in implementing social security programmes for many years. The bank has been particularly

instrumental in supporting the health sector, financing the construction of hundreds of medical clinics, funding medical examinations and treatment and purchasing medical equipment.”

“BIDV has also accompanied us on the “Red Journey” Blood donation programme over the past four years. The support of BIDV to the National Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion in particular and the health sector in general provides an excellent example of socialisation in healthcare, significantly contributing to improving the quality of medical examinations and treatment for communities”, he added. ♦



The ambulances donated by BIDV to provincial healthcare centres

THIEN NHAN

Ambulance donations improve provincial health services

Following BIDV's announcement of providing 46 ambulances to central and provincial hospitals, several branches organised presentation ceremonies.

BIDV QUANG NGAI

On 1 June BIDV Quang Ngai handed over a high quality ambulance to Son Tinh district General Hospital. Since 2011, BIDV Quang Ngai has donated over VND50 billion (USD2.3 million) to social security programmes in the province. In the field of health care alone, the branch has provided over VND10 billion (USD445,000) for the construction of three health clinics and purchasing medical equipment and supplies in disadvantaged areas.

BIDV CAN THO

On 31 May, BIDV Can Tho handed over one ambulance to Can Tho Heart Hospital. Mr. Nguyen The Ke, head of BIDV Can Tho, said the gift shows the branch employees' empathy with the challenges doctors and patients face, and contributes to improving services for medical examination and treatment.

In recent years BIDV has provided practical support such as granting loans for the development of medical establishments and purchase of machinery and equipment; giving free health insurance to disadvantaged households, and funding training courses for doctors and nurses.

BIDV TRA VINH

On 31 May, in Cau Ngang district, Tra Vinh province, BIDV Tra Vinh hosted a



ceremony to present one ambulance to Cau Ngang district General Hospital. The branch also granted VND300 million (USD13,500) to build six houses for poor families in Cau Ngang district. In June 2015, BIDV Tra Vinh donated one ambulance worth over VND660 million (USD30,000) to Tra Vinh General Hospital.

BIDV BINH DINH

On 26 May, at the headquarters of the Quy Nhon City Department of Health in Binh Dinh province, BIDV Binh Dinh branch handed over one ambulance to the province's health sector. According to Nguyen Quang Dong, head of BIDV Binh Dinh, the branch provided a Toyota Hiace ambulance worth VND1.2 billion in order to help the province's health sector improve the quality of medical services available including access to treatment.

BIDV CA MAU

On 26 May, BIDV Ca Mau handed over



one ambulance to Ngoc Hien district Health Centre. In recent years, in response to national target programmes on health care, BIDV has set aside loans for developing local and central health centres, being the first bank to do so.

The bank also proactively coordinated with the Ministry of Health to develop a credit programme for the health sector, contributing to upgrading facilities and medical equipment.◆

MANH HAI

BIDV presents 5000 floating backpacks to rural students

In 2017, BIDV committed to presenting 5,000 floating backpacks to students in five rural provinces.

BIDV collaborated with the Vietnam Children Protection Fund (Vietnam Labour Confederation) to present 2,000 floating backpacks to students in Cao Bang and Bac Kan provinces.

The backpack donation was part of an annual programme BIDV and the fund began in 2009. During the event, BIDV committed to presenting 5,000 floating backpacks to students in five provinces of Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Ca Mau, Dak Lak and Ha Giang.

Many schools in these provinces are located near rivers and the backpacks have been fitted with buoyancy aids to help prevent the children from drowning. At the event, the fund also presented VND10 million to primary

schools and kindergartens in Doai Con commune, Trung Khanh district. Earlier, BIDV gave VND20 million to the Cao Bang provincial Social Protection Centre.◆





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