



Rule of Law in Asia: Vietnam and the TPP Workshop

June 8-9, 2016

VNU University of Economics and Business
144 Xuan Thuy, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam

Program Agenda

Overview

The U.S.-Vietnam relationship is at a dynamic point in its history. As the regional political and strategic landscape shifts, Vietnam's leaders appear intent on staying ahead of the changes, instituting reforms aimed at growth and fuller integration with the global community. As one important measure, Vietnam is one of the twelve members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement. This trade pact stands to reinforce Vietnam's economic growth trends. It also enshrines Vietnam's commitments to many institutional reforms necessary to more fully engage with the global economy. With support from the Governments of Vietnam and the United States, the *Rule of Law: Vietnam and the TPP* workshop addresses the road ahead for implementation of TPP legal obligations in Vietnam, and broader measures necessary for Vietnam to continue adapting to and fostering its expanding foreign trade. Aiming to facilitate communication and effective working relationships in the context of TPP implementation, ROL Vietnam enhances understanding among foreign experts of the particular circumstances faced by Vietnam, while simultaneously discussing with members of Vietnam's trade and legal policy community some of the perspectives and concerns from outside the country.

Based at the University of Economics and Business, part of Vietnam National University (VNU) in Hanoi, the program convenes roughly 25 younger (early to mid-career) Vietnamese officials and practitioners who are central to implementing TPP's legal obligations and adapting to expanding foreign trade. The group will meet for two days of private, interactive workshop sessions, engaging with 10-15 senior foreign policy and trade experts from Vietnam, the U.S., and Hong Kong. These private workshops will be complemented by two semi-public keynote sessions and networking opportunities. Workshop sessions will address interpretation of international law, national policy ramifications of trade law implementation, and the robustness of contract law as a basis for sustained foreign trade growth.

The program is a partnership between VNU University of Economics and Business and Hong Kong University, and it is convened by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation. The program is made possible through the generosity of the Hinrich Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and the VF Corporation.

Objectives

- Share knowledge, insight, and perspectives that facilitate Vietnam's smooth implementation of the TPP and sustained growth in foreign trade.
- Deepen understanding of current circumstances in Vietnam in order to enhance the capacity of the U.S. and key foreign partners to engage constructively and effectively in their affairs with Vietnam.
- Cultivate relationships and channels for effective communication between those central to Vietnam's governance of trade and trade law and key individuals in the foreign trade and policy communities in the U.S., Hong Kong, Japan, and elsewhere.



Agenda

Wednesday, June 8 Rule of Law & TPP: Engaging with the International Economy

- 8:30-9:15 Welcome Session, Introductions, Program Overview
Frank Jannuzi, *Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation*
Rector Nguyen Hong Son, *University of Economics and Business, Vietnam National University*
Anselmo Trinidad Reyes, *Hong Kong University*
- 9:15-10:30 TPP's Legal Framework: Rule of Law as the Cornerstone of Trade and Commerce
Barry Hager, *Hager and Associates*
Nguyen Quoc Viet, *Vietnam National University*
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00-12:15 TPP's Key Provisions for Vietnam
Michael Trueblood, *U.S. Embassy*
- 12:30-2:30 Lunch Discussion—TPP & the Politics of Trade and Investment in the US and Vietnam
Frank Jannuzi, *Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation*
Mike Martin, *Congressional Research Service*
Nguyen Thi Thu Trang, *Director, WTO Centre, Deputy Director of Legislation Department, VCCI*
- 2:30-4:30 Afternoon Keynote—TPP and U.S.-Vietnam Relations
- 2:30-3:00 Coffee Break/Networking
- 3:00-3:10 Welcome
Rector Nguyen Hong Son, *University of Economics and Business, Vietnam National University*
Frank Jannuzi, *Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation*
- 3:10-3:30 Remarks
Susan Sutton, *Chargé d'affaires, U.S. Embassy Hanoi*
- 3:30-3:50 Remarks
Cu Chi Loi, *Director, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences*
- 3:50-4:30 Moderated Question and Answer Session
Moderator: **Frank Jannuzi**, *Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation*

Thursday, June 9th TPP Opportunities & Obligations

- 8:30-9:00 Recap of Day I
Nguyen Quoc Viet, *Vietnam National University*
Frank Jannuzi, *Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation*
- 9:00-10:00 TPP, FDI & Contract Law: Dispute, Mitigation, & Application
Anselmo Trinidad Reyes, *Hong Kong University*
Nguyen Hung Quang, *NH Quang & Associates*
- 10:15-11:15 TPP Implementation: Corruption, Transparency, & Independence of the Judiciary



Bernadette Fahy, *Audier and Partners*
Nguyen Van Cuong, *Ministry of Justice Institute of Legal Studies*

- 11:30-12:30 TPP and Labor Obligations
Farzana Aslam, *Hong Kong University*
Vu Cong Giao, *Faculty of Law, Vietnam National University*
- 12:30-2:30 Lunch Discussion--TPP as a Driver of Growth: Crafting a Vietnamese Implementation Roadmap
Stephen Olson, *Research Fellow, Hinrich Foundation*
Sustainable Trade in Vietnam: Lessons from the Hinrich Foundation Sustainable Trade Index
Ngoc Pham Thi Bich, *Hoa Sen University*
Laura Stone, *U.S. Department of State*
- 2:30-4:30 Afternoon Keynote: TPP and the East Asian Economic Community
- 2:30-3:00 Coffee Break/Networking
- 3:00-3:10 Welcome
Rector Nguyen Hong Son, *University of Economics and Business, Vietnam National University*
Frank Jannuzi, *Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation*
- 3:10-3:30 Remarks
Vo Tri Thanh, *Former Vice President, Central Institute for Economic Management*
- 3:30-3:50 Commentary
Toma Masaaki, *Embassy of Japan (Invited)*
Frank Jannuzi, *Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation*
- 3:50-4:30 Moderated Question and Answer Session