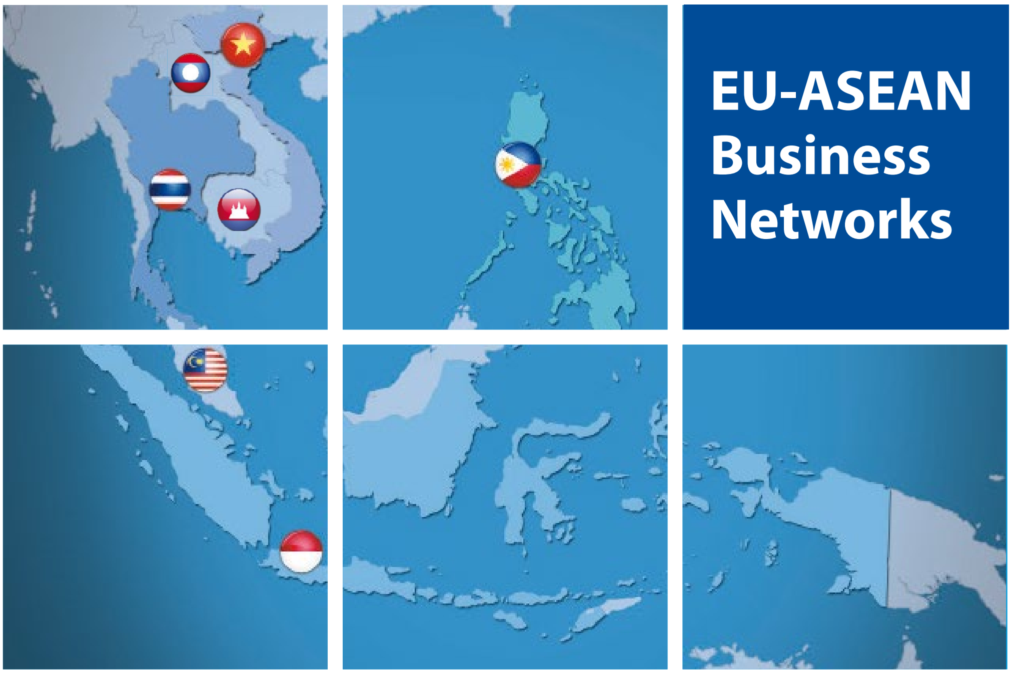
EU - ASEAN Business Update

Edition 5 / December 2015 E - NEWSLETTER



Editorial

The EU-ASEAN Business Networks are pleased to present the **5th edition** of the EU-ASEAN Business Update. This quarterly newsletter covers the work and market updates from European consortiums in five ASEAN countries, created under the European Union's SEBSEAM (Support for European Business in South East Asian Markets) programme: Indonesia (EIBN), Malaysia (SEBSEAM-M), Thailand (EABC), Vietnam (EVBN), Philippines (EPBN), Cambodia (EuroCham Cambodia) and Laos (ECCIL).

Since their creation, these Networks have been working to ensure that EU companies are able to do business in ASEAN markets as efficiently and openly as possible. In each country, the Networks implement targeted advocacy at all political levels and provide high quality market entry and business support to EU SMEs. It is their common goal to contribute to the export activity of all EU SMEs in the region and enhance EU-ASEAN trade.

On the eve of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), a single market promising effective free flow of goods, services and investment, the Networks share the momentous responsibility to stand by EU businesses and help them make the most of what this 625 million people market will bring from 2016 onwards.

TABLE OF CONTENT

Upcoming Events

- The 6th EU-Indonesia Business Dialogue
- Workshop on Professional Services
- All Chambers ESB Christmas Networking
- Webinars: I.T. & I.C.T. and Food & Beverages
- Agriculture Advocacy Workshop
- EuroCham Business Confidence Survey Launch
- 2nd ASEAN-BAC Conference

Feature Article

Interview Mr. Andrew Durieux,
CEO of Coverage Ltd.
Former Chairman of Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce in Thailand AEC Committee

Launch of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) December 31, 2015

Mr. Andrew Durieux is the founder, director and principle consultant at Coverage Ltd. He is an Australian citizen and is also a previous president of the Australian-Thai Chamber of Commerce and if the former chairman of the Joint Foreign Chamber of Commerce in Thailand AEC(ASEAN Economic Community) committee. Andrew has spoken about Thai opportunities to potential investors in Australia on behalf of the Board of Investment. He has also provided information and education on the opportunities and threats of the AEC to the business community in Thailand.

With the AEC set to be launched on the 31st of December 2015, what changes can the global business community expect in the region (is it comparable in any way to the EU's single market)?

The AEC talks about five key areas: goods, services, capital, investment and labour. The reality is that it is really only in the goods area there that there has been any loosening up. Companies will see very little change, if any, at the end of this year despite the hype and expectation. The goods changes have already been done as have tourist visas for ASEAN citizens. Some countries will implement other changes from a strategic point of view. Singapore has already effectively implemented most of the changes anyway. Cambodia and Indonesia have also implemented some changes.

However, some countries (Thailand is one) have chosen to opt for clauses allowing them to not implement changes in areas they feel are not suitable for them. In a country like Thailand, changes to areas such as service liberalization are hard ones as they require law changes, not things that can be easily just implemented with departmental changes or procedural changes. Some countries will make the AEC changes for competitive reasons, other more protectionist countries will take longer.

Are all member states (local economies) expected to benefit equally from the AEC?

A country like Singapore which is already a much

(continues p.2)

EU - ASEAN Business Update

Edition 5 / December 2015

E - NEWSLETTER

Feature Article: Interview with Mr. Andrew Durieux

more liberalized and open economy would be looking towards the capital and investment advantages. Whereas other more developing economies like Vietnam are looking to have more of a manufacturing base so they would be looking to take advantage of the free flow of goods. Middle income countries like Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia where manufacturing is already well established and goods is already a key part of economy, are now trying to move towards the services area.

To answer the question, it won't be equal but in the long term one of the stated aims of ASEAN is to make all ASEAN citizens have more wealth in future. The core intention is that a country like Singapore should not benefit overall as much as Laos and Cambodia but what will actually happen at a business and in a worker level is yet to be determined.

What is the sentiment of local businesses in ASEAN towards the AEC?

Local business for me being mainly Thailand; I see big business are very keen to highlight AEC but it's all about marketing. So they are just taking advantage of the perception that things are going to change to run marketing campaigns and increase their sales and increase their market share. Small business on the other hand, which are the ones that probably could get the most benefit from this, currently in a place like Thailand are not being supported or being educated to what the possibilities are. So many small businesses do not really see the AEC as a benefit.

Will the launch of the AEC make it easier for foreign companies, particularly European SMEs to do business (trade / invest) in the region?

Yes, and No. The AEC is very specifically aimed at citizens and companies of ASEAN. So it's not really going to make it easier for foreign companies on the face of it. However, there are some countries, according to their legal system, that are classifying all other citizens and companies and ASEAN people and companies into the same group. In the countries that have chosen that path, where Singapore is the clear leader, there are opportunities for companies to setup and operate in an ASEAN country as an ASEAN company, creating the opportunity to expand into other ASEAN countries.

However the actual implementation to allow ASEAN companies to operate across ASEAN member borders has not been implemented in the same way across all ASEAN member countries. So, there are some opportunities but these will be difficult and have not yet been fully implemented in many cases.

What sectors in the AEC look most promising for foreign investors?

The AEC will not necessarily change sectors. Some countries will get stronger in some areas; Thailand's expertise in tourism and medical tourism in particular will probably get stronger. Other countries are looking at it in a different way; Vietnam is now being very aggressive in wanting to get investment in the factory level. They are opening up rules to allow companies to setup. Once setup in Vietnam, the products these foreign companies manufacture in Vietnam can be shipped to Thailand and any other ASEAN country for virtually zero duties. There are many indirect opportunities here because of how each ASEAN member state is implementing the AEC changes in a different manner according to their economic strategy.

In services, which is a very interesting area for European investors, the very things that would support factory development such as logistics, transport, software etc.; because companies are growing, these opportunities exist anyway. There are a lot of opportunities for European companies just because we are growing in this part of the world, which doesn't necessarily change because of the AEC.

Is there anything you would like to say to foreign investors regarding the AEC and its launch?

The EU was created with a very different purpose in mind; to prevent any future wars in Europe. The underlying Economic model in most of Europe at the time was also quite similar if not the same, basically they all had the same view on how to run the economy and how to do things. In South East Asia what the European investor has to realize is that, that wasn't the case. There is no ceding of powers to a central entity, like there is in the EU to Brussels. There is no enforcement mechanism where a country or a citizen in another country can appeal to a central entity to provide a ruling and enforce a treaty on an ASEAN member state. The underlying principle in this part of the world is to leave me alone to run my country. There are still today at least officially 2 communist countries in the region; there are currently 3 military dictatorships of some level. There are maybe 3 or 4 democracies but maybe that's a grey word in this part of the world. There are 3 countries that are at least majority Muslim, 2 countries that are majority Christian and there are 5 countries that are majority Buddhist. So they all have their own internal problems with minority groups in the background.

However, despite the AEC perhaps not being a good reason as it is not well implemented or understood, the regions demographics, climate, geography and energy supplies are all compelling reasons why this part of the world is going to continue growing economically for many years to come compared to Europe right now which is both energy short and possessing an aging population. Even though I am openly critical of the implementation of the AEC in a number of countries, I still think that the average European investor should be looking here to do something in this part of the world.

ABOUT ASEAN

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations is a political and economic organisation of ten countries of Southeast Asia, which was formed on 8 August 1967 by Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Since then, membership has expanded to include Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar (Burma) and Vietnam. Its aims include accelerating economic growth, social progress, socio-cultural evolution among its members, protection of regional peace and stability, and opportunities for member countries to discuss differences peacefully. In 2015, the ASEAN Economic Community will integrate it into a single market of 600 million consumers, with freer movement of capital, goods and services.

In 2014, its combined nominal GDP had grown to more than US$2.57 trillion. If ASEAN were a single entity, it would rank as the seventh largest economy in the world, behind the US, China, Japan, the United Kingdom, Germany and France.

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the EIBN SEBSEAM-M, EABC, EVBN, EPBN, EuroCham Cambodia and ECCIL, and can under no cirucmstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union

EIBN EU - INDONESIA BUSINESS NETWORK
NEWS Indonesia

Premium Partner

Media Partner

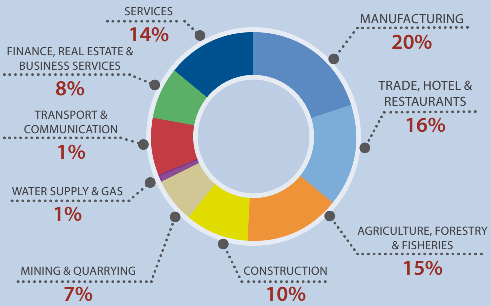
Edition 5 / December 2015 E - NEWSLETTER www.eibn.org

ABOUT INDONESIA

Capital	Jakarta
Area	1.904.569 km^2
Distance East - West	5.120 km
Population	254 million

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Composition of Indonesian GDP
(% of total share), 2015



Source: Statistics Indonesia 2015

Growth	4.7%
Inflation rate	6.5% (October)
Balance of Trade	+1.02 b$ (October)
Budget Balance	+18.1 % y-o-y (Q3 2015)

QUARTERLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

November 18, 2015
Government to allow Foreign Investors… *read more*

November 26, 2014
E-commerce regulation to be ready in … *read more*

October 27, 2014
Jokowi promises deregulation for F&B Industry… *read more*

EIBN NEWS

December 15

The *EIBN Business Guide*

Following almost two years of market researching and compiling of existing information from various sources and local actors, EIBN is presenting its *EIBN Business Guide*. *The EIBN Business Guide* aims to provide guidance to European Union SMEs who look to Indonesia as a possible market, attempting to clarify as easily as possible what doing business Indonesia entails, as well as exporting and importing to and from the country. This publication will be offered as a non-remunerated download to all EU companies who register for free in the EIBN Webportal. **Know more about the *EIBN Business Guide* here.**

December 18

Maritime and Agribusiness Sector Reports

EIBN is releasing its Maritime and Agribusiness Sector Reports in the last quarter of 2015. The reports will provide an overview of Indonesia's Maritime and Agribusiness industries and a glimpse of the high potential they offer to European companies. Know more about **EIBN Sector Reports here.**

October 21-24

EIBN at Hospital Expo in Jakarta

From 21-24 October, EIBN exhibited at the Hospital Expo 2015. During the Hospital Expo, EIBN supported a Croatian eHealth company and a Polish medical devices company with a business meeting program, and in opening possibilities for business partnerships that can facilitate the market entry of their products in Indonesia. **Read more.**

For more news and information, check **www.eibn.org** and contact us through our **online messaging system**

UPCOMING EVENTS

EIBD EU-INDONESIA BUSINESS DIALOGUE

The 6th EU-Indonesia Business Dialogue

Q1 2016, Jakarta

The 6th EU-Indonesia Business Dialogue (EIBD) will be held in Jakarta on the first quarter of 2016. EIBD will focus this year on discussing the steps that need to be taken to ensure Indonesia's continued competitiveness in the ASEAN Economic Community. The EIBD Conference 2016 is hosted by EIBN and is organized by the Indonesian business community (KADIN Indonesia), the Indonesian Employers Association (Apindo) and the five European chambers of commerce in Indonesia (BritCham, EKONID, EuroCham, IFCCI and INA). **Know more here.**

Indonesia Summit 2016

25 February 2016

Indonesia Summit 2016 will explore the country's most pressing issues, bringing together the country's opinion leaders for a day of debate and high-level discussion. **Know more here.**

FHT Bali 2016

3 – 5 March 2016

Food, Hotel and Tourism Bali 2016 is the biggest platform for Indonesia's food, hospitality & tourism industry to meet with key trade-only buyers from the region. **Know more here.**

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the EIBN SEBSEAM-M, EABC, EVBN, EPBN, EuroCham Cambodia and ECCIL, and can under no cirucmstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union

SEBSEAM-M
Support for European Business in South East Asia Markets
Malaysia Component

NEWS Malaysia

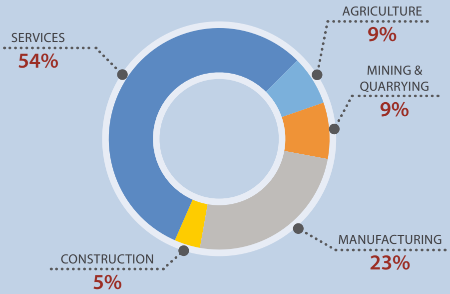
Edition 5 / December 2015 E - NEWSLETTER www.eumcci.com/sebseam-m

ABOUT MALAYSIA

Capital	Kuala Lumpur
Area	329,847 km^2
Distance East - West	450 km
Population	30.3 million

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Composition of Malaysia Economy 2014
(% of GDP per Sector)



Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia and Bank Negara Malaysia

GDP Growth	4.7%
Inflation rate	2.5%
Balance of Trade	+ 2.3 billion USD (Sep)
Budget Balance	-3.5 %

QUARTERLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

2015
EU-Malaysia Trade & Investment Report... *read more*

October 28, 2015
Use Malaysia as Regional Halal Hub, Pharmaceutical Makers Urged... *read more*

October 8, 2015
Bleak Economy Made Government Work Harder on TPPA... *read more*

SEBSEAM-M NEWS

8-9 December, 2015

2nd Annual EU-ASEAN Forum on Food Safety

The 2nd annual Forum, first inaugurated in Malaysia in 2014, has become an important platform for food authorities and experts from Europe and ASEAN to discuss and present their experiences, innovations, and technologies in the area of food safety, and specifically in the key topics of traceability, shelf-life, labelling and cold chain. Keynote speakers included Malaysia's Minister of Health, YB Datuk Seri Dr. S.Subramaniam; and representatives from the Ministries of Health in Thailand, Lao PDR, Indonesia, Philippines, Myanmar, Vietnam.
Read more.

Market Report: Professional Services Malaysia 2015 - Potential for EU SME's in Construction Industry

Newly released, the Market Report provides key information to European companies looking to access the Malaysian construction industry. The report provides an overview of current trends in the sector, including information on authorities, standards, and requirements for registration of foreign companies. **Read more.**

Market Report: Dairy Regulation in Malaysia

Launched at the EU-ASEAN Forum on Food Safety, this Report provides an overview of import regulations into Malaysia, as well as other regulatory requirements for European companies looking to export dairy products. Gain insight into labelling requirements, food additives, packaging, and how to obtain permits. **Read more.**

For more news and information, check **www.eumcci.com/sebseam-m** or contact us at **communications@eumcci.com**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Technical Workshop: EU Experts in Construction and Engineering Field

12-14 April 2016, Kuala Lumpur

In conjunction with International Construction Week and Ecobuild Southeast Asia, European companies are invited to share their expertise in the areas of DIN/EUROCODES, Building Information Modelling, Automation, Quality & Safety, Low-cost housing and opportunities for Malaysian companies, and clustering of industries. Following a successful Symposium and Business Matching event from 10-11 September 2015, in which over 80 Malaysian and European companies participated in information sharing, European companies can leverage a strong momentum in Malaysia to open up to foreign companies. **Read more.**

Technical Seminar in Marine Renewable Energy

September 2016

In partnership with key Malaysian stakeholders, European companies are invited to join a Seminar on the potential MRE sources in Malaysia, technologies, initiatives. **Read more.**

Business Matching: Rail Business Asia

September 2016

European and Malaysian SME's in the sectors of M&E Engineering, Fire/Security /Safety Engineering and Installation/Rail are invited to attend Business Matching. **Read more.**

EABC NEWS Thailand

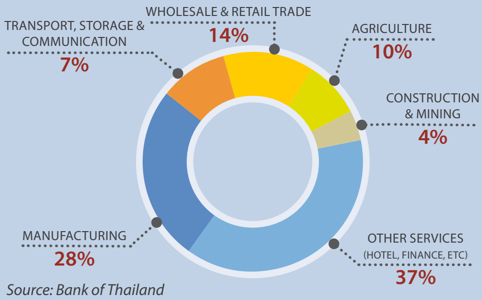
Edition 5 / December 2015 E - NEWSLETTER www.eabc-thailand.eu

ABOUT THAILAND

Capital	Bangkok
Area	513,000 km^2
Distance East - West	780 km
Population	67 million

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Composition of Thai Economy 2014
(% of GDP per Sector)



Source: Bank of Thailand

Growth	2.9% (Q3 2015)
Inflation rate	-1.1% (Q3 2015)
Balance of Trade	2.8 billion USD (Sep)
FDI	1.22 billion USD (Q3 2015)

QUARTERLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

November 28, 2015
Japan to help Thailand join TPP trade bloc...
read more

November 11, 2015
Four business to be removed from FBA Annex III... *read more*

November 5, 2015
Trade with Chile to double as FTA starts...
read more

EABC NEWS

November 26, 2015

Launch of Thailand Import Export Guide and European Networking Night

As part of its efforts to enhance the trade investment relationship between Thailand and the EU, the EABC has published a Thailand Import Export Guide, which was launched at an event attended by several of the EABC's members, its stakeholders and representatives of the Thai government. The event featured a keynote address by a representative of the Thai Customs Department, followed by a European Netwroking Session. **Read more here.**

September - November, 2015

EABC Roadshows in Europe

The EABC participated in several key business seminars and business matchmaking events across Europe: **EU-ASEAN Days** event at the Expo Milano in Italy, **Road 2 South East Asia** seminar in The Netherlands, and the **Slovak Matchmaking Fair** in Slovakia. These events were followed by two more in Zagreb Croatia; a **meeting with the Crotian Employers Association** to discuss how the EABC and EPBN could support Croatian SMEs looking to do business in ASEAN and a **Business Seminar** organized by the EABC in close collaboration with the Croatian Chamber of Economy and the EPBN.

September 8

Thailand's New Transfer Pricing Law

In line with its objectives to support European business based in Thailand, the EABC in close partnership with KPMG Thailand organized a seminar where KPMG experts discussed Thailand's new transfer pricing law and its potential impact on the Business Community in Thailand. **Read more here.**

For more news and information, check **www.eabc-thailand.eu** or contact us at **service@eabc-thailand.eu**

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Chambers Eastern Seaboard Christmas Networking

18 December 2016, Pattaya

The EABC in collusion with its consortium partner the Belgium Luxembourg Thai Chamber of Commerce and several other Foreign Chambers in Thailand will be organizing this year's eastern seaboard christmas networking event in Pattaya. The event will service as a opportunity for participants to meet and network with businesses representatives in Thailand's eastern region and is open for all interested parties to attend.
Read more here.

EABC European Business Position Paper

March 2016

The 4th Edition of the EABC's European Business Position Paper will be launched next year. The Position Paper outlines key trade and investment issues, as well as recommendations to improve trade and investment between Thailand and the EU. **Know more here.**

EABC Green Technology & Renewable Energy Market Study

April 2016

The EABC will publish and launch its next sector report on the Green Technology and Renewable Energy sectors in Thailand in April of next year.
More about EABC publications here.

NEWS Vietnam

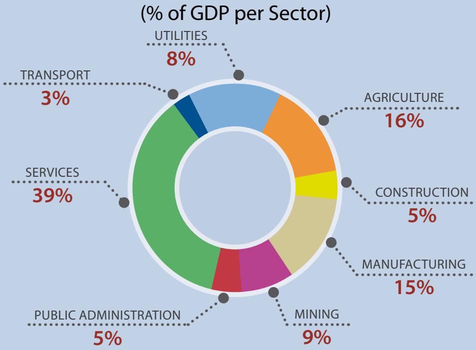
Edition 5 / December 2014 — E - NEWSLETTER — www.evbn.org

ABOUT VIETNAM

Capital	Hanoi
Largest city	Ho Chi Minh City
Area	332.210 km^2
Population	93 million

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Composition of Vietnam Economy 2014
(% of GDP per Sector)



GDP Growth	6.8% (Q3 2015)
Inflation rate	0.34% (Nov 2015)
FDI	$ 7,199 mio USD (Q3 2015)
Trade volume	$ 264 billion (2013)

QUARTERLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

November 30, 2015
Logistics upgrade a must to integrate... *read more*

November 30, 2015
Social and economic situation in eleven months of 2015... *read more*

November 30, 2015
Ho Chi Minh City reports robust growth... *read more*

EVBN NEWS

November, 2015

6 European companies presented their technologies and products at Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Exhibition

From 24th-27th November 2015, EVBN successfully organized the first edition of the Green Technologies Trade Mission. On the occasion of the first Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency exhibition (co-located with VietWater) a European Pavilion was hosted welcoming six companies coming from five different European Member States (Portugal, Spain, UK, Germany and Finland), including various Green Technologies sectors: wind energy, waterproofing solutions, waste-derived fuel, air cleaning solutions, waste packaging and biogas. More than 60 tailored meetings were arranged and many valuable contacts were established between European companies and Vietnamese clients. **Read more here.**

October & November, 2015

2 trade missions: Interior Décor & Logistics

October and November 2015 marked two productive and successful trade missions for the European Delegation in the sector of Interior décor (11 companies from 6 different countries) and Logistics (9 Slovenian companies). These two missions were dedicated and specially tailored for European companies with interest in developing their business and cooperation with Vietnam. Read more about **Interior Décor mission** & **Logistics mission**.

October, 2015

Foundation for partnership in trade and investment

On October 26th 2015, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in collaboration with the European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (EuroCham) and EU-Vietnam Business Network (EVBN) held a joint forum followed by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the MOFA and EVBN and the MOFA and EuroCham. **Read more here.**

For more news and information, check **www.evbn.org** or contact us at **info@evbn.org**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Two webinars in sectors of I.T & I.C.T and Food & Beverages

December 11, 2015 & Januray 12, 2016

Vietnam's economy continues to show steady growth in 2015 which is expected to be further enhanced through the signing of relevant free-trade agreements such as the TPP or the EU-VN FTA. To provide market information to all European companies who are interested in expanding their business to Vietnam, EVBN is going to organize two webinars on I.T & I.C.T (December 11, 2015) and Food & Beverages (January 12, 2016).

Listen to our experts in the sectors to discover your business opportunities in this promising market.
Read more here.

I.T & I.C.T Trade Mission

January 19 - 22, 2016

Sectors: Information Technology, Information and Communications Technology, E-commerce.
Read more here.

Agrofood Trade Mission

March 15 - 18, 2016

Sectors: Food & Beverages, Equipment for HoReCa, Food Industry Machinery.
Read more here.

EIBN EU - INDONESIA BUSINESS NETWORK · SEBSEAM-M Support for European Business in South East Asia Markets Malaysia Component · EABC · EVBN EU - VIETNAM BUSINESS NETWORK · EPBN EU - PHILIPPINES BUSINESS NETWORK · EUROCHAM CAMBODIA · eccil European Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Lao PDR

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the EIBN SEBSEAM-M, EABC, EVBN, EPBN, EuroCham Cambodia and ECCIL, and can under no cirucmstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union

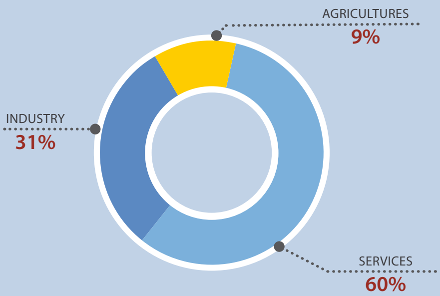
EPBN EU - PHILIPPINES BUSINESS NETWORK
NEWS Philippines
Edition 5 / December 2015 E - NEWSLETTER www.epbn.ph

ABOUT PHILIPPINES

Capital	Manila
Area	343,448 km^2
Islands	7,107
Population	100 million

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Composition of Philippine Economy Q1 2015
(% of GDP per Sector)



GDP Growth	5.2%
Inflation rate	1.7% (Q2 2015)
Balance of Trade	953.89 million USD (August)
Balance of Payments	-24 million USD (Jun 2014)

QUARTERLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

November 25, 2015
PH growth picks up in Q3 - ING Bank...
read more

November 21, 2015
Philippines makes great strides in pushing MSME dev't... *read more*

November 18, 2015
Free trade, integration seen key to region's growth... *read more*

EPBN NEWS

October 14, 2015
Healthcare Advocacy Workshop

The Healthcare Advocacy Workshop brought together PhilHealth, the DOH Office for Health Regulation, the EU Technical Assistance (TA) team which is implementing the EU Philippine Health Sector Reform Program and the private sector. The event facilitated a lively discussion between all participants on the areas which need to be prioritized in healthcare reform to increase the success of the Universal Healthcare Program in terms of universal access to healthcare services for every Filipino patient, and putting in place the systems which will ensure patient safety through strengthening regulation and compliance. **Read more here.**

September 10, 2015
EU Competition Policy and the Philippine Competition Act: Sharing Best Practices

Last September 10, EPBN and ECCP hosted an important debate on competition policy with EU Competition Expert Tiina Pitkanen, DOJ ASec. Sy, and Atty. Antonio Abad as resource persons. The dialogue after the presentations showed the high expectation level among local and foreign business people that the competitive situation in the Philippines will change in the next few years. **Read more here.**

September 16, 2015
EPBN Real Estate Webinar

Last September 16, EU-Philippines Business Network, together with the British Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines, conducted a webinar on Philippine Real Estate. With three speakers from the industry, the topics tackled were the current status of the Real Estate market, advantages of doing business in the Philippines and the partnership of Filipinos with European enterprises. **Read more here.**

For more news and information, check
www.epbn.ph
or contact us at
info@epbn.ph

UPCOMING EVENTS

Worldbex 2016
March 16-20, 2015

In March 2016, EPBN will be participating at WORLDBEX or The Philippine World Building and Construction Exposition by bringing in EU companies to explore opportunities with Filipino construction businesses. WORLDBEX has been Asia's most attended construction exposition and is known for putting together over 500 exhibiting companies and more than a thousand booths ranging from building materials equipment services, construction design and development, to lining up the country's best architects and interior designers, plus the leading manufacturers and furniture exporters. **Read more here.**

Agriculture Advocacy Workshop
January 2016

Ways to improve Philippine agriculture will be discussed in depth with relevant government agencies, members of the private sector and the stakeholders in the Agriculture Advocacy Workshop to be held in January of 2016. **Read more here.**

Infrastructure Advocacy Forum
January 2016

Several solutions will be discussed to ease the infrastructure dealings, including opening and improving the Private Public Projects, removal of the Flag Law, and liberalizing the construction industry. **Read more here.**

EUROCHAM CAMBODIA NEWS Cambodia

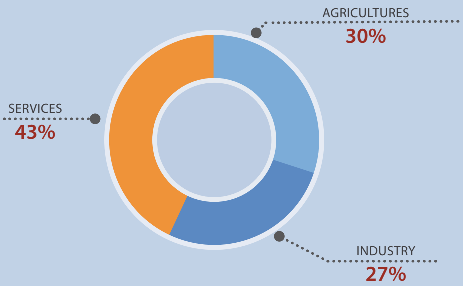
Edition 5 / December 2015 E - NEWSLETTER www.eurocham-cambodia.org

ABOUT CAMBODIA

Capital	Phnom Penh
Area	181.035 km^2
Major Cities	Siem Reap, Sihanoukville, Battambang
Population	15.7 million

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Composition of Cambodian Economy 2014
(% of GDP per Sector)



Source: World Bank

GDP Growth	7% (2014)
Inflation rate	3.9% (2014)
Balance of Trade	-3.01 billion USD (2014)
FDI	1.34 bn (current USD 2014)

QUARTERLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

November 24, 2015
ASEAN Vision 2015 and AEC Blueprint 2025... *read more*

November 20, 2015
European Business Organization Worldwide meets in Beijing... *read more*

October 19, 2015
Minimum Wage Determination in Garment industry for 2016... *read more*

EUROCHAM CAMBODIA NEWS

September 15 - 17 / November 3

Investment Conferences

EuroCham Cambodia, ECCIL (Laos) and EuroCham Myanmar were invited by ECCP (EuroCham Philippines) in Manila (September 15), EuroCham Vietnam in HCMC (September 17) **(read here)** and by the Thai Chamber of Commerce in Bangkok (3 November) **(read here)** to jointly present business investment opportunities in Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar. Economic updates as well as legal investment frameworks were presented to an audience of 40 to 60 entrepreneurs and business people before the floor was opened to a Q&A session.
EuroCham Cambodia was also present during the EU-ASEAN business days in Milan on the 29 and 30 September during the B2B meetings with European Entrepreneurs.

September 21 / October 28

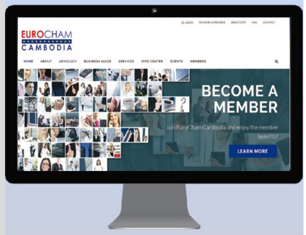
Signature of MoUs

EuroCham Cambodia recently signed its 3rd and 4th Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs): the first one with the Ministry of Tourism **(read here)** on September 21 and the second one with the Ministry of Commerce on October 28 **(read here)**. These new milestones reflect the growing importance of EuroCham as a key partner for the Government to increase and strengthen dialogue with the Private Sector.

September 16

Italian Products Fair in Cambodia

The first Cambodia Italian Products Fair took place in Phnom Penh on 22-25 October. Dedicated to promote Italian products, the Fair gathered more than 40 companies and 60 brands whose representatives specially travelled to Cambodia for the occasion. After a first edition in Yangoon, the Italian Products Fair shows the growing interest from Italian entrepreneurs to invest in ASEAN.



For more news and information, check **www.eurocham-cambodia.com**
or contact us at **service@eurocham-cambodia.org.com**

UPCOMING EVENTS

EUROCHAM CAMBODIA

EuroCham First Business Confidence Survey Launch

15 December, 2015

EuroCham will launch its first Business Confidence Survey by the end of year. The results of the survey are intended to provide a perspective of EuroCham Members on the Cambodian economy: the perception of entrepreneurs about the pace of reforms, the current business environment and its main challenges are covered as well as the perspective ahead. The survey will also include a EuroCham confidence index that will be tracked every year.

EuroCham White Book Launch

February - March 2016

EuroCham will launch its first White Book during the first quarter of 2016. Based on the inputs provided by our 9 Sectorial Committees, the 2016 EuroCham White Book will identify issues affecting trade and investment in Cambodia and propose constructive solutions to be put forward for discussion with the Royal Government.

German-Thai Trade Mission

February 2016 (to be confirmed)

A delegation of Entrepreneurs from the German-Thai Chamber of Commerce is expected to come in Phnom Penh in February 2016 for a visit focusing on logistics and automotive industries.

NEWS LAOS

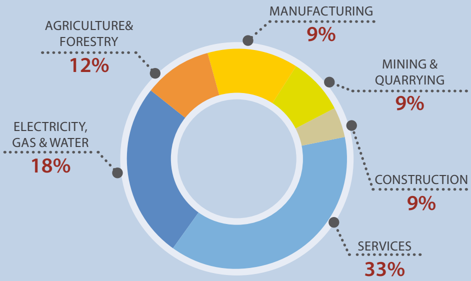
Edition 5 / December 2015 — E - NEWSLETTER — www.eccil.org

ABOUT LAOS

Capital	Vientiane
Area	236,800 km^2
Religion	Buddhism
Population	6.9 million (2014)

QUARTERLY UPDATE

Composition of Laos Economy 2012
(% of GDP per Sector)



Source: The World Bank

GDP	11.8 billion USD (2014)
GDP Growth	7.5% (2014)
Imports	49% of GDP (2014)
FDI net inflow	427 million USD (2013)

QUARTERLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

December 1, 2015
From commodities to satellites: China, Laos seeing more cooperation... *read more*

November 30, 2015
UnionPay helps Laos build national card payment system... *read more*

October 5, 2015
Understanding Laos' Special Economic Zones: Untapped Potential... *read more*

ECCIL NEWS

September 15 - 17

Investment Conferences

The ECCIL in cooperation with the Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LNCCI), took part in two investment conferences; in Manila organised by the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) and in Ho Chi Minch City organized by the European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam. The conferences included presentations on the economic status quo in Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar along with practical information on how to do business in the region. The events also included panel discussions followed by Q&A sessions. Turnout at both events was quite high and both events overall, were very well received.

November 16

Launch of Business Confidence Assessment

The Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Laos (LNCCI) with the ECCIL, supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH organized the Launch of the Business confidence Assessment for the period January to June 2015 on 16 November 2015. **Read more here.**

November 6

Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation

ECCIL and Sociedade Portuguesa de InovaÇão organized a roundtable to discuss opportunities within the European Commission's programme in Research and Innovation. The event also provides networking opportunities to develop research proposals. **Read more here.**

For more news and information, check **www.eccil.org** or contact us at **khankeo.moonvong@eccil.org**

UPCOMING EVENTS

2nd ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) in Vientiane

February 5th, 2016 Vientiane

The 2nd ASEAN Business Advisory Council Conference will be Co-organized by Lao National Chamber of Commerce (LNCC) and Industry and European Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Lao PDR (ECCIL), in Vientiane on the 5th of February in 2016. The event serves as an opportunity for buisness leaders and key policy makers in ASEAN to meet and discuss the pervailing economic situation in ASEAN, particularly the implementation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC).

Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) conference 2015

December 14 - 15, 2015

A forum for high-level policy makers, development partners, private sector, non-government organizations to exchange on harmonization of TVET systems in the context of ASEAN regional integration, organized by GIZ in Vientiane.

Asia 2016

March 1 - 3, 2016

International Conference and Exhibition on Water Resources and Hydropower Development in Asia. **Read more here.**

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the EIBN SEBSEAM-M, EABC, EVBN, EPBN, EuroCham Cambodia and ECCIL, and can under no cirucmstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union