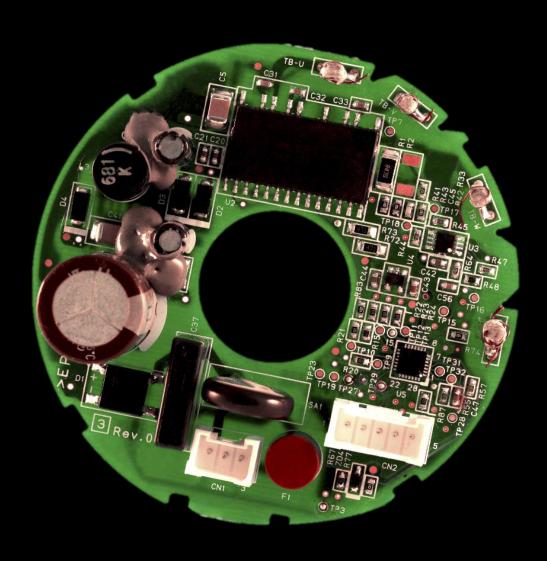
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TAX NEWSLETTER

For Enterprises in the Semiconductor Industry

September 2024







INTRODUCTION

Dear Valued Clients and Business Partners,

In a landscape of constantly evolving tax laws and policies, semiconductor companies require timely updates on regulatory changes and detailed guidance from industry experts on how these changes impact their operations.

Deloitte Vietnam understands businesses needs and is proud to introduce our Tax Newsletter for Enterprises in the Semiconductor Industry. This Tax Newsletter captures the publication of regulations and development process of the tailored legislative landscape, that impact the semiconductor industry.

Through this publication, our Valued Clients and Business Partners will be better equipped to manage tax liabilities, enhance compliance, and improve operational efficiency, all of which are crucial for sustainable business growth.

Deloitte Vietnam is the leading Tax and Legal advisor, especially in the field of investment incentives for the semiconductor industry in Vietnam. We are offering comprehensive tax consulting services, promoting compliance and sustainable development, while supporting clients in effective tax management to achieve their business goals.

Deloitte Vietnam is always honored to accompany our esteemed clients and partners!



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Semiconductor Highlights

Semiconductor development in Vietnam – A snapshot

Vietnam is striving to become a pivotal player in the global semiconductor industry through a comprehensive national strategy aimed at bolstering its capabilities in this critical sector. Recently, the Government has taken decisive steps to strengthen and attract semiconductor businesses, including:

- ✓ Development of the **Strategy for Semiconductor Industry Development**: strategy in progress with
 goals extending to 2030 and a vision to 2045, focuses
 on integrating Vietnam into the regional
 semiconductor ecosystem and attracting global
 investments.
- ✓ Establishment of National Steering Committee for Semiconductor Industry Development (Decision No. 791/QD-TTg dated 05 August 2024) in researching, directing and coordinating in solving important and interdisciplinary tasks related to promoting the development of the semiconductor industry in Vietnam.
- ✓ Establishment of Vietnam Semiconductor Hub for Education (VSHE): through collaboration between Vietnam National Innovation Center (NIC), FPT Group, and TreSemi, aiming to develop 50,000 semiconductor engineers by 2030.
- ✓ Vietnam-US Cooperation in semiconductors and AI: focusing on training, capacity building, and integrating into the global value chain.
- Encourage establishment of various semiconductor design centers and accelerate co-operation between corporations in semiconductor.

The national strategy and Government's direction will serve as a foundation for shaping new policies that are designed to accelerate the growth and development of Vietnam's semiconductor industry.

With this alert, Deloitte Vietnam aims to update enterprises in the semiconductor industry on the latest policy developments, offering insights and recommendations to help navigating this evolving landscape.



Highlights of the alert

- Based on our review of the draft policies, Deloitte
 observes that Vietnam tends to diversify its
 investment incentive policies by introducing new
 cost-based incentives, beside traditional profitbased incentives, which includes financial supports
 and incentives such as super tax deduction for
 Research & Development ("R&D") expenses, cash
 grant for certain types of expenses, etc. Regionalspecific policies are also being developed in certain
 provinces such as Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang,
 introducing unique mechanisms and support to
 strengthen their attractiveness.
- As Vietnam's semiconductor industry evolves, businesses are recommended to keep a close eye on new policy changes, evaluate investment strategies, and actively engage with the government for policy contribution from business perspectives.
- Deloitte specializes in this sector and is equipped with the expertise to guide businesses through the latest policies and incentives. We encourage you to consult with us to seize the potential opportunities with current regulations.

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Investment support and incentive policies

At present, Vietnam employs various policies to attract investment in prioritized development sectors, such as tax incentive scheme for the high-tech industry, or special investment incentives as outlined in Decision No. 29/2021/QD-TTg issued by the Prime Minister. However, with the semiconductor industry emerging as a critical global sector and Vietnam becoming a focal point for international semiconductor investments, the Vietnamese Government has recently introduced or is drafting targeted incentive policies specifically for the semiconductor sector. The domestic policies related to the semiconductor industry outlined below are based on prevailing policies and official information of Draft policies.

I. NATION-WIDE POLICIES

Policy

1. Decree on Investment Support

A policy initiative of the Government to develop a National Fund to provide direct financial support to strategic companies and projects based on certain eligible expenses that incurred by companies/projects.

Enforcement: tentatively from 2024

Legalization status: draft

Enterprises in high-tech sectors:

- (i) High-tech companies
 - (ii) Companies having projects manufacturing high-tech products

Eligibility Criteria

- (iii) Companies having high-tech application projects
- (iv) R&D centers
- Qualified companies need to meet certain conditions of capital, revenue, capital disbursement.
- Semiconductor businesses are subject to more favorable criteria (only required VND 6,000 billion investment capital or VND 10,000 billion annual revenue).

Benefit / Support Offered

- ✓ Cost-based incentives on eligible expenses:
 - o Training & HR development costs: 50%
 - R&D costs: 1%-30% depending on applicable subjects
 - Newly invested fixed assets: 1%-10% depending on applicable subjects
 - Manufacturing costs of high-tech product:
 0.5%-3% depending on applicable subjects
 - Social infrastructure system: 25%

2. Draft Law on Digital Technology Industry

Draft policy focusing on digital technology industries (e.g. information technology, Artificial Intelligence, Cloud, Internet of Things, Blockchain etc.), as well as including semiconductor businesses.

Enforcement: tentatively from 2025

Legalization status: draft

- R&D centers for semiconductor products
- Investment projects in semiconductor
- ✓ Funding support for setting up R&D facilities, technical infrastructure
- ✓ Profit-based incentives:
 - Special investment incentive on preferential Corporate Income Tax ("CIT") rate, import taxes
 - CIT exemption for 5 years on income from transfer of shares/capital
 - Personal Income Tax ("PIT") incentives for expats
- ✓ Cost-based incentives on eligible expenses:
 - For purchase of machinery and equipment ("M&E"): up to 5%
 - For transfer of asset, technological line, equipment to VN: up to 10%
 - For implementing new project in manufacturing integrated electronic circuits ("IC"),: up to 10% of total investment capital
 - o For R&D: super deduction of 150%
- ✓ **Other supports:** Administrative procedures, Customs Green Lane for export – import



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Investment support and incentive policies

II. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Policy Eligibility Criteria

3. Resolution No. 98/2023/QH15 for Ho Chi Minh City

Resolution to provide special regimes and policies aimed at further enabling Ho Chi Minh City to unlock resources, drive development, and fully leverage its potential and strengths.

Enforcement: from 01 August 2023

Legalization status: currently in force

Strategic investors having investment **projects** in semiconductor integrated circuit industry, technology for designing & manufacturing IC, printed electronics, chips

- Prioritized projects in semiconductor: minimum investment capital of VND 30,000 billion, disbursed in 05 years
- Strategic investors: minimum chartered capital of VND5,000 billion or total asset of VND 25,000 billion, having experience in similar projects of minimum VND 10,000 billion capital

Benefit / Support Offered

- For R&D activities: super deduction of 150%
- Other supports: Customs priority

4. Decision No. 3686/QD-UBND dated 06 September 2024 on the "Program for Developing the Ho Chi Minh City Microchip Industry in SHTP in the period of 2025-2030"

The program has 9 projects, proposals, and plans, including scientific and technological tasks on piloting mechanisms and policies to support the development of the semiconductor microchip industry; Training and human resource development plan; R&D tasks on semiconductor microchip and Micro-Electro-Mechanical Systems (MEMS) technology in the period of 2025-2030.

5. Resolution No. 136/2024/QH15 for Da Nang City

Resolution to provide special regimes and policies aimed at further enabling Da Nang City to unlock resources, drive development, and fully leverage its potential and strengths.

Enforcement: from 01 January 2025

Legalization status: currently in force

- Strategic investors having investment projects in the field of semiconductor chip technology, semiconductor integrated circuit industry, manufacturing components, IC, PE
- Prioritized projects in semiconductor: minimum investment capital of VND 30,000 billion, disbursed in 5 years
- Strategic investors: minimum chartered capital of VND 1,000 billion, having experience in similar projects of min VND 2.000 billion

- ✓ For R&D activities: super deduction of 150%
- Other supports: Customs priority, land lease

- Semiconductor IC enterprises
- ✓ Profit-based incentives:
 - 5-year CIT exemption on income from innovative start-up activities
 - 5-year tax exemption (PIT and CIT) on income from transferring shares/capital contributions
 - 5-year PIT exemption on income from salaries and wages of experts, scientists, etc.
- Strategic partners in semiconductor IC:
 - Global revenue in the most recent year of minimum VND 25,000 billion
 - Commit for long-term development in Da Nang with a minimum period of 5 years
 - Other conditions

- ✓ Cost-based incentives on expenses:
 - For purchase of M&E: up to 5%
 - For transfer of asset, technological line, equipment of new projects: up to 5%
 - For new projects: up to 5%
 - For hiring highly-qualified employees
- ✓ Other supports: Leasing of information infrastructure, administrative procedures

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Deloitte's view



Emerging trends of incentive policy to foster Semiconductor development

Vietnam is increasingly focusing on the semiconductor industry as a key component of its development strategy. There has been a noticeable shift towards more targeted tax incentives aimed at boosting semiconductor, including new cost-based incentives (e.g. cash grants, investment subsidies, super deductions for R&D expenses, etc.) beside traditional profit-based schemes. The new policies are designed to attract investors with large-scale projects and expertise in this field, ensuring that those who can add substantial value to the economy are chosen. This strategy aligns with Vietnam's broader goal of promoting high-value industries and driving economic growth.

In addition to nationwide policies, Vietnam is also promoting pilot particular policies in specific regions, such as HCMC and Danang, to foster the development of Semiconductor industry. These initiatives introduce unique mechanisms tailored to the strengths and appeal of each location, attracting semiconductor investment projects to these strategic provinces.



Forward-looking on the landscape

Given the current global context of increasing demand for Semiconductor production, the strategic importance of this industry, and the existing draft policies on semiconductor incentives, Vietnam is expected to both broaden and reform its incentive programs to attract even greater investment. This may include not only more profit-based and cost-based incentives but also other supportive measures. In addition to financial incentives, Vietnam may introduce simplified administrative procedures to reduce the burden on businesses, making it easier for semiconductor companies to establish and expand their operations.

Furthermore, Vietnam may look to international best practices in incentive policy, drawing lessons from other leading semiconductor hubs around the world. By integrating these global insights, Vietnam could strengthen its position as a competitive and attractive destination for semiconductor businesses, ensuring its continued growth and leadership in the industry.



Recommendation for businesses

In the context of the rapidly changing semiconductor industry policies, companies should initiate proactive measures to adapt and capitalize on emerging opportunities. Deloitte's recommended action plan is as follows:



Stay informed of policy developments

- Enterprises should closely monitor ongoing legislative changes in the semiconductor industry;
- Staying informed enables companies to quickly adapt their strategies and engage with the Government on relevant investment opportunities.

Re-assess business cases and investment



- Companies should revisit current business strategies, including plans for expansion or new investments, to explore opportunities to maximize benefits from semiconductor incentives;
- This proactive approach will help optimize returns from Government policies.

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Amplify perspectives in policy contributions

- Companies could consider actively communicating with the Government, voicing practical needs and concerns to contribute the the policies that address industry challenges and align with business objectives
- This is vital for creating favorable environment for the semiconductor sector.

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Consult with experts

- Companies should consult with experts, especially Deloitte's Tax and Legal advisory team, to fully understand
 the implications of new semiconductor policies and how to best leverage available incentives;
- Expert advice can help companies make informed decisions and align strategies with evolving regulatory frameworks



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Sontact us

We are always ready to serve our partners and clients with a team of experts in the Semiconductor field. Our experienced professionals provide comprehensive and practical insights tailored to your needs.

To start a conversation, please contact us:



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