

Russian president’s aide and Iranian science VP: Short-term, results-oriented goals key to Iran-Russia tech collaboration

IMF ratifies technical aid to Iran for energy targeting

Economy Desk

The special assistant to the Russian president for science and technology and the Iranian vice president for Science, Technology, and Knowledge-Based Economy reviewed technological collaborations between Iran and Russia, prioritizing “short-term, results-oriented goals.” Andrei Fursenko led a high-ranking delegation in a meeting with Hossein Afshin on Saturday, with the two sides discussing the expansion of bilateral cooperation in artificial intelligence (AI), advanced technologies, and their application across industries, IRNA reported.

During the meeting, Afshin emphasized Iran’s AI capabilities, saying, “Despite lower investment in computational infra-

structure compared to other regional countries, we have established a robust infrastructure and trained highly skilled personnel in under a year.” The vice president further stressed Iran’s interest in joint collaboration with Russia on rare metals, “We are keen to cooperate in rare metals, as we recognize the world’s future will hinge on these resources.” Addressing environmental concerns, Afshin remarked, “Drilling mud extracted from oil wells contains rare metals. Both their extraction and refining carry environmental impacts, necessitating focused attention and solutions.” He underscored the importance of “short-term, tangible objectives,” stating, “We prefer replacing vague long-term goals with clear, short-term targets

that yield measurable outcomes.” Meanwhile, Afshin highlighted the unique features of the Sepehr and Jafir oil wells, among Iran’s first smart wells. He stated, “This well, with a depth of 4,600 meters, is classified as a deep well in the country and requires special monitoring.” Afshin added, “Due to its high pressure (approximately 700 bar), real-time data is critical. Without it, we risk losing a well due to pressure drops. By implementing adjustments using live data, production increased from 47,000 to 60,000 barrels per day.” “This project was completed in less than a year, and we aim to digitize all our wells. Our goal in AI is to create successful models and replicate them,” he noted.



Andrei Fursenko, in turn, emphasized the growing significance of AI, “The need for AI to solve complex problems and optimize processes is more pressing than ever. We hope joint collaboration will maximize its potential.” Referring to the technologi-

cal projects presented during the meeting, Fursenko noted, “These projects demonstrate how cutting-edge technologies can address technical and industrial challenges. The key is to identify solutions that benefit both Iran and Russia, aligning with our shared interests.”

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The International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved the Central Bank of Iran (CBI)’s request to provide technical assistance for “energy targeting.” The IMF expressed readiness to deliver this technical support through in-person meetings at one of the IMF’s centers (Austria or Singapore) between May 28 to June 11, Tasnim reported.

The technical assistance program will be designed by the IMF to provide operational recommendations to Iranian authorities, utilizing economic tools, insights from other countries’ experiences, and data provided by Iranian experts.

Government office launches solar plant to advance renewables goals



Economy Desk

Iran’s vice president for Science, Technology, and Knowledge-Based Economy set up 40-kilowatt solar farm on the rooftop of its main building in Tehran, aligning with the government’s mandate for executive bodies to shift toward electrical self-sufficiency and promote clean energy adoption.

According to IRNA, the solar farm was set up using advanced panels developed by an Iranian knowledge-based company. Unlike conventional rooftop solar plants, this hybrid facility — set to be constructed in less than five days — will not only generate power while connected to the urban grid but will also locally supply part of the building’s electricity needs during citywide outages.

This initiative stands as a successful example of the vice presidency’s support for domestic technologies and its rapid implementation of solar projects. It could serve as a model for achieving energy self-sufficiency

through clean, renewable resources. Government offices are required to source at least 20% of their electricity from renewable energy. According to the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Organization of Iran (SATBA), efforts are underway to equip a significant portion of executive and government agencies with solar power systems by this summer.

Last year’s electricity shortage was estimated at 18,000 to 20,000 MW. According to Iranian Energy Minister, “If planned measures are implemented, this year’s electricity deficit in the country will drop to below 10,000 megawatts (MW).” Abbas Aliabadi has addressed re-

porters regarding the electricity deficits during the summer, remarking, “If measures are not implemented, the electricity shortages could reach 24,000 MW. However, we anticipate that with the execution of these plans, the imbalance will fall to less than 10,000 MW.” Meanwhile, Aliabadi on Saturday said, “Over 12,500 megawatts of hydroelectric power plants are unable to produce energy effectively, as precipitation has significantly decreased this year.” “Currently, a significant number of the country’s dams are hydroelectric, but we are witnessing reduced rainfall, which has impacted the performance

of these dams,” he added. Noting that under conditions of significantly reduced rainfall and water resources, he said, “We must discover new capacities,” and stressed, “In this situation, we must prioritize the issue of conservation more than ever.” “The Ministry of Energy plans to reduce the electricity generation sector’s dependence on fossil fuels by expanding clean energy sources such as solar and wind power,” Aliabadi said. “Conservation does not mean deprivation; rather, it is a wise choice to utilize resources properly, which will help preserve valuable energy reserves for current and future generations.”

The 1975 victory; a major watershed in Vietnam’s national defense history

PERSPECTIVE
EXCLUSIVE

The Great 1975 Spring Victory is a golden point and pivotal turn in Vietnam’s history when the nation completely defeated the American war of aggression and domination in the South, unifying the two regions under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV).

Long struggle for independence and unity

After the success of the August Revolution in 1945, which overthrew the domination of French colonialists, Japanese fascists, and the feudal regime, President Ho Chi Minh declared the independence of Vietnam on September 2, 1945, giving birth to the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

Following that, after nine years of prolonged and arduous resistance, the Vietnamese achieved the historic Dien Bien Phu victory on May 7, 1954 - a triumph that resounded across the five continents and shook the globe. This forced France to sit at the negotiation table and sign the Geneva Accords on July 21, 1954, to end hostilities in Vietnam. According to the agreement, French forces were to withdraw, and the country was

temporarily divided at the 17th parallel in Quang Tri Province between North Vietnam and South Vietnam in preparation for nationwide elections.

However, the United States intervened militarily in South Vietnam, establishing the Saigon regime to sabotage the agreement and pursue a long-term division of the country — a move that went against the Vietnamese people’s deep-rooted aspiration for peace, independence, and national reunification.

Through countless hardships and great sacrifices, with invaluable support from international friends, the Vietnamese People’s Army achieved significant advantages on the battlefield between 1965–1972. These efforts eventually forced the US and the Saigon regime to the negotiation table, leading to the signing of the Paris Peace Accords on January 27, 1973. According to the agreement, the US had to recognize the independence, unity, and territorial integrity of Vietnam and withdraw all its forces from South Vietnam.

The Paris Accords marked the end of the longest diplomatic negotiation in modern world history—lasting 4 years, 8 months, and 14 days—and stood as a pinnacle of Vietnam’s diplomatic success. It also reflected the worldwide solidarity movement

for peace and independence, advancing the global struggle for sovereignty, democracy, and progress.

The Ho Chi Minh Campaign and national reunification

By late 1974 and early 1975, recognizing that the revolutionary balance in the South was tilting decisively, the Politburo of the CPV initiated a plan to completely liberate the South by 1975-1976.

On April 26, the Ho Chi Minh Campaign commenced. Five divisions of the Liberation Army of South Vietnam broke through the final enemy defenses and advanced into Saigon—then the seat of the puppet regime. On April 30, armored units stormed the Independence Palace and captured the entire cabinet. The campaign ended at 11:30 AM, with the flag of the National Liberation Front hoisted on the rooftop, symbolizing a momentous victory and the end of 30 years of national resistance.

From a divided nation to a rising star

Vietnam’s April 30, the 1975 victory opened a glorious chapter in its millennia-long journey of national defense and nation-building. The Vietnamese once again overcame a superior

adversary, ending over a century of foreign occupation and division. This victory has inspired global movements for national liberation and resistance to neo-colonialism.

It also confirmed the brilliance of the CPV’s revolutionary and military strategy and President Ho Chi Minh’s visionary leadership. The people’s war strategy, deeply rooted in unity and popular mobilization across all fronts, played a decisive role.

Despite facing continued challenges after reunification—including the US embargo—Vietnam, under the CPV’s clear-sighted leadership, adopted a bold and pragmatic reform mindset. It opened the economy, engaged diplomatically, and reconciled with former adversaries.

A story of remarkable growth

From being among the world’s poorest nations in the 1980s, Vietnam has transformed dramatically. In 2024, the country’s economic growth rate reached 7.09%, with GDP at USD 476.3 billion, ranking 35 economies worldwide by GDP and top 20 in international trade globally. GDP per capita reached USD 4,700, a 58-fold increase over three decades. Poverty has plunged from 58% in 1993 to 1.93% in 2024. Vietnam’s total import-export

turnover hit USD 786.29 billion, with a trade surplus of USD 24.77 billion. It also secured USD 38.23 billion in FDI and welcomed 17.6 million international tourists, up 39.5% from 2023.

As of 2025, the country maintains diplomatic ties with 194 countries and territories, including 12 comprehensive strategic partners and 20 strategic partners.

Vietnam has proven to be a trustworthy partner and proactive global citizen-engaging actively in ASEAN, the United Nations, and other international platforms.

Strengthening ties with Iran and the world

Vietnam and Iran share remarkable similarities in strategic positioning, cultural richness, and national pride. Their ties trace back centuries through cultural and commercial exchanges. In 2023, the two nations celebrated 50 years of diplomatic relations with a series of political, cultural, and diplomatic events.

Vietnam always extends heartfelt gratitude to the leaders and people of Iran for their consistent support and growing cooperation, which have contributed to Vietnam’s national achievements. Vietnam remains

confident that, under wise leadership, Iran will continue to make great strides in enhancing its role and influence—contributing to peace and prosperity in the Middle East and the world.

Looking ahead: a vision for the future

Guided by the CPV, Vietnam is determined to achieve its “centenary goals”: becoming a high middle-income nation with a modern industrial economy by 2030, and a high-income developed country by 2045. Innovation, digital transformation, and sustainable development will be at the core of this transformation, moving beyond a resource-based, labor-intensive model to one powered by technology, knowledge, and creativity.

April 30, 1975 is more than a military triumph—it is a symbol of Vietnamese resilience, patriotism, and unity. As Vietnam steps into the future, it continues to uphold these values, striving to ensure peace, security, and happiness for its people—while joining hands with the world to foster global peace, stability, and shared prosperity.

This opinion piece was provided to Iran Daily by the Embassy of Vietnam in Tehran, Iran, on May 3, 2025.