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For internal reference - April 2011

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VIET NAM IN AN EFFORT TO MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS



Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung at the meeting of the National Steering Committee on the NTP on Climate Change Response

“Climate change response is considered the vital issue of the country” - said by Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung in his conclusions at the meeting of the National Steering Committee on the National Target Program (NTP) on

Climate Change Response (as recorded in the Announcement No. 38/TB-VPCP of 3 March 2011).

Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung emphasized that the Strategy for Climate Change Response had to be implemented on the principles of adaptation and active response for existence and development, of which response was the focus.

Prime Minister assigned specific duties to Ministries/sectors. MARD took the responsibilities to instruct and encourage the introduction of advance technologies in agriculture production, targeting at reducing the emission which cause the green house gas; apply modern techniques for seeding and re-structure the cropping pattern, thus contributing to improve the capacity for natural disasters prevention and control.



Dr. Cao Duc Phat, MARD Minister, Head of Viet Nam Delegation to make presentation at COP16

At the Plenary Section of the 16th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP16) and the 6th Conference of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) at Cancun, Mexico, Dr. Cao Duc Phat, MARD Minister affirmed that Viet Nam continued enhancing the implementation of the UN Framework Protocol on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol signed in 1997.

The Minister mentioned Viet Nam focused on reduction of emission resulted from agriculture activities in the coming time and considered it as a solution for a sustainable agricultural growth in Viet Nam.

Minister Cao Duc Phat emphasized Viet Nam's efforts in actively undertaking national programs for climate change impacts' adaptation and mitigation as well as saving energy and use substitute energy, and planting forests towards a low-carbon economy.

Green house gas was one of the causes to the climate change. MARD would be responsible for developing rural infrastructure towards sustainable model, conducting researches to work out solutions for emission reduction while ensuring to increase crop yields.

At the event "Agriculture, food safety and carbon in land", Minister Phat said

the GoV committed to implement the activities for reduction of emission resulted from agriculture production, and support farmers to cultivate advanced paddy seed so as to decrease 30% of fertilizer, insecticide and water.

Currently, emission from agriculture accounted for a high proportion, approx. 43%, deforestation and change of land use purpose - 10%.

Viet Nam was also very active to join in the international agricultural initiatives, including the "flexible" responses to the climate change. The World Bank initiative called countries for taking into account the climate change factor in their policy making process and investment in agriculture so as to tackle all the 3 targets at the same time: (i) increase crop productivity and farmers' income, (ii) improve the capacity for climate change adaptation; and (iii) make agriculture as the response solution to the climate change since it helped keep the green house gas in the land and biomass energy.

At the event to announce the "Roadmap of the Action Plan for Agriculture, Food Safety and Climate Change", Minister Cao Duc Phat, once again, confirmed that Viet Nam would contribute to speed up conduction of the initiative "we have to take urgent actions in this important aspect".(ISG-ICD)



CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAM OF VIET NAM WAS MUCH SUPPORTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL

The 2nd meeting of ASEAN Working Group on Climate Change took place in Ha Noi on 19 - 20 April 2011. The Working Group endorsed the draft Declaration on the Climate Change towards COP17 and CMP7.

Australian and New Zealand governments signed a comprehensive cooperation agreement with ASEAN, which supported the Working Group to undertake the joint-declaration of ASEAN leaders on climate change response cooperation.

The Climate Change



still committed to support Viet Nam in

program funded by Denmark with the budget of US\$ 40 million was being implemented from 2009 - 2013. The Japanese government in collaboration with the French government (through AFD) also supported the climate change response program since 2010 till now.

Though, in 2011, Japan was attacked by the very severe disasters but the Japanese government

implementation of the climate change response program as well as other pipeline programs.

Viet Nam also received the attention and support from other developed countries. Denmark was among the leading countries in collaboration with France to join the cooperation program on climate change response, i.e. SCICC program.

JAPAN'S SUPPORT TO VIET NAM FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

The Project for Climate Change Adaptation for sustainable agriculture and rural development in the coastal Mekong delta of Viet Nam was funded by JICA. The estimated budget of the project was US\$2 million, which would be implemented in 2 years' time, starting from the Summer of 2011.

The Project was conducted by the Southern Institute for Water Resources

Planning to ensure sustainable agriculture and rural development in this region.

The Project would help the Southern Institute for Water Resources Planning improve their capacity in planning in response to the climate change impact, forecasting and evaluating impacts of the climate change at medium and long terms in the period 2020-2050.



Signing Ceremony of the TA to support coastal provinces in the Mekong River Delta for climate change adaptation (28 April 2011)

According to JICA, the Mekong river delta was one of the 3 most vulnerable deltas to the climate change in the world.

Hence, the Project dealt with solutions against the salinity intrusion, coastal land erosion due to sea water raise, secured fresh water sources and agriculture land use planning, which were very concerned in Viet Nam.

Mr. Tsuno Motonori, Chief Representative of JICA Office in Viet Nam said that climate change in the Mekong river delta was not the future issue but current one. Therefore, JICA would attempt to continue projects using structure and non-structure measures for direct benefit of the residents in the region.

US ENVIRONMENT DEFENSE FUND (EDF) ASSISTED TO CULTIVATE LOW-EMISSION PADDY



The project trialed cultivation of low-emission paddy, which was undertaken by the Institute for Mekong delta development Research, Can Tho University, Technology Transfer and Consultant Firm, Water Resources University and the US EDF at Binh Hoa commune, Chau Thanh district, An Giang province.

The project has been

implemented within 3 years (Nov. 2010 - Oct. 2013) with the total budget of approx. US\$1 billion. The Project would help maintain Viet Nam's position in ensuring food safety in the world since Viet Nam was the 2nd world largest rice exporter.

The project objective targeted to reduce green house gas; improve working conditions and

income for the poor and marginal poor households; protect the environment; increase the use of adaptation measures and mitigate climate change impact. It was expected that CH₄, CO₂, N₂O emitted from paddy growth process would be reduced significantly.

According to the second report of Viet Nam on the emission of green house gas relating to the UN Framework on Climate Change, green house gas emission in agriculture accounted for 43.1% out of the total emission of Viet Nam, and in agriculture, the emission from paddy cultivation was 57.5%.

Three issues to achieve in the project:

(i) Methods to measure green house gas emission from paddy cultivation in line with international standards.

(ii) Identification of the reduction level of green house gas emission from different cultivation models compared to the basic reference level.

(iii) The feasibility and financial benefits that Vietnamese farmers enjoyed when they could accumulate credits and sold them to the voluntary carbon markets.

The project would use models and measure the reference emission levels of 3 key green house gas (khí cacbonic CO₂, N₂O, CH₄) emitted from paddy cultivation in the Mekong delta; measure the reduced emission levels after applying appropriate cropping techniques such as good practice of irrigation and drainage, fertilizer and management of straw at post-harvest; access new financial and income sources by accumulating credits of green house gas emission and sell them to the voluntary carbon markets; transfer technologies, skills and experiences on carbon finance and climate change impact mitigation gained in Viet Nam.



Early 2011, the project study team has organized the Project Review Workshop to evaluate initial achievements of the trial on the paddy field. Initial results showed that with that cropping method, production cost would reduce significantly in comparison with the normal practice: reduce by 10 – 15 kg fertilizer/1000m² and pesticide, and save irrigation water but the paddy crops still developed normally. It was a good signal to ensure the success of the project with a wish to minimize environmental pollution due to the paddy production.

EC FUNDED EMISSION REDUCTION DUE TO DEFORESTATION AND FOREST EXHAUSTION IN VIET NAM



MARD Minister has endorsed the project on "Emission reduction due to deforestation through integrated land use in tropical forests" (REDD-ALERT)" at the Decision No. 3232/QĐ-BNN-HTQT. The project was funded by Macaulay Land Use Research Institute of the UK for implementation from

May 2009 – May 2012 and Viet Nam Forest Sciences Institute was assigned as implementing agency.

With the overall objective to contribute to the development and evaluation of market and non-market mechanisms, demands of different stakeholders in changing their behaviors in order to limit the deforestation at the tropical countries, thus reducing the green

house gas emission.

Particularly, the project aimed at (i) understand the socio-economic reasons and policies relating to the change of land use purposes; (ii) estimate the carbon volume so as to enable the evaluation of green house gas emission due to the land use changes; and (iii) recommend management policies appropriate with the new world tendency.

THE UN-REDD: THE INITIATIVE TO REDUCE EMISSION DUE TO FOREST DESTRUCTION



Within 3 days from 21 – 23 March 2011, the Information Center of the World Bank in collaboration with the Wetland and Mangrove Forest Research Institute (Viet Nam Association of Science and Technology) and Lam Dong province, have organized the workshop to share experiences and technical initiatives in implementation of the Program on emission reduction due to deforestation (REDD+). Comments from the workshop concentrated

in sharing information, experiences in carrying out the REDD+ at different regions in the world, the role and importance of REDD+ against climate change at the global scale currently, benefits of local people when participating in REDD+, the transparency and the community-based focus of REDD+, and the reason for local people's demand of REDD+...

Viet Nam was among leading countries in the world taking actions for mitigation of climate change impacts based on

forest communities.

REDD+ has been initiated in Viet Nam for almost 1 year and Lam Dong province was selected to pilot the program. Successes from Lam Dong would be the important base to expand REDD+ in Viet Nam.

The 2nd phase of UN-REDD program in Viet Nam would be implemented from August 2011 at 6 provinces which had large forest cover and represented different ecosystems with the aims to improve sustainable forest and forest resources management towards reducing green house gas emission due to deforestation and forest exhaustion.

From 2011-2016, Norway supported US\$ 100 million (over 2,000 billion VND) to implement the 2nd phase of the UN Program on reduction of green house gas emission (UN-REDD) at 6 provinces of Viet Nam.

DANISH GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED TO MITIGATE GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSION FROM LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IN VIET NAM

MARD Minister has approved the project on "Optimizing environmentally friendly biogas production from livestock manure for reduction of green house gas emission" at the Decision No 614/QĐ-BNN-HTQT (31 March 2011) funded by Danish Government through DANIDA (Danish Fellowship Center - DFC), Animal Sciences Institute was assigned as implementing agency of the project. The overall objective of the project was to convert animal wastes harmful to the environment to the useful energy source through the development of sustainable biogas technology in Viet Nam, thus contributing to mitigating the green house gas emission whilst re-use effectively the animal wastes for crop cultivation.

The project would be implemented in 4 years (2011-2014) with the total fund of 6,124,101 DKK (equivalent to 22,746 billion VND).

The project would address the following specific issues:

- Develop sustainable biogas technology

using animal wastes to ensure the sanitation, which was proper with the local conditions;

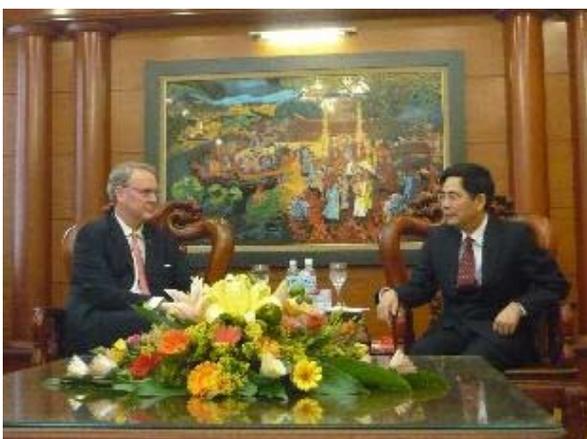
- Evaluate the efficacy of environment-friendly technologies in optimizing production of biogas, and carbon and nutrition utilization from the wastes at the post-biogas conversion process.

- Develop the model to support decision and evaluation option making process to assess the environmental impacts as result from the application of biogas (including management measures).



EVENTS - NEWS

MARD MINISTER CAO ĐỨC PHÁT AWARDED MEDAL TO UNDP REPRESENTATIVE IN VIET NAM



In the morning of the 26th April 2011, MARD Minister awarded the "Medal for the cause of Agriculture and Rural Development in Viet Nam" for Mr. John Hendra, UN Coordinator, Chief Representative of UNDP Office in Viet Nam.

It showed the recognition of Mr. Hendra's contribution to agriculture and rural development sector of Viet Nam during his mission in the country.

THE 44TH ADB ANNUAL MEETING AT VIỆT NAM



From 3 – 6 May 2011, the 44th Annual Meeting of ADB Board of Governors took place in Ha Noi.

It was the first time Viet Nam hosted the ADB annual meeting since she was member of ADB. The meeting was expected to attend by over 3,000 participants and many international journalists. In the program, a “Viet Nam Day” was organized by the Ministry of Planning and Investment, which was an important event and attracted the interests of the participants, foreign and local investors and the mass media as well.

The “Viet Nam Day” composed a high-level meeting on Investment – Business, workshops on some topics relating to infrastructures, electricity, clean water and some exhibitions of commodities, investment opportunities, trade and tourism in Viet Nam as well as other cultural activities such as art performances, tours and food.

Within the ADB Annual Meeting, there

were 19 workshops on the following subjects: Capital and financial markets; Integration and harmonization of regulations in Asia at the post-crisis context; Asian vision to 2050 (workshops of governors); Towards to better financial regulation and sustainability in Asia; A Mid-income Asia: policy challenges; Changes in global growth tendency and capital flows in Asia; Gap narrowing – private capital for infrastructure investment; the role of private sector in enhancing regional integration; joint workshops of ADB/IMF and ADB/JICA – Japan; workshops on Asian investors, ASEAN integration: connectivity enhancement, threats from climate change; national presentations on natural resources management; Achievements in socio-economic development and recovery from financial crisis (Indonesia, Bangladesh and developing countries in the Pacific region)... The official web of the ADB Annual Meeting was: www.adb2011.vn

