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## AGRICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT 2012 AND KEY PROGRAM 2013



**O**n 27 December 2012, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development held a conference to review the direction and operation in 2012, the direction for key program in 2013. Deputy Prime Minister Hoang Trung Hai attended and directed the meeting.

In 2012, in spite of facing a lot of challenges and difficulties, the agricultural sector still had a successful year in all areas. Agro-forestry-fishery sector value reached 3.4%, growth rate of the whole sector reached 2.72%, the total export turnover of agro-

forestry-fishery products reached 27.5 billion U.S. dollars. In 2012, FDI in the agricultural sector were 566 projects with a total investment of \$3.36 billion (accounted for 1.6% of the total registered investment capital).

### Key Program in 2013

There are a few goals for 2013: Keep promoting the Central Resolution 7 on agriculture, farmers and rural areas; Create effective changes in the restructuring of production to increase the productivity, quality, effectiveness and competitiveness; Ensure sustainable development which contributes to solve the problems social security and environment; Achieve the growth rate of about 2.8% - 3.0%, the productivity growth rate reaches 3.7 to 4.0%, export turnover reaches \$28.5 billion, forest cover rate reaches 40.5%;

To conclude the conference, H.E Minister appreciated the local comments as well as followed the direction of the Deputy Prime Minister Hoang Trung Hai, has launched 9 key measures to propose that the agriculture sector always takes an important role in the economic development in the difficult and challenging context nowadays. /. (NTH)

## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN 2013-2020

**M**inister of Agriculture and Rural Development has signed Decision No. 3246/QĐ-BNN-KHCN dated 27 December 2012 on approving the S&T development strategy for agriculture and rural development in 2013-2020. The general goals of the Decision are: Enhance the S&T Development on Agriculture and Rural development to be a key driving force for the industrialization and modernization of agriculture and rural areas; Have the capacity to create S&T products with high added value, select and master the international advanced technology apply effectively which contributes to the sustainable development of agriculture, national food security; Increase income for agricultural producers.

### Specific Objectives

a) The S&T achievements on Agriculture and Rural development will contribute 40% of agricultural added value by 2015 and 50% by 2020.

b) The hi-tech Agricultural products tech applications will account for about 15% of the production value by 2015 and 35% by 2020.



c) The key products of crops, livestock and fisheries sector will reach the advanced productivity rate of the region or the world by 2020.

d) Material facilities and Human resources of over 60% of the Public S&T Organizations will reach the regional level; some other areas will reach the international level by 2020.

For the full version of Decision No. 3246/QĐ-BNN-KHCN, please visit our website at [www.isgmard.org.vn](http://www.isgmard.org.vn) (HA)

## FOOD SAFETY – MAIN OBJECTIVES TO FOCUS

**I**n 2012, although agricultural sector has been focused seriously but food safety issue was still inadequate. At the meeting on Food safety on 24 December 2012, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, H.E Cao Duc Phat requested the professional agencies to not only focus on the solution but also have a clear direction and main point as well as focus on the main objective and consistent implementation in order to achieve the highest efficiency.

In 2012, the new solution focused on the immediate problem. Though this method could solve the problem but in the long term, it's necessary to follow chain production and chain management as well as have reasonable policy mechanism. In fact, the communication and media on food safety just mainly focused on the producers but the consumers to enhance their sense and responsibility in monitoring food safety (Nguyen Xuan Hong, DG of Plant Protection Department). Legal documents mainly referred to production conditions. Requirements for production facilities and administrative monitoring process were not effective enough.

According to Minister Cao Duc Phat, in 2013, the departments start the chain management method on the basis of risk analysis, to find the critical stage to focus on safety adjustment. Minister said that enhancing



quality control to ensure food safety was the central task and important program according to the restructuring orientation. "Reduce at least 10% of residues and substances which are harmful to consumers; reduce 10% of all business facilities on Grade-C agricultural materials and agro-forestry-fishery products; reduce 20% of slaughter facilities in veterinary sector in Northern areas compared to 2012". It's necessary to quickly complete the Plant Protection Law and draft the Veterinary Law in 2013. The departments should give priority to review and clarify functions and responsibilities; strengthen specialized inspection systems, check and test the quality of laboratories which are connected to the international system; and ensure the monitoring system of Vietnam gradually reach the international standard. (HNN)

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION

## AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION WITH AFRICA IN 2012



*Tripartite Aide Memoire on South-South Cooperation*

In 2012, Africa continues to be an important area of agricultural international cooperation in Vietnam. So the Prime Minister signed the Decision issuing Regulation on some mechanisms and policies on agricultural cooperation with African countries in 2012-2020. This decision was to create the basis and to guide the Vietnamese business

sector to work and cooperate with African countries.

The tripartite cooperation projects in agriculture between MARD and African partners is going well. The African countries who are getting benefit from these projects want to extend the contract to work with our experts and technicians such as the cooperations with Guinea Conakry, Republic of Chad, Namibia and Rwanda.

Few days ago, a delegation from Sierra Leone, FAO and IFAD led by Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security of Sierra Leone visited and worked in Viet Nam to coordinate with stakeholders to build a tripartite agricultural cooperation project which included Vietnam - Sierra Leone - FAO/IFAD. On 18 January 2013, A Tripartite Aide Memoire on South-South Cooperation was signed to identify and agree on the way forward for a successful South-South Cooperation programme formulation and a smooth implementation process. (LTV-ICD/MARD)

## INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AREAS IN 2012



Vietnam became a middle-income country is a great achievement, and it attracted other countries and international organizations to change the way to cooperate and aid to the new model which had a strong impact in the overall investment in general and in agriculture in particular. In 2012, one of the key programs of MARD was to keep promoting the diversification of investment approaches and to attract FDI into the sector.

"FDI in Vietnam's agriculture tends to slow down. Agricultural density of the total FDI in the whole country fell from 8% in 2001 to less than 1% over the years. This is a big problem

that the agricultural sector is facing." said Minister Cao Duc Phat.

In 2012, the verification on the addition and completion of the documents for issuing and adjusting license of export and import and the right for distribution (wholesale and retail) has been implemented. There were 93 applications asking for investment certification to establish the Company and adjust the investment certificate, in which, 43 applications asking for investment certificate and 36 applications asking for adjustment of investment certificate; particularly, 13 applications asking for investment certificate to plant and process industrial crops in Laos and Cambodia have been assessed.

Investment promotion has been updated which follows speciality or area. The number of FDI projects in agricultural sector had been up to 566 projects by 11 May 2012 (accounted for 3% of more than 14,000 FDI projects) with a total investment of about \$3.36 billion (accounted for 1.6% of the total registered investment capital), in which, a total implementation capital was \$2.9 billion.

FDI projects in agricultural sector mainly focus in the localities which have advantages on soil conditions, climate, ecosystem as well as are the dynamic regions to attract



foreign investment, such as the South East where is attracting 42.4% of the total FDI projects.

Currently, MARD is developing a project to attract and manage FDI of the sector in 2012-2020 according to the Ministry Mission Program in 2011-2016, which is expected to submit to the Government in the quarter III of 2013.

In relation to Development Orientation of the sector, MARD believed that the method to attract FDI in the future is to focus on developing high-tech Application on ARD, participating in the production value chain and developing fishery infrastructure... In addition, priority should be given to diversification of investment, in which, PPP is a important issue. (LTV-ICD).

## INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ACCLAIMS FOR VIETNAM'S AGRICULTURAL PPP MODEL

With the theme "resilient dynamism", The 43rd annual World Economic Forum (WEF) meeting has opened in the Swiss town of Davos on 23 January 2013. In the meeting, MARD Minister Cao Duc Phat said that agricultural PPP model has been effectively implemented in Vietnam and appreciated by the WEF and other countries as a typical model of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) cooperation in agricultural development. The implementation of the PPP model in agriculture was to boost production, stabilize markets for Vietnamese key agricultural products and promote "A New Vision of Agriculture" in Vietnam and the world.

In 2012, WEF sent a movie crew to Vietnam to make a trailer introducing the the result of PPP pilot model of agriculture as well as promoting the image of Vietnam's agriculture. From the results of pilot PPP model, MARD is conducting a major review and developing the PPP project to create a proper agricultural PPP mechanism, which will create new opportunities for farmers to increase income, enhance sustainable development and mobilize resources for



*Minister Cao Duc Phat is answering the interview in Davos, Switzerland*

investment in agriculture.

Besides promoting "A New Vision of Agriculture", the WEF is also mobilizing financial resources from the private sectors through the PPP approach for the implementation of the "Green Growth Action Alliance" initiative.

In the future, MARD will coordinate closely with "Green Growth Action Alliance" initiative groups in Vietnam to propose projects on green growth in agriculture. (NTT)

## UNDP HELPS VN ENHANCE DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT CAPACITY



The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are in coordination to carry out a project aimed at enhancing disaster risk management capacity in a large part of Vietnam. A budget of 4.95 million USD, mainly funded by the UNDP, has been

approved by the MARD for phase II of project entitled "Institutional Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Management in Vietnam, particularly climate change - related risks" which is implemented in Ha Noi and 20 other provinces.

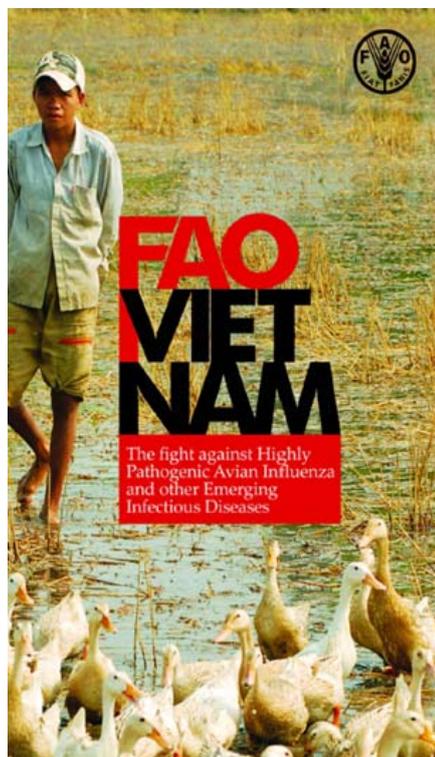
According to the Ministry, the project has

a target of building a strategy and mechanism to support the implementation of multilateral agreements as well as working out effective measures to reduce natural disaster risks and adapt to climate change.

In the short-term objective by 2016, the Project is to enhance disaster risk management capacity of the Central Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Control and Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Control from different provinces and related agencies in the project area. Priority is given to strengthen the response to natural disasters and effective application of early recovery measures in the context of climate change.

Besides strengthening the legal frameworks, strategies and policies in the field of disaster risk reduction, the Project also supports the provinces and cities in the project area. Priority should be given to planning, implementation and monitoring the project entitled "Community awareness raising and Community-Based Disaster Risk Management", including gender issue and the participation of groups who are vulnerable to natural disasters in both rural and urban areas. The results of researches on disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change are necessary to improve and implement policies, strategies and development plans at national, regional and international level. (NTH)

## VIETNAM – FAO COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK IN 2012-2016



According to a part of the organization's Country Programming Framework (CPF) in Vietnam for 2012-2016, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has proposed to help Vietnam in dealing with food security and foodstuff hygiene, developing a sustainable agriculture, improving livelihoods in rural areas, and strengthening climate change adaptation.

Through the CPF, the FAO focuses on long-term development solutions, such as the building of a law system and policies that attract investment for agriculture and rural area restructuring projects; and the allocation of 20-30 percent of resources to technical assistance to address disease and biological safety problems that may arise.

The organization will continue to combine issues relating to health, environmental resources and climate change influences with activities to develop the agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors, as well as rural areas in Vietnam.

## INDIA MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT VISITED NEW RURAL MODEL IN HA NOI



On 26 January 2013, 2 Indian Vice-Ministers of Rural Development (Mr. Vijay Kumar - Permanent Vice Minister and Mr. Rajesh Bhushan) with the General Director of the Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP), Mr. Cecep Effendi visited the new rural model in Song Phuong Commune, Dan Phuong Sub district, Ha Noi.

India is a very large and diversified country, but it have not done the process of new rural development which would benefit this country greatly. Currently India is facing plenty of challenges caused by diverse people and culture in different regions.

The New rural Model of Vietnam could be a good lesson to share with CIRDAP member countries. (HA)

# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION SOLUTIONS

On 28 January 2013, in Can Tho, MARD in collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), held a seminar entitled “climate change adaptation solutions” for the sustainable development of agriculture and rural areas in the Mekong Delta.

According to the Master plan, 9 priority projects will be: Building the coastal salt prevention gates; Renovating and building sea dikes ; Transforming the North isle of Ben Tre province ; Improving the freshwater resources of Tra Vinh province; Enhancing water management in coastal areas of Bac Lieu province ; Shifting the water flow of Ca Mau province ; Adjusting and improving the seasonal calendar ; Improving the capacity of flow management in the Mekong Delta ; Improving sustainable shrimp farming (rice-shrimp crop rotation).

One of the important projects is the project to expand and develop the salt-resistant plant; Set up salt warning systems, improve the water resources and use rainwater resources



properly; Plant fruit trees and alkaline resistant plants; Enhance mangrove rehabilitation and reforestation; Upgrade and build the river dikes; Improve drainage system; Upgrade the flood warning system; Reinforce the bridges and roads; Diversify the farming seasons; Improve the rural water environment; Improve small-scale rural projects; Promote investment in small agriculture and crop insurance. (HNN)

## AGRICULTURAL TRADE

### AGRICULTURAL EXPORT INCREASED STRONGLY IN THE FIRST MONTH OF 2013



According to the latest report from MARD, In January 2013, the export turnover of agro-forestry-fishery products reached \$2.17 billion, increased 39.7% compared to the same period last year. In which, the export of main agricultural products were estimated at \$1.17 billion, increased 46.6%; Aquatic products were estimated at \$376 million, increased 3.5%; Forestry products were estimated at \$447 million, increased 46% compared with the same period last year.

In the report, the total import value of January 2013 was estimated at \$1.28 billion, increased 10.6% compared to the same period in 2012. So, the agricultural trade surplus was more than \$800 million in January 2013. (HH)

### MEKONG DELTA EXPORTS 88,632 TONS OF RICE IN EARLY 2013

In 2012, the Mekong Delta provided more than 6.8 million tons of rice, which was worth about \$3.1 billion. In this year, the Mekong Delta provinces plan to export from 6.5 to 6.8 million tons. In order to fulfill this criterion, the provinces implement the market forecasting plan which will help to organize the procurement of raw materials for better processing and preservation to ensure the quality of rice. The provinces regulate dumping situation from some

enterprises, enhance the professionalism and responsibility to producers by increasing the number of enterprises in building the specialized material areas to meet the increasing supply requirement of high quality rice. Traders and millers system was reorganized towards associating with the export business sector as well as purchasing rice at market prices. This will help to ensure that the grower would have interest not less than 30%.



## LEGISLATION DOCUMENTS RELATING TO AGRICULTURE AND RURAL SECTOR ISSUED IN JANUARY 2013

Date of issue	Contents
<b>From Prime Minsiter</b>	
24/01/2013	Decision No. 11/2013/QD-TTg on ban the export, import, purchase and sale of some wild animal specimens from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
23/01/2013	Decision No. 216/QD-TTg on establishing the National Steering Committee on ODA and Capital incentives loan.
22/01/2013	Decision No. 203/QD-TTg year 2013 on approving the Project entitled “Conservation and promotion of the tangible and intangible culture value of Thai Nguyen Tea”
22/01/2013	Decision No. 202/QD-TTg on approving the Project entitled “Privatization of Agriculture & Irrigation Mechanization Electrification”
15/01/2013	Decision No. 162/QD-TTg on transferring the national reservation task salt from MARD to MOF
10/01/2013	Decision No. 122/QD-TTg on approving the National Strategy on protecting, caring and improving the people’s health in 2011-2020, vision to 2030
07/01/2013	Resolution No. 05/NQ-CP in 2013 on approving the Agreement on cooperation in the field of plant protection and quarantine between Vietnam and Kazakhstan issued by the Government.
28/12/2012	Decision No. 2101/QD-TTg in 2012 on approving the Proposal on Restructuring of Vietnam Coffee Corporation in 2012-2015 issued by the Prime Minister.
<b>From the Governmental Office</b>	
28/12/2012	Announcement No. 431/TB-VPCP on the conclusion of the Deputy Prime Minister Hoang Trung Hai at the meeting on the Supporting Regulation for temporary rice storage.
<b>From MARD</b>	
28/01/2013	Decision No. 168/QD-BNN-HTQT on approving the adjustment of the project entitled “Support for the development of ecological agricultural approaches in the northern midland and mountainous areas of Vietnam”
25/01/2013	Document No. 318/BNN-TCTL on wild animal management.
22/01/2013	Circular No. 07/2013/TT-BNNPTNT on issuing the national technical standards for vegetables, fruits, tea leaves, in which, the food safety conditions are ensured.
22/01/2013	Document No. 262/BNN-TY on reorganizing the use of vaccination and chemicals to prevent the diseases of cattle, poultry and aquatic animals.
22/01/2013	Document No. 524/BNN-VP on building the online roadmap to provide the public services under the provisions of Decree No. 43/2011/ND-CP.
22/01/2013	Decision No. 131/QD-BNN-VP of MARD on issuing the administrative control plan in 2013.
17/01/2013	Announcement No. 386/TB-BNN-VP on the conclusion of the Minister Cao Duc Phat at the conference to review the administrative reform in 2012 and development program, the application of ISO 9001:2008 of MARD.

11/01/2013	Decision No. 66/QD-BNN-KHCN in 2013 on the National Action Plan to Climate Change in 2012-2020.
11/01/2013	Circular No. 03/2013/TT-BNNPTNT on chemical management for plant protection.
07/01/2013	Decision No. 36/QD-BNN-TCLN in 2013 on announcing the administrative procedures under the management functions of MARD.
05/01/2013	Circular No. 02/2013/TT-BNNPTNT on regulating the risk analysis and management of food safety in the production chain of Agricultural Forestry Aquatic Products and Salt.
04/01/2013	Circular No. 01/2013/TT-BNNPTNT on amending and supplementing some Articles of the Circular No. 14/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated 29 March 2011. The new circular is to inspect and evaluate the production facilities on raw material and agro-forestry and agro-forestry-fishery products and to replace some form issued together with Circular No. 53/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated 2 August 2011 which amended and supplemented the Circular No. 14/2011/TT-BNNPTNT dated 29 March 2011.
02/01/2013	Joint Circular on guiding the management and use of investment capital from the state budget to implement the plan on forest protection and development in phase 2011-2020 according to Decision No. 57/QD-TTg of the Prime Minister.
28/12/2012	Document No. 4459/BNN-HTQT on the Proposal on organizing the ASEAN Ministerial Conference on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (COP2).
27/12/2012	Decision No. 3246/QD-BNN-KHCN on approving the strategic development of science and technology in agriculture and rural development in 2013-2020.
27/12/2012	Document No. 4429/BNN-HTQT on assigning to organize the Vietnam - India S&T and Agricultural Trade Forum.
27/12/2012	Document No. 4417/BNN-KTHT on reporting the evaluation results of the policy on supporting in productive land, job and water quality changing for poor ethnic minority.
<b>From Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA)</b>	
03/01/2013	Decision No. 03/QD-BNV on allowing the establishment of the Vietnam Catfish Association.
28/12/2012	Decision No. 1381/QD-BNV on approving the Article (amended and supplemented) of Livestock Association of Vietnam.
<b>From Committee for Nationalities, MIC, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism</b>	
13/12/2012	Joint Circular No. 02/2012/TTLT-UBDT-BTTTT-BVHTTDL on guiding the implementation of Decision No 2472/QD-TTg 28/12/2011 of the Prime Minister on issuing a number of publications and magazines for ethnic minority, mountainous and specialized difficult areas in 2012-2015.
<b>From MOF</b>	
22/01/2013	Document No. 301/TCT-CS on the value added tax of ODA projects issued by the General Department of Taxation.
<b>From Department of Customs</b>	
16/01/2013	Document No. 412/TCHQ-TXNK on the exemption for ODA projects.
28/12/2012	Decision No. 3312/QD-BTC on correcting the Circular No. 188/2012/TT-BTC Circular dated 07 November 2012 of the Ministry of Finance on guiding the interest rate support and compensation for interest rate difference due to the supporting policies on reducing post-harvest losses for agricultural and aquatic products. a
<b>From MARD, MOF, MOST</b>	
16/01/2013	Joint Circular No. 04/2013/TTLT-BNNPTNT-BTC-BKHDT on guiding the management system and use of state budget funds for the National Target Program on Rural Clean Water and Sanitation issued by the Ministers from MARD, MOF and MPI.
28/12/2012	Joint Circular No. 66/2012/TTLT-BNNPTNT-BTC-BKHCN on guiding the implementation of some articles of Decision No. 846/QD-TTg dated 2 June 2011 on implementing the pilot orders of some S&T products of MARD.