Sustainable development facing challenges of the 21\textsuperscript{st} Century: a case study of Vietnam

Assoc.Prof. VO TRUNG HUNG, Ph.D.
University of Danang

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Reference

Introduction about Vietnam
VIET NAM: Country & People
**Socialist Republic of Vietnam**

**Total area:** 329,560 sq. km
- Land: 325,360 sq. km
- Water: 4,200 sq. km

**Land boundaries:**
- Total: 4,639 km
- Border countries: Cambodia 1,228 km, China 1,281 km, Laos 2,130 km

**Coastline:** 3,444 km (excludes islands)

**Population:** 94 M (14th in the world)
- Male: 49%, female: 51%
- 0-14 years: 30.2%
- 15-64 years: 64.2%
- 65 years and over: 5.6%

**Capital:** Ha Noi
History in brief

- **Country of Wars**
  - 111 BC - AD 939 Chinese Domination (1000 years)
  - 1858 - 1954 French colonization
  - 1954 - 1975 North-South war (American backed in the South)
  - 1975 North-South Reunification
  - 1975 - Now The Socialist Republic of Vietnam
Early winter morning on Hoan Kiem (Returned Sword) Lake, Hanoi, North Vietnam

Hue, Central of Vietnam

Ben Thanh Market, Ho Chi Minh city (Saigon), South of Vietnam

Country’s Regions
Climate

Tropical monsoon and temperate zone:

- Two seasons in the South
  - Rainy season (mid-May to mid-September)
  - Dry season (mid-October to mid-March)

- Four seasons in the North
World Cultural Heritage Sites by UNESCO

Halong Bay, North Vietnam

The ancient town Hoi An

One of the temples at My Son

The ancient capital of Hue, Central Vietnam

Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park
Agriculture

24% GDP

- Good conditions: hot, humid weather.
- Rice exportation: 2nd in the world
- Tropical fruits
An idyllic picture of the Vietnamese countryside

Rice transplanting
On the way to the market

Market scene in Mui Ne. Central Vietnam

An old lady

PEOPLE

An old gentleman

LIFE
People & Life

Ploughing the field, the old-fashioned way

Fishing along the coast of Central Vietnam

A sewing bee
54 different ethnic groups,
Kinh – 87%
Culture

Stele-bearing turtles in the Van Mieu (Temple of Literature). Hanoi, North Vietnam

This particular stele dates back to 1738
Culture

The ancient capital Hue, Central Vietnam

Procession commemorating two Vietnamese heroines (40-43 AD)
Culture

Lady playing traditional instrument

Water Puppet

Quan ho singing
Ao dai (flowing tunic) – Vietnamese traditional long dress

Hue ladies
Religion

- Many religions: Buddhist, Christian, Protestant, Muslim, and other local religion e.g. Cao Dai, Hoa Hao...
Social values

- Family-Centred individual life & Backbone of society
- Respect to people senior in age, status & position
- Confucian emphasis on hierarchy of relationships and collectivism
- Self-respect and saving face
• The Vietnamese uses alphabet which has the following 29 letters based on Roman alphabet
• Different tones among provinces and regions

Example:
    Chào các bạn !
Economy

Agriculture products: paddy rice, coffee, rubber, cotton, tea, pepper, soybeans, cashews, sugar cane, peanuts, bananas; poultry; fish, seafood…

Industries: food processing, garments, shoes, machine-building; mining, coal, steel; cement, chemical fertilizer, glass, tires, oil, paper…

Services: financial services, transport, social services, education…
# Economic Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (million)</td>
<td>87.8</td>
<td>88.8</td>
<td>89.7</td>
<td>90.6</td>
<td>91.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP per capita (USD)</td>
<td>1,373</td>
<td>1,754</td>
<td>1,894</td>
<td>2,032</td>
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<tr>
<td>GDP (USD bn)</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>186</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic Growth (GDP, annual variation in %)</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vietnam today

Night scenery along the Saigon River. South Vietnam

Street Sound
Sustainable development concept and global implementation progress
Sustainable development

Definition

- In order to have a safer and more prosperous life, current environmental and development issues must be solved in a balanced way.
- Sustainable development is the development that satisfies the needs of the current generations without compromising the capacity of future generations to satisfy their own needs.

(Preambles of Global Agenda 21, Rio de Janeiro 1992)
All three major aspects relating to mankind life as economy, society and environment must be harmonized, combined comprehensively and integrated... and balanced effectively through policies, mechanism, tools and processes of implementing policies.
Sustainable development sounds like constructing a socio-economic building on an ecological environment foundation.
"Our greatest challenge in this new century is to catch up with the idea of sustainable development - which seems to be abstract - and to turn it into reality to all the people in the world".

The United Nations Secretary - General Kofi Annan Spoke on March, 2001
Sustainable development goals

1. **NO POVERTY**
2. **ZERO HUNGER**
3. **GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**
4. **QUALITY EDUCATION**
5. **GENDER EQUALITY**
6. **CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**
7. **AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**
8. **DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**
9. **INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**
10. **REDUCED INEQUALITIES**
11. **SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**
12. **RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION**
13. **CLIMATE ACTION**
14. **LIFE BELOW WATER**
15. **LIFE ON LAND**
16. **PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS**
17. **PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
Sustainable development Goals

- **Goal 5**: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
Sustainable development Goals

- **Goal 10**: Reduce inequality within and among countries
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
Sustainable development Goals

- **Goal 13**: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development
GLOBAL implementation

• **1972:** *The United Nations Conference on Human Environment* was held in Stockholm, Sweden and attended by representatives from 113 nations. The Conference was the first global meeting on environment.

• **1983:** *The United Nations set up the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED)*
GLOBAL implementation

- **1992**: *United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED)* was held in Rio de Janeiro. 179 government representatives participated and signed the 5 following important documents:
  - The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development.
  - Global Agenda 21 on sustainable development.
  - The Statement of Forest Principles.
  - The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
1997: The General Assembly of the UN appraised five years of progress on the implementation of Agenda 21 (Rio +5). The Assembly recognized global progress toward achieving sustainable development.

2002: International Summit Conference on Sustainable Development was held in Johannesburg (South Africa) with the participation of 196 countries and many organizations.

2015: UN Sustainable Development Summit 2015
What is AGENDA 21

First and foremost our message is directed towards people, whose well being is the ultimate goal of all environment and development policies

(Global Agenda 21, 1992)

• Agenda 21 is a general framework to implement programs to achieve sustainable development in 21st century.

• Agenda 21 was pledged to be implemented by 179 Nations that participated in the United Nation Conference on Environment and Development.
Agenda 21 addresses the development challenges of the 21st century, affirms that human aspirations are to achieve a stage of development that is harmony of economic development, hunger elimination, poverty alleviation, social equity, reasonable resource use, and environmental protection.

Agenda 21 calls upon all the nations to formulate their own plan, strategy and basic policies, solutions for achieving sustainable development.
What is AGENDA 21

• Agenda 21 is composed of four main contents:
  1) Social and economic aspects of development (poverty, population, health, consumption pattern, settlement);
  2) The protection and management of natural resources;
  3) Strengthening the role of major groups;
  4) Implementation instruments (finance, science and technology, cooperation and information mechanisms).
70 countries that have structured, approved, and realized a national strategy for sustainable development (2003).
3

The strategic orientation for sustainable development in Vietnam
• **8 principles for sustainable development in Vietnam**

1) Human beings are the centre of sustainable development.

2) Consider economic development as the central task, appropriately and harmoniously combine with the social development; reasonably exploit, thriftily and effectively utilize natural resources in accordance with the principle "all aspects: economic, social and environmental ones enjoy benefits".

3) Protection and improvement of environment quality are to be considered as an inseparable factor from the development process.
Vietnam Agenda 21

- **8 principles for sustainable development in Vietnam**

4) The development process must equally satisfy the needs of the current generations without causing obstacles for the life of future generations.

5) Science and technology is the foundation and momentum for the country's industrialization, modernization, quick, strong and sustainable development.

6) Sustainable development is the cause of the whole Party, authorities at all levels, the ministries, sectors and localities, agencies, businesses, social organizations, population communities and the whole people.
• 8 principles for sustainable development in Vietnam

7) Tightly attach the establishment of an independent and autonomous economy to the international economic integration on basis of self initiative.

8) Social-economic development, environmental protection should be closely combined with guarantee of national defence and security as well as social safety and order.
Vietnam Agenda 21

- 19 priority areas in development policy

5 Priority economic areas for sustainable development

1) Maintain rapid and sustainable economic growth rate.
2) Transform production and consumption patterns towards environmentally friendly direction.
3) Implement the "clean industrialization" process.
4) Agriculture and rural sustainable development.
5) Sustainable development of regions and localities.
Vietnam Agenda 21

- **19 priority areas in development policy**

**5 priority social areas for sustainable development**

6) Great attempts should be made to eliminate hunger, alleviate poverty and speed up the implementation of social progress and equity.

7) Continue to reduce population growth rate and create jobs for the working forces.

8) Orient the process of urbanization and population migration towards the sustainable development urban areas, appropriate allocation of population and labour forces for each region.

9) Improve education quality in order to raise intellectual level, professional skills and qualifications and match needs of nation's development.

10) Develop health care services, improve working condition and living environment sanitation.
Vietnam Agenda 21

• 19 priority areas in development policy

  9 priority areas for sustainable development of natural resource and environment

  11) Prevention of land degradation and effective and stable use of land resource.
  13) Appropriate exploitation and thrifty and sustainable utilization of mineral resources.
  14) Protection of marine coastal and islands environment and promotion of marine resources.
  15) Forest protection and development.
Vietnam Agenda 21

• **19 priority areas in development policy**
  
  **9 priority areas for sustainable development of natural resource and environment**
  
  16) Air pollution control in urban and industrial zones.
  17) Solid waste and toxic waste management.
  18) Biodiversity conservation.
  19) Implement measures for mitigating climate change, limiting its negative impacts, preventing and controlling natural disasters.
Implementation

- Principle landmarks include:
  - **1993**: Approved Law for Environmental Protection, Petroleum Law, Veterinary Ordinance, Ordinance for Botanical Protection and Audit, Established Environment Agency in Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment.
• Principle landmarks include:
  – **1994**: Promulgated Decree No. 175/CP on instruction for implementation of the Law on Environmental Protection.
Implementation

• Principle landmarks include:
  – 2004: Signed the National Strategy on Environmental Protection for period 2004-2010 and oriented to year 2020 about environmental protection on industrialization and modernization process.
• Vietnam is signatory to many international commitments:
  – 1999: International Declaration on Cleaner Production.
• The National Council of Sustainable Development was established in accordance to Decision № 1032/QD-TTg dated 27/9/2005 of the Prime Minister.
Local implementation

- The process to implement Vietnam Agenda 21

**STEP 1: Preparation**
- Make plan
- Formulate machinery
- Establish mechanism
- Estimate resources
- Select pilots

**STEP 2: Analyze state**
- Economy
- Society
- Environment
- Institution
- Strong and weak point, conflict, cause

**STEP 3: Build documents**
- Goal
- Long-term sustainable development viewpoint
- Priority sector
- => Local SD strategy orientation
- Pilot project

**STEP 4: Implementation**
- Action plan
- Supervision norm
- Periodical report
- Co-sectorial coordination mechanism
### Results of sustainable development

*Source: GSO, 2004-2014*

#### Table 1.1: Poverty rate by income (%)

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<td><strong>National average</strong></td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>8.4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>By area</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>3.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
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<td>18.0</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>17.4</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>10.8</td>
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<td><strong>By region (6 regions)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Red River Delta</td>
<td>12.7</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>4.0</td>
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<td>Northern Midland and mountainous areas</td>
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<td>27.5</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>21.9</td>
<td>18.4</td>
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<td>North Central and Central coastal areas</td>
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<td>22.2</td>
<td>19.2</td>
<td>16.0</td>
<td>20.4</td>
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<td>Central Highlands</td>
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<td>21.0</td>
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<td>17.8</td>
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<td>South East</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<td>10.1</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>7.9</td>
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## Results of sustainable development

*Source: GSO, 2004-2014*

### Table 1.4: Gini index by expenditure

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<td><strong>National average</strong></td>
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<td>0.370</td>
<td>0.370</td>
<td>0.358</td>
<td>0.356</td>
<td>0.393</td>
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<td><strong>By area</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
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<td>Rural</td>
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<td>0.305</td>
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<td>0.317</td>
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<td><strong>By ethnicity</strong></td>
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<td>Kinh</td>
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<td>0.360</td>
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<td><strong>By region (8 regions)</strong></td>
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<td>North Central Coast</td>
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<td>South Central Coast</td>
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<td>0.353</td>
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<td>0.317</td>
<td>0.302</td>
<td>0.311</td>
<td>0.318</td>
<td>0.303</td>
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</table>
## Results of sustainable development

Source: GSO, 2004-2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 1.5: Average expenditure per person per annum (thousand VND)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National average</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>By area</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
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<td><strong>By region (8 regions)</strong></td>
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<td>Red River Delta</td>
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<td>North East</td>
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<tr>
<td>North West</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Coast</td>
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<td>South Central Coast</td>
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<td>Central Highlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>South East</td>
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<td>Mekong River Delta</td>
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</table>
## Results of sustainable development

Source: GSO, 2004-2014

### Table 1.6: Access to basic living conditions

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<tr>
<td>Permanent housing (%)</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>23.7</td>
<td>27.8</td>
<td>49.2</td>
<td>49.6</td>
<td>46.6*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Living area per capita (m²)</td>
<td></td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>17.9</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>20.6</td>
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<td>Access to electricity grid (%)</td>
<td>86.5</td>
<td>93.4</td>
<td>96.0</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>97.2</td>
<td>97.6</td>
<td>98.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to sanitary toilet (%)</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>59.1</td>
<td>65.0</td>
<td>75.7</td>
<td>77.4</td>
<td>71.4*</td>
</tr>
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<td>Garbage collected by cart/truck (%)</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>24.4</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>39.2</td>
<td>43.3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to hygienic water</td>
<td>78.0</td>
<td>80.8</td>
<td>89.1</td>
<td>92.1</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>91.0</td>
<td>89.9*</td>
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### Durable goods per 100 households

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.3</td>
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Results of sustainable development

Figure 1.1. Number of households and individuals who suffer from hunger

Source: GS0, 2000-2013
Results of sustainable development

Figure 1.2: Malnourishment rate of children aged under 5 (%)
### Table 1.7: Employment to population ratio (%)

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
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<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<td>75.9</td>
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*Source: GSO, 2004-2014*
# Results of sustainable development

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Table 2.2: Literacy rates for population aged 15 and older (%)</th>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Red River Delta</td>
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<td>Northern midlands and mountain areas</td>
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<td>North Central and Central coastal areas</td>
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<td>South East</td>
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<td>Mekong River Delta</td>
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</table>

*Source: GSO, VHLSS 2006-2014*
Results of sustainable development

Figure 3.2 Literacy Rate of Adult, Male and Female (%)
Results of sustainable development

Figure 7.5: Proportion of households using hygienic toilets and clean water resources
## Results of sustainable development

### Table 8.1: Viet Nam’s participation in FTAs

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
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<td>1995</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Viet Nam – US Bilateral Trade Agreements</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>ASEAN – People Republic of China FTA (ASEAN – PRC FTA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>ASEAN – Korea FTA (ASEAN – KOR FTA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td><em>Viet Nam Joining the WTO</em></td>
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<td>2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Viet Nam – Japan</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>ASEAN – Australia/New Zealand (AANZFTA)</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>ASEAN – India (AIFTA)</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Viet Nam – Chile FTA (VCFTA)</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Viet Nam – Customs Union of Russia – Belarus - Kazakhstan</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Viet Nam – Korea FTA (VKFTA)</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Viet Nam – Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) FTA</td>
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<td><strong>In negotiation</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>ASEAN – EU</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP)</td>
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<td>+</td>
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<td>+</td>
<td>Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP) (ASEAN+6)</td>
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Results of sustainable development

Figure 8.1: Viet Nam’s import-export data in the period 1990 - 2015

Source: MPI’s data
Results of sustainable development

Figure 8.6: Viet Nam’s external debt stock as a percentage of GNI in 2005 – 2013 (%)
The sustainable development implementation has been managed very effectively.

Viet Nam’s inclusive and comprehensive growth model, combining socio-economic development, environmental protection and pro-poor growth has been a key factor in helping Viet Nam achieve success in implementing the sustainable development.

Effective implementation of sustainable development with strong political commitment
Thank you very much for your attention!
Köszönöm szépen a figyelmezt!
Trân Trọng cảm ơn!