

Climate Change and Disaster Management Policy in Viet Nam

for the
Climate Change Working Group
and the
Disaster Management Working Group
of Viet Nam

30th June 2011

Asian Management and Development Institute, Viet Nam & The Pressure Group Consultancy, UK

This assessment was funded by the Southern Voices Capacity Building Programme which strengthens climate policy networks in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific and by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO), one of the world's largest providers of financing for humanitarian aid operations. Through its disaster preparedness programme (DIPECHO), ECHO assists vulnerable people living in the main disaster-prone regions of the world in reducing the impact of natural disasters on their lives and livelihoods.

This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein should not be taken, in any way, to reflect the official opinion of the European Union.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Background - disasters and climate change in Viet Nam.....	2
3. Methodology.....	3
4. Findings	4
5. Policy context.....	5
5.1. Viet Nam in the international context	5
5.2. Government agencies	5
6. Climate change and disaster management policies in Viet Nam.....	8
6.1. Law on Climate Change (<i>being considered for development</i>).....	8
6.2. National Strategy on Climate Change (<i>in development</i>).....	8
6.3. National Target Program to Response to Climate Change	9
6.4. Law on Disaster Management (<i>in development</i>)	10
6.5. National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020.....	10
6.6. Community Awareness Raising and Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Program to 2020	11
6.7. National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Viet Nam (<i>in development</i>)	12
6.8. Pilot Program on Agriculture Insurance for the period of 2011-2013.....	13
6.9. Law on Environmental Protection (1993)	14
6.10. National REDD+ Program (<i>in development</i>).....	14
6.11. UN REDD	15
7. References and supporting documents.....	16
Annex 1: Country level mapping – general information.....	17
Annex 2: Policy mapping.....	26
2.1. National strategy for natural disaster prevention, response and mitigation to 2020.....	26
2.2. National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change.....	33
2.3. Community Based Disaster Risk Management Program (CBDRM Program).....	40
2.4. Pilot program on agriculture insurance for the period of 2011-2013	46
2.5. The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme)	52

Annex 3: Case studies – Viet Nam 59

 Case study 1: Joint Advocacy Network Initiative (JANI) in Viet Nam: A joint effort to ensure CBDRM initiatives are included on the National agenda..... 59

 Case Study 2: Sustainable livelihoods coping with climate change..... 61

 Case Study 3 – Strengthen and Develop Farmer Rice Seed System in Bac Kan Province..... 64

List of Acronyms

AMDI	Asian Management and Development Institute
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
CBDRM	Community-based Disaster Risk Management
CC	Climate Change
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCFSC	Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control
CCWG	Climate Change Working Group
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DIPECHO	European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection- Disaster Preparedness
DMC	Disaster Management Centre
DMWG	Disaster Management Working Group
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
ELAN	Eco-system and Livelihoods
FPIC	Current Free Prior and Informed Consent
GoV	Government of Viet Nam
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MoET	Ministry of Education and Training
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoIC	Ministry of Information and Communications
MoNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRP	National REDD+ Program
NTP-RCC	National Strategy Program for Responding to Climate Change
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Convention Framework on Climate Change
VNRC	Viet Nam Red Cross

1. Introduction

The disciplines of disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change (CC) overlap in a number of ways. Both areas focus on weather and climate and use of similar tools used to monitor, analyze and address adverse consequences. Therefore, it is logical to consider work in these areas in an integrated manner.

To support the development and implementation of good policies that take advantage of integration opportunities, Viet Nam's Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) and Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG) are collaborating to develop a joint advocacy strategy with the support of funding from *Southern Voices Capacity Building Programme* and *the Joint Networking Advocacy Initiative (JANI) project*, a consortium project which is focused on advocating for *Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) in Viet Nam supported by DIPECHO*.

To set the context and inform the joint advocacy strategy, this document and subsequent Annexes provide an overview of the most prominent climate change and disaster management policies and strategies enacted or under development in Viet Nam.

2. Background - disasters and climate change in Viet Nam

Viet Nam is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. It suffers from disasters including tropical cyclones, floods, drought, landslides and forest fires (*World Bank, 2005*). The most damaging and frequent disasters affecting Viet Nam are tropical typhoons and floods. These events cause death and injury, severe and repeated damage to infrastructure and losses to industries such as agriculture and fisheries.

Under climate change, these disasters are anticipated to become more frequent and intense. Rainfall events are expected to become heavier, increasing the frequency and magnitude of flash floods, seasonal river floods and coastal floods in many parts of Viet Nam. Storms and typhoons are likely to become more common and powerful, and patterns of storm behaviour are likely to change.

In 2007, the UNFCCC identified Viet Nam as one of the top 5 countries expected to be most affected by climate change. This is because of factors such as the country's long coastline; it's already pressured natural resources; location of population; poverty; and exposure to sea level rise.

The anticipated sea level rise of between 30 centimetres to 1 meter within the next 100 years is expected to substantially increase the flood risk in low lying coastal areas and impact Viet Nam's national GDP.

Increases in the annual average temperature of 0.1°C per decade are, and will, pose imminent threats to Viet Nam's progress in human development (*UNDP 2010*) and cause negative impacts to nearly all sectors of Viet Nam's economy, including agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, hydro-electricity, oil and gas production and sea transport.

3. Methodology

A desk review was conducted through reviewing current climate change and disaster management policies and strategies. Documentation, such as progress reports and policy analyses were also used.

Further insight was also gained through individual consultation with specialists in the field and through a workshop discussion with members of the CCWG and DMWG.

4. Findings

There is no lack of well thought out policies on climate change and disaster risk management in Viet Nam – over 200 laws, policies and strategies exist! The over-riding challenge being faced by Viet Nam is implementing these policies effectively.

Implementation challenges can be seen as a result of many factors:

- i) **Lack of horizontal integration:** Responsibilities for climate change and disaster management are divided among different ministries and agencies. This can contribute to agencies becoming protective of their authority and funding and creates barriers to coordination
- ii) **Lack of vertical integration:** Policies are communicated down to the provincial government, but there are rarely the detailed and clear plans and guidelines necessary to support implementation
- iii) **Lack of resources:** Limited and ambiguous budgets are often insufficiently distributed to the local levels
- iv) **Lack of accountability:** Monitoring and evaluation and reporting mechanisms that support transparency, accountability and continual improvement are lacking.
- v) **Lack of emphasis on vulnerable people:** There are a number of barriers to engaging vulnerable people such as remoteness, language, gender roles and their ability (e.g. availability and knowledge) to participate effectively. These barriers are insufficiently addressed and is intensified by the lack of support, skills, training and time of local staff conducting implementation

5. Policy context

5.1. Viet Nam in the international context

Viet Nam is engaged in international efforts to address climate change and disaster issues. Viet Nam ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1992 and 1994, the Kyoto Protocol in 1998 and 2002 and the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005). At regional level, Viet Nam ratified the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) in 2009.

Viet Nam promotes international cooperation on both climate change and disaster management, especially in technology transfer. Viet Nam has cooperated with international agencies and countries including World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, Denmark, Norway, Japan, France, etc. to implement programs on disaster management and climate change such as:

- Natural Disaster Mitigation Partnership (NDM-P): (multilateral donors)
- Natural disaster risk management “Credit # CR.4114-VN” (World Bank Project)
- Strengthening Capacity on Disaster Management (UNDP)
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation program in Viet Nam (Denmark),
- Support program on responding climate change 2010-2012 (Japan contributing US\$500 million)

5.2. Government agencies

A number of government agencies have responsibilities for climate change and/or disaster management policies in Viet Nam. To better understand the complex institutional environment, information on key agencies is provided below:

Climate change

- **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Finance (MoNRE)** is assigned by the Government of Viet Nam (GoV) (*the Prime Minister*) as the leading agency for climate change in Viet Nam.
 - **The Department of Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Change** is the management agency for climate change issues, etc.
 - **The National Hydro-Meteorology Agency** is a technical agency in charge of weather forecast, sea level rise, hydrological information, etc.
- **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)** is assigned as the leading agency for dealing with climate change in agricultural sector.
 - **The Directorate of Forestry**, is the technical agency and resident body for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD)
 - **The Directorate of Water Resources** is the technical agency and resident body for MARD’s climate change program (food security, rural development, water resources management).
- **Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)** is the lead agency for program planning and resource (fund) mobilization and allocation for climate change programs.
 - **The Department Science, Education and Natural Resources and Environment** is assigned to be in charge of policy formulation and fund management on climate change.

- For ODA projects, management is assigned to Department of Foreign Economic Relations.
- **Ministry of Finance (MoF)** is the leading agency for finance management, budget allocation, risk financing (trust fund, risk insurance) for climate change.
 - **The Department of Public Finance** is assigned by the MoF Minister to be in charge of policy formulation and management of fund and projects on climate change.
- **Ministry of Education and Training (MoET)** is assigned by the GoV as the leading agency for integration of climate change education into school.
 - **The Department of Students Affairs** is assigned by the MoET Minister to lead the effort to integrate climate change education into schools. This Department cooperates with other technical departments of MoET to develop curriculum, conduct training for teachers and students.
- **The Ministry of Information and Communications (MoIC)** is assigned by the GoV as the agency in charge of public awareness raising, communications, and information dissemination. It plays a more technical role in communications than the IEC or BCC.
 - **The Department of Telecommunications** is assigned by the MoIC Minister to be in charge of climate change communications.

Disaster management

- ❖ **Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC)** is the national standing agency for disaster risk management. However, this committee operates at ad hoc basis. It is composed of representatives (leaders) from ministries, mass organizations, media agencies (Viet Nam Television and Voice of Viet Nam), and some technical agencies (Global Physics Institute, the Hydro-meteorological Services). It meets once a year to review the disaster risk management issues of the past year and to plan for the coming year. The Deputy Prime Minister is assigned to be in resident leader of the whole country's disaster risk management including: approve legal documents, order for response, call for support; mobilize military and policy, etc. The CCFSC has a Standing Office located in MARD which is chaired by the Director of the Directorate of Water Resources of MARD (a Vice Minister of MARD).
 - **Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)** is assigned as the leading agency for the CCFSC. The Minister of MARD is the Chairman of the CCFSC.
 - **The Directorate of Water Resources** is the technical agency and resident body for disaster risk management (mostly water-related disasters: flood, flash flood, typhoon, storm, tsunamis and earthquakes). As this agency playing the technical role in DRM, most legal documents, policies, strategies, programs are developed and/or approved by it (or if it is out of its power, to be approved by MARD Minister of the Deputy Prime Minister or even the Prime Minister). Of course, alike in other countries, any law is must be discussed and approved by the National Assembly, not the Government!
 - **The Department of Dyke Management and Flood and Storm Control** is the technical agency in charge of disaster risk management. The Department Director serves as the Director of the CCFSC Standing Office. This Department plays a key role in water-related disasters and dyke management.
 - **The Disaster Management Centre (DMC)** is another technical agency in charge of disaster risk management and is especially assigned to implement the Community-based Disaster Management Program (CBDRM) program in the whole

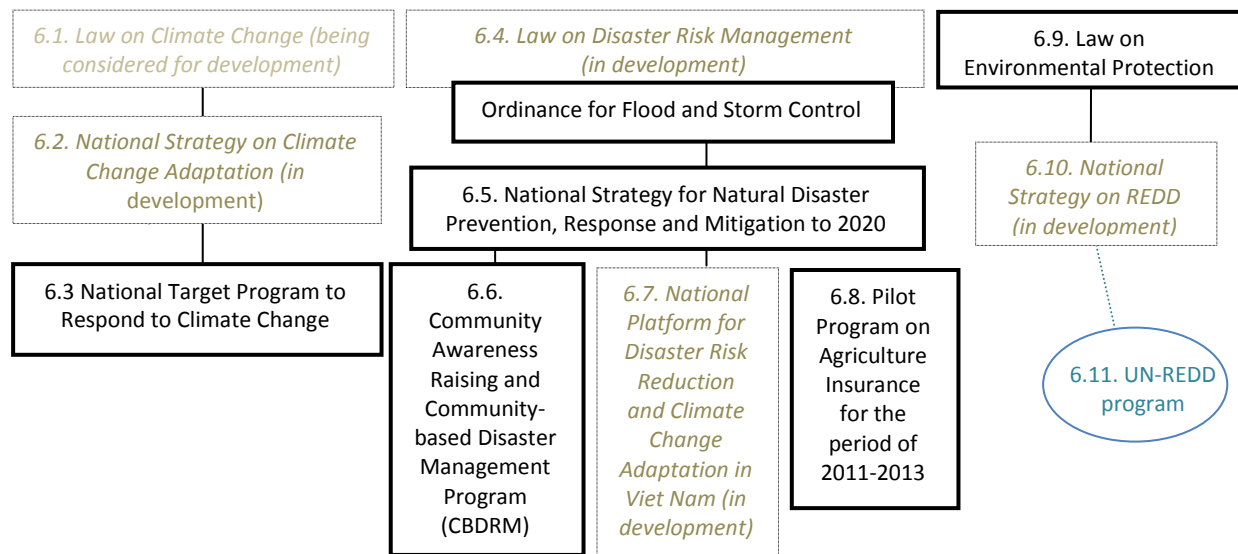
country. DMC play an important role in technical advice to MARD in the issues of DRM, coordination and programming with international organizations. This agency is a critical target for advocacy for policy changes. DMC Director is also the Vice Director of the CCFSC Standing Office.

- **Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI)** is a member of the CCFSC and the leading agency for program planning and resource (fund) mobilization and ODA allocation for disaster risk management.
 - **The Department of Agricultural Economy** is assigned by the MPI Minister to be in charge of policy formulation and management of fund and projects on disaster risk management (mostly flood and storm controls: dyke, irrigation, rural development).
 - **The Department of Foreign Economic Relations** is assigned to manage ODA projects on disaster risk management.
- **Ministry of Finance (MoF)** is a member of the CCFSC and the leading agency for finance management, budget allocation, and risk financing (trust fund, risk insurance) for disaster risk management.
 - **The Department of Public Finance** is assigned by the MoF Minister to be in charge of policy formulation and management of fund and projects on disaster risk management (mostly flood and storm controls: dyke, irrigation, rural development).
- **Ministry of Education and Training (MoET)** is a member of the CCFSC and the leading agency for integration disaster risk management education into schools.
 - **The Department of Students Affairs** is assigned by the MoET Minister to be in charge of leading efforts to integrate disaster risk management education into schools. This Department cooperates with other technical departments of MoET to develop curriculum, conduct training for teachers and students.
- **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Finance (MoNRE)** is a member of the CCFSC is the leading agency for environment protection, eco-system protection, land management, hydro-meteorology.
 - **The Department of Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Change** is in charge of weather forecasting, hydrological information, etc.
 - **The National Hydro-meteorology under the MoNRE** is technical agency in charge of weather forecast, hydrological information, etc.
- **The Ministry of Information and Communications (MoIC)** is a member of the CCFSC and is in charge of public awareness raising, communications, and information dissemination. It plays a more technical role in communications than the IEC or BCC.
 - **The Department of Telecommunications** is assigned by the MoIC Minister to be in charge of DRM technical communication issues.
- **Viet Nam Red Cross (VNFRC)** is a member of the CCFSC is responsible for community mobilization, relief distribution, 1st aid, and capacity building for communities on disaster risk management.
 - **The Department of Social Work and Disaster Management** is assigned by the Chairman of VNRC to be in charge of DRM technical issues.

6. Climate change and disaster management policies in Viet Nam

Over the past three years, the GoV has increasingly focused on the topics of climate change and disaster management in national strategies and policies. A number of laws, strategies, action plans and programs address climate change and disaster management in Viet Nam. Figure 1 demonstrates how some of these key policies fit into the legal framework. Those presented here are described in more detail later in section 6.

Figure 1: Structure of some key climate change and disaster management laws, strategies, programs



6.1. Law on Climate Change *(being considered for development)*

This is currently being considered for development in the near future. It is expected that this will provide a good advocacy opportunity for the working groups

6.2. National Strategy on Climate Change *(in development)*

The National Strategy on Climate Change of Viet Nam is in development (expected to be submitted to the Prime Minister in quarter 2-3/2011 for approval). It aims to create a legal framework for implementing climate change adaptation and mitigation. Although some consultation workshops on the strategy were organized in late 2010 and 2011, it remains mostly an internal process within MoNRE and some other government agencies.

Furthermore, the National Action Plan for Climate Change is planned for submission to the Prime Minister in quarter 3-4/2011.

Fortier's (2010 p242) review of Viet Nam's climate change strategy concluded that: *"It is argued that from a procedural angle, the technocratic policy-making is exclusionary, restricted to a limited number of privileged insiders, which prevents a pluralist representation of interests. The process narrowly defines the margins of the climate change debate by focusing on biophysical issues."*

6.3. National Target Program to Response to Climate Change

Issued by the GoV by the Decision 158/2008 / QD-TTg, 2008

The GoV launched the National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (NTP-RCC) in 2008. It represents a 'promising national programme' (UN, 2009) that is a good start in the international challenge to address climate change. This policy establishes priorities on climate change responses nationwide.

The scope and content of the Program includes mitigation, adaptation (including disaster risk management) and cross cutting issues (e.g. monitoring implementation, financial mechanisms for implementation, awareness raising, capacity building and human resource development).

The objectives of the Program are to:

- (i) evaluate the impact of climate change to fields, branches and localities in each period and set up feasible action plans to effectively respond to climate change for short-term and long term stage; and
- (ii) ensure the sustainable development of the country, take advantage of opportunities to develop the economy towards low carbon and join the international community to mitigate climate change and protect climatic system of the Earth.

Some weaknesses of this policy include:

***1. Local level implementation:**

There are concerns that the quality of implementation is being compromised because local staff do not have the experience, knowledge or expertise to work with the community to develop local action plans, nor have sufficient guidelines, tools or resources to support them. This needs to be addressed, as it is integral that local people, especially those most vulnerable to climate change, are engaged.

***2. Budget concerns:**

NTP-RCC implementation, particularly at the local level, has been stalled by a lack of resource provision from central. Currently, there is no clear budgetary mechanism for climate change funding; hence it is essential that budget shortfalls and budgetary distribution mechanisms are addressed.

***3. Integration:**

The NTP-RCC is being restricted by a lack of basic databases, maps, and satellite imagery to support the forecasting and assessment of climate change impacts. It also shows that there is a lack of consistency across data platforms, which is likely to restrict information sharing between governmental and non-governmental bodies.

Overlapping and unclear responsibilities of ministries and agencies contributes to tension over control and funding are also contributing to this issue.

These factors make leadership important. *'There is a need for strong lead Ministry to guide climate policy...MONRE is not yet where it could be in this'* (PSIA 2011 p17).

For more information on this policy, refer to Annex 2 – Policy 2.

6.4. Law on Disaster Management *(in development)*

A number of different legal documents underpin disaster management in Viet Nam. This can create complexity in the administration, management and implementation of disaster management activities. To help address this, the first national Law on Disaster Management is being developed by MARD and with UNDP's support. It is planned for submission to the National Assembly in 2012. If passed, it will be the first comprehensive legislative document that represents disaster management in Viet Nam. Through simplifying the legislative framework it is likely that improvements in disaster management can be more easily achieved.

To develop the law, a drafting committee has been appointed by MARD and the first of three national consultation workshops have taken place. However, these workshops are being used to obtain input and comment from a limited range of stakeholders.

6.5. National Strategy for Natural Disaster Prevention, Response and Mitigation to 2020

Issued by the Decision No. 172/2007/QĐ-TTg, November 16, 2007

This Strategy outlines Viet Nam's approach for disaster mitigation and management, particularly focusing on floods, storms and drought. The Strategy aims to reduce disasters and their impacts on people, property, agriculture, economic well-being, environment, and sustainable development and lays down responsibilities of various implementing bodies.

The main task is to reduce the forecast period for forecast storms, drought, salinization, earthquakes, tsunamis and other phenomena to 72 hours. Supporting tasks include: changes to law and policy; organizational and human resource development; financial support; increased awareness amongst the community of disaster risk reduction; development of disaster prevention, response and mitigation technology and science; strengthening of dykes, dams and other disaster prevention infrastructure; improved capacity in research and rescue and greater international cooperation and integration.

In addition, the Strategy has identified five (5) target areas for the control and prevention natural disasters. This includes the Red River Delta and Northern Central region; Coastal Central region, South-western region and island, Mekong River Delta; the mountains, highland and coastal areas.

To date, all 63 provinces have developed their action plans to implement the National Disaster Risk Management Strategy. Most Ministries represented in the CCFSC have developed action plans for the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction in their sectors. In the past two years, some disaster risk management action plan activities have already been implemented in the provinces or by sectors (e.g. dyke construction, relocation, embankments, training, awareness-raising, risk mapping, etc.).

While much work has occurred in this area, there are still a number of weaknesses that need to be addressed. Key weaknesses include:

1. Rather low quality plans are being developed due to insufficient resources and guidelines being provided, particularly to the local level.
2. Genuine and representative participation at grassroots level in disaster planning processes is limited. Many plans are still developed using a top-down method and do not sufficiently engage or consider vulnerable peoples.
3. Insufficient integration of disaster management into Social Economic Development Plans (SEDPs) or climate change programs. There is no clear mechanism for coordinating program implementation
4. Lack of an integrated/multi-hazard approach. For example, hazard maps remain focused on individual hazards.
5. Lack of emphasis on non-water related disasters and non-structural responses

For more information on this policy, refer to Annex 2 – Policy 1

6.6. Community Awareness Raising and Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Program to 2020

Issued by the Decision No. 1002/QĐ-TTg, dated 13 July 2009

Community-Based Disaster Risk Management Program (CBDRM) is a national program for enhancing community's awareness and implementing community-based disaster risk management.

The overall objective of the CBDRM project is *“to raise community awareness and effectively implement CBDRM program at all levels, especially the local authorities and residents at villages and communes in order to reduce losses to people's lives and property, damages to environment and cultural heritages caused by natural disasters at the greatest extent that contribute to the sustainable development of the country”*.

The program activities include 2 major components:

- (i) Strengthening capacity of disaster risk management officials and staff at all levels of GoV to implement CDBRM program;
- (ii) Improving communication and awareness and enhancing community capacity on CBDRM.

There have been significant attempts by MARD to implement the CBDRM program. However, delays in budget allocation; a lack of clear implementation guidance for provinces; and weak coordination between many relevant stakeholders has hindered progress.

Some key weaknesses have been identified as being:

***1. Budget:** The ability of the CBDRM to obtain 40% of its budget from donors will be difficult, as there currently isn't clear/fixed commitment from donors. Currently MARD is cooperating with the MoF to prepare the CBDRM budget guidelines for year 2011 and for the period 2012-2015. This will be submitted to the Prime Minister in Quarter 3, 2011.

***2. Implementation guidelines:** Many provinces were asked to develop their action plans to implement the CBDRM as required by MARD (the GoV); however these are generally of poor quality due to a lack of clear guidelines for their development. This demonstrates a need to synchronize existing materials on CBDRM into a coherent and applicable form suitable to the context and adaptable to each specific disaster zone. It also identifies a need for training to build capacity for the people working in disaster risk management, (e.g. local leaders, volunteers, and network of trained trainers) to conduct CBDRM activities at the commune and village level.

National guidelines for provinces to implement CBDRM are being updated by DMC/MARD with support from the CBDRM Technical Working Group and will be issued this year (2011). In addition, training materials and monitoring and evaluation processes are under development.

***3. Vulnerable people:** Engaging of vulnerable people can be challenging due to a barriers such as remoteness, language, gender roles and their ability (e.g. availability and knowledge) to participate effectively. Hence, it is important that specific strategies and resources and put in place to ensure quality engagement.

For more information on this program, refer to Annex 2 – Policy 3.

6.7. National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Viet Nam (*in development*)

In most countries, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation operate largely in isolation from each other¹. In Viet Nam the potential value of integrating the work of these two fields is better recognized.

Viet Nam is currently developing a *National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation*. The Platform will be a national mechanism that will promote better coordination and implementation of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation actions. It aims to support the implementation of relevant policies and strategies, provide a solid basis for action at the national level and be guided by evidence-based activities at the local level.

Details regarding the Platform's administration is yet to be determined but some related tasks have been carried out through the activities of the Natural Disaster Mitigation Partnership (NDM-P). This has included two National Forums on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in 2009 and 2011. However, there are still aspects of the Platform that may require inputs from the CCWG and DMWG. These include:

1. The development of systems and processes, agreed upon by stakeholders that support the coordination of MoNRE (responsible for climate change) and MARD (the ministry responsible for disaster management). This may be through the determination of a lead agency for the management of the Platform or a joint management board (with members from the two ministries)

¹**United Nations, ISDR (2010)** Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction Institutional and Policy Landscape in Asia and the Pacific, SELA Caracas, Venezuela.

2. The consideration of strategies that ensure the Platform is, and remains, an open forum for debate, where all input is equally valued. This will be important in generating honest, quality discussion and outcomes;
3. The inclusion of tactics that encourages participation in the Platform from a range of stakeholders. This would particularly focus on private sector and civil society involvement, as these stakeholder groups are generally under-represented in these types of forums. This will be essential in obtaining the range of perspectives representative of the community.

6.8. Pilot Program on Agriculture Insurance for the period of 2011-2013

Issued by the Decision 315/QĐ-TTg dated March 1, 2011

New, and yet to be implemented, this pilot program aims to support farmers to actively recover and compensate for financial losses caused by natural disasters and diseases, contributing to the stability of social security rural areas, promote agricultural production.

The program will be piloted for crops, livestock and aquaculture products in 21 selected provinces:

- i. *Insurance for crops* in Nam Dinh, Thai Binh, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Binh Thuan, An Giang, Dong Thap
- ii. *Insurance for buffalos, cows, pigs and livestock* in Bac Ninh, Nghe An, Dong Nai, Vinh Phuc, Hai Phong, Thanh Hoa, Binh Dinh, Binh Duong and Hanoi
- iii. *Insurance for aqua-cultural products including catfish, basa fish, shrimp, white shrimp* in Ben Tre, Soc Trang, Tra Vinh, Bac Lieu and Ca Mau.

The program targets to poor, pro-poor farmers and farmers with different supports for insurance fees. The State will provide:

- 100% insurance premium for poor farmers and households, involved in agricultural production
- 80% premium for pro-poor farmers and households;
- 60% premium for farmers and household not subjected to poverty; and
- 20% premium for agriculture organizations involved in the pilot insurance program.

Agricultural organizations, households and individuals have to meet four conditions of insurance subjects, insurance rights, participation into agricultural insurance and payment of insurance fees, and real production.

The list of natural risks subjected to insurance covers floods, damaging cold, frost, and epidemics like blue-ear pig disease as well as foot and mouth disease.

Some potential weaknesses of this program may include:

1. Criteria defining the eligibility for participants will restrict some poor people from being involved. For example, it may be difficult for the poor and households near poverty to meet the demands of production scale necessary to be eligible for agricultural insurance. Also, MARD's 'standard processes' of agricultural production may not always be appropriate to the local conditions

2. Awareness and attitude of the community towards insurance is limited. Farmers can be unwilling to pay for any insurance because of existing subsidy mechanisms or concerns regarding complicated compensation processes.
3. Weather insurance index is relatively new area, hence much capacity needs to be developed

For more information on this policy, refer to Annex 2 – Policy 4.

6.9. Law on Environmental Protection (1993)

And the Implementing Decree No 175/CP dated October 18, 1994

This Law stipulates that environmental protection include activities aimed at preserving a healthy, clean and beautiful environment, improving the environment, ensuring ecological balance, preventing and overcoming adverse impacts of man and nature on the environment, making a regional and economic exploitation and utilization of natural resources.

It states that organizations and individuals have the responsibility to engage in the prevention of environmental degradation and pollution. It outlines what is required by those that damage the environment and makes clear they will be liable for damages, including possible criminal prosecution.

The number and capacity of staff of State agencies implementing environmental protection laws in general and technical regulations in particular is very low. Implementation and enforcement of this regulation is also limited by a lack of financial and physical resources, and the inconsistent implementation of environmental impact assessment requirements (Nguyen and Vu 2010).

6.10. National REDD+ Program *(in development)*

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) is an idea that was put on the UNFCCC agenda in 1995, and evolved into REDD+ to support the inclusion of forest conservation, sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks .

REDD+ is based on the notion that countries willing and able to reduce emissions from deforestation should be financially compensated for doing so, and that such a tool can also be used to help address other issues such as rural poverty and the conservation of biodiversity and vital ecosystem services. It is hoped that the international rules that govern REDD+ under a future CC mitigation regime will be negotiated between now and the COP 17 in Johannesburg in December 2011, so that REDD+ Programs can come into effect.

Given the nature and requirements of REDD+ and the gaps in Viet Nam's current legal framework for forests, a National REDD+ Program (NRP) is being developed. The NRP is expected to be presented to the Prime Minister in mid-2011 for consideration of promulgation as a Decree. This would allow Viet Nam to formally engage in an international REDD+ mechanism if/when it is implemented under the UNFCCC.

Some potentials weaknesses may include:

1. Most forest areas are managed by the State and little by local communities. This makes REDD+ difficult to implement in Viet Nam, as it relates to benefit sharing

2. Land use rights for ethnic minorities are lacking. These groups don't have a certificate of ownership. This could hinder the implementation of REDD+.
3. Governance arrangements to ensure equitable distribution of REDD+ funds are insufficient. Currently, fund distribution mechanisms are not strong, decentralized or transparent enough to ensure that funds reach those their intended source (e.g. those involved in protecting the forest or disadvantaged by being unable to utilize forest resources). This is particularly a risk for vulnerable people such as ethnic minorities, women and the disabled.

For more information on this policy, refer to Annex 2 – Policy 5.

6.11. UN REDD

This UN program began in 2009 and is funded by the Government of Norway via the FAO. This program began in Viet Nam in 2009 to assist the country build capacity to reduce emissions and participate in a future, international REDD+ mechanism. In its second of three phases, it is currently working with the GoV to develop the NRP. Financially, UN REDD is a good example for Viet Nam. This is because it is transparent and there are clear commitments and guidelines to its management. In addition, it is engaged in independent and open evaluation to promote continual improvement and further support transparency.

Some weaknesses/gaps include:

1. As a new area, much of the REDD+ work occurring in Viet Nam is amongst the first of its kind (e.g. FPIC, participatory carbon monitoring model). Hence, capacity to manage the REDD+ program in specialist technical areas and at the local scale needs further development
2. Current Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes do not provide the necessary time to allow the community to make an informed decision on this complicated topic. FPIC also needs to provide clearer communication and disclosure about the current and future opportunity costs of REDD+/NRP (i.e. the economic benefits that come from forestry activities may be greater than from REDD+).
However, these issues are recognized by the program
3. There is a lack of quality data to inform environmental improvement, FPIC processes and REDD+
4. There is a risk that REDD+ activities will intensify poverty issues rather than help alleviate them, as forest resources are not as available for use.

For more information on this policy, refer to Annex 2 – Policy 5.

7. References and supporting documents

References

- Fortier, F. (2010) *Taking a climate change: A procedural critique of Viet Nam's climate change strategy*. Asia Pacific Viewpoint, Vol. 51, No. 3, December 2010
- Nguyen Van Phuong and Vu Thu Hanh (2010) *Strengthening Legal and Policy Frameworks for Addressing Climate Change in Asia: Viet Nam*. United States Agency for International Development,
- UNDP, 2010. *Human Development Report 2010*. United Nations
- United Nation Viet Nam (2009) Viet Nam and Climate Change: A discussion paper on policies for sustainable human development. UN, Hanoi
- World Bank. (2005). "*Natural Disaster Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis*". *Disaster Risk Management series No.5. Hazard Management Unit*. World Bank

Supporting documents

- Hellmuth M.E., Mason S.J., Vaughan C., van Aalst M.K. and Choularton R. (eds.) 2011. *A Better Climate for Disaster Risk Management*. International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), Columbia University, New York, USA.
- McElwee, P. and Nghiem, T. (2011) Poverty social impact analysis. In support of climate change development policy loan in Viet Nam. Report on preliminary research. PSIA
- Oxfam (2008) *Climate change, adaptation and poor people*. Oxfam
- Subbiah, A. R. and Wang, X (2010) *National-level Institutional and Policy Landscape, Project Efforts and Good Practices in Southeast Asia. Project: Enabling environment for integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in Southeast Asia*. UNISDR

Annex 1: Country level mapping – general information

SOUTHERN VOICES ON CLIMATE POLICY CHOICES

COUNTRY (OR REGIONAL) LEVEL MAPPING – GENERAL INFORMATION

This country/regional mapping can be 3 – 10 pages long. It need not be comprehensive and it is not necessary to list all the policies, programmes and activities occurring in the country / region under the categories given in Annex 3. Please just list the main activities that you feel have been / should be prioritized for advocacy activities by the network.

	Name of Network	Climate Change and Disaster Management Working Groups
	Contact Person and mail address	Climate Change Working Group (CCWG)
	Country / Institutional body covered by mapping	Viet Nam
A	Climate change awareness and priority	
1	Priority of climate change issues in national policy making	<p>The issue of climate change has been on the national agenda for many years. Viet Nam ratified the UNFCCC in 1994 and then the Kyoto Protocol in 2002. The Law on Environment Protection and the National Strategy for Environment Protection in 2005.</p> <p>A: <u>In late 2008</u> climate change issues became a reasonably high priority on the government's agenda (7/10). This was partly due to recognition of the link between climate change and the frequency and intensity of disasters.</p> <p>During this time, key frameworks for the management and coordination of climate change activities were developed. This included the <i>National Target Program (NTP-RCC)</i> and the <i>Action Plan Framework for Adaptation to Climate Change in the Agriculture and Rural Development Sector 2008-2020</i>.</p> <p>Climate change policies were being supported by disaster management policies which contained elements that improved the resilience and adaptability of communities to change. They were well established but lacked resources for effective implementation, had a short term focus and were not integrated with related fields such as climate change, poverty reduction and rural development.</p> <p>B: <u>In early 2011</u> climate change is becoming a higher</p>

		<p>priority (8/10). This is demonstrated by the approval of the <i>Action plan to respond to climate change in environment and natural resources sector 2011 -2015</i> and the development of the <i>National Strategy to Respond to Climate Change</i>.</p> <p>New climate change programs and policies are on the Government’s agenda. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The National Strategy to Respond to Climate Change, (in development). Due for submission in mid-2011. Following this, a National Action Plan for implementation is planned for development. - The consideration of a climate change law, which would simplify and strengthen climate change action in Viet Nam. <p>In 2011, the need to integrate climate change and disaster management action is becoming better recognized. This is resulting in the development of the <i>National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation</i> (in development). The Platform is expected to be a national mechanism for coordination and policy guidance on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.</p> <p>Due to the relationship between climate change and disaster management, disaster management information that aligns with climate change policy is presented in this document.</p>
2	<p>Climate change funding Indicate the external funding for climate change initiatives in the country (or for the regional institution) in 2008 and up to 2011 for adaptation and mitigation</p>	<p><i>Based on information easily available from government/other sources. Even a few examples would be helpful, but skip the question if it is too difficult to access the information, and comment</i></p> <p><u>In 2008 adaptation and mitigation</u> funding from the GoV and external sources was low. The funding that was being provided was mainly for on-ground adaptation rather than mitigation.</p> <p><u>In 2010 adaptation</u> Viet Nam is receiving more donors funding. This has mainly been for the development of new policies. Much of it has come through other governments (e.g. Australia, Denmark, France).</p> <p>A lack of funding for on-ground works is contributing to delays in the implementation of the CBDRM and NTP-RCC.</p> <p><u>In 2010 mitigation</u> received more funding from a number of sources, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nearly 4.4 million UNDP/FAO/UNEP for the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation +

		<p>(REDD+) project;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$100 million USD from Norway for REDD program; - \$250 million USD from Clean Technology Fund (CTF) for urban transportation, energy savings and power transformation; - \$500 million USD from Japan for the Support Program to Respond Climate Change 2010-2012.
	Awareness / priority on climate change in national media	<p><i>Assess the priority of climate change issues in the news/media on a scale between 1 and 10, (10 is highest)</i></p> <p>A: In 2008 climate change issues began receiving more exposure in the Vietnamese media (3/10). Research by Pham (2009)² shows that climate change stories in newspapers rose from 24 in 2006 to 102 in 2008 and from 32 in 2007 to 65 in 2008. Most of the stories reported had a local focus, with government providing the majority of information. Local people and scientists were among the least used sources.</p> <p>B: <u>Now, in early 2011</u>, especially since the Copenhagen Climate Conference in 2009, climate change has received more media exposure and coverage.</p> <p>There are now programs dedicated to the topic. Coverage usually focuses on impacts and adaptation, and little, if any emphasis on mitigation or climate science (5/10).</p>
5	Awareness and priority of climate change amongst civil servants and government employees	<p><i>Assess the priority of climate change issues among civil servants and government employees on a scale between 1 and 10,</i></p> <p>A: In late 2008 civil servants and government employees at the Central level or specifically engaged in climate change projects were quite aware of, and placed reasonable priority on climate change. This was partly due to the relationship between climate change and disasters. However, those working at the local level had little to no awareness of climate change (6/10).</p> <p>B: <u>Now, in early 2011</u>, there is more awareness and some priority on climate change issues amongst a broad range of government employees and civil servants, but still a lack of knowledge. This is may be a reflection of the increased number of local climate change programs and policies that are/have been implemented in recent years (7/10)</p>
6	Awareness and priority	<i>Assess the priority of climate change issues in the private</i>

² Pham (2009) *Climate change coverage by the Vietnamese media: Four year trends 2006-2009*

	of climate change amongst the private sector	<p><i>sector on a scale between 1 and 10,</i> A: <u>In late 2008</u>, need more information B: <u>Now, in early 2011</u>, there is more awareness of climate change issues. However, climate change is yet to become a high priority for many in the private sector (6/10).</p> <p>There are some private sector organizations that are becoming active in climate change (e.g. Bayer). This is usually driven by business opportunities or by business exposure to specific climate change risks.</p> <p>There is increasing efforts to engage the private sector in climate change discussions; however, participation remains low.</p>
7	Awareness and priority of climate change amongst civil society	<p><i>Assess the priority of climate change issues in civil society on a scale between 1 and 10,</i> A: <u>In late 2008</u> civil society was very aware of climate change and was engaged in a range of activities to promote the need for action on (8/10). B: <u>Now in early 2011</u>, civil society remains an active and important advocate for climate change action (9/10). It now also encourages climate change action to integrate with related fields (e.g. poverty reduction, disaster risk reduction, gender equity) to maximize the effectiveness of actions.</p>
8	Comment on the changes in the priority and awareness of climate change issues and policies between 2008 and 2011 as presented in 1-7 above	<p>The priority and awareness of climate change in Viet Nam has increased significantly since 2008. A: <u>In 2008</u>, the Central Government and civil society, particularly INGO's, were becoming increasingly aware and active in the field of climate change policy and strategy. At this time, the private sector had little interest in the topic, the media provided little coverage and there was very little recognition of the subject in the community. B: <u>In 2011</u> there is good recognition of climate change issues at the NGO and in specific areas of the government. The media is now playing a much larger role in communicating climate change, the private sector is slowly becoming more engaged and the general population is becoming aware of the basics of climate change. While awareness of on-ground officials is improved, knowledge is lacking</p>
B	Context for climate change policy-making and awareness	<i>Maximum 150 words / six bullet points in each box below</i>
1	What level of engagement in the UNFCCC process	Viet Nam has had strong engagement in the UNFCCC process. It ratified the UNFCCC in 1994 and the Kyoto

	has this country/region been involved with? Has civil society influenced this level of engagement, and if so how?	<p>Protocol in 2002.</p> <p>In 2003, Viet Nam submitted its Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC and in 2006/7 submitted its Second National Communication in 2010.</p> <p>The UN is heavily involved in REDD work in Viet Nam, and is currently working with the government to develop REDD policy</p>
2	What are the most important government ministries or units of government focusing on climate change policy formulation in the country	<p>MoNRE</p> <p>MARD</p> <p>CCFSC</p> <p>MPI</p> <p>MoF</p> <p>For more detail refer to section 5.2. Government Agencies</p>
3	What are the key policies and programmes relating to climate change in the country (e.g. national plans, NAPAs, National communications, energy/REDD policies...)	<p>National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (NTP-RCC) (2008). Some specific strategies such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Strategy to respond to climate change (is drafted and is expected to be submitted to the GoV in mid-2011). - Action Plan Framework of Adapting to Climate Change by the Agriculture and Rural Development 2008-2020 (2009). - Action plan to respond to climate change in environment and natural resources sector 2011 -2015. - Action plan to respond to climate change in education and training sector 2011-2015. <p>Disaster management policies relevant to climate change policies in Viet Nam include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Strategy for Natural Disaster Response, Prevention and Mitigation to 2020 (2007) (including associated implementation plan) - National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Viet Nam (currently in development). - Community Awareness Raising and Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Program (2009) <p>For more detail refer to section 6 Climate change and disaster management policies in Viet Nam</p>
	Have mappings or vulnerability analyses of climate change been made at national scale?	<p>Recently, scenarios for sea level rise were developed as a part of the NTP-RCC. Other than this, very little work has been done in this area, especially at a national scale.</p>

5	Name three examples of key climate change impacts that have affected the country over the last five years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salinization of coastal areas in the Mekong Delta causing a reduction in agricultural productivity 2. Increased incidence and severity of disasters, particularly floods and typhoons 3. Increased incidence of drought in the mountainous areas and in the Central Highland <p>However, there is little evidence-based, scientific research available to provide strong evidence of these observations.</p>
6	What non-government groups are most active on climate change in your country/region (private sector, CBOs, NGO networks, media, academia...) and what have they been doing?	<p><u>NGO's and civil society</u> are the most active groups working on climate change in Viet Nam.</p> <p>They have been actively involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing, funding and implementing various climate change programs, both in adaptation and mitigation - Working with the GoV in the development of climate change policies and strategies - Conducting research and analysis on climate change <p>Local NGOs are more involved in on-ground climate change programs: community-based adaption, capacity building, awareness raising, etc.</p> <p><u>Research institutes</u> such as the Mekong Development Institute, National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategy Studies (NISTPASS) and others conduct research on climate change with funding support from the government and international donors.</p>
7	How good is the relationship between civil society and government in the field of climate change? Please provide examples.	<p>Some NGO's have recognized the efforts of the government for engaging them in the development of key national policies. For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A collaborative approach between the UNDP and the GoV in the development of the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Viet Nam 2. CARE's engagement in the National Draft Strategy on Responding to Climate Change <p>Some other NGO's feel that engagement can be exclusive and only occur with a handful of NGO's.</p>
8	Which donors (multilateral, bilateral, international development/relief, foundations etc) have been most active on climate change issues in your country/region?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNDP - World Bank, Asian Development Bank - INGO's (e.g. CARE, Oxfam) - AusAID, USAID - FAO

9	How is funding and support for climate-change-related activities (from UNFCCC funds, multilateral agencies) channelled in the country-/region? Does any of it reach those most affected by climate change impacts?	<p>The majority of donor funding is channelled through the Central government to support the development of key climate change programs. Much is used in the development of policies and plans and some for research (e.g. scenario analysis) and training. Little reaches the local levels and those most affected by climate change impacts.</p> <p>Some funding is channelled to on-ground programs (mostly implemented by from NGO's). These are more active in engaging and reaching those the people most vulnerable and affected by climate change impacts.</p> <p>A little funding is provided to support the coordination between those working in climate change and disaster risk management and to support advocacy activities.</p>
10	Mention the three key challenges/bottlenecks to address CC more effectively in national policies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Implementation</u> of climate change and disaster management policy is often poor at the local level, with a lack of on-ground capacity or support and limited monitoring and evaluation or reporting processes 2. <u>Integration</u> of climate change with disaster management, and other policies is poor, this can be partly attributed to overlapping and unclear responsibilities contributing to tension over control and funding 3. <u>Budget mechanisms</u> are not transparent and inadequate. This is resulting in poor implementation of programs, particularly at the local level. 4. <u>Social aspects</u> of climate change and disaster management (such as their impact on vulnerable people's livelihoods) often receive less attention from government than biophysical (e.g. sea level rise scenarios) and infrastructure aspects (e.g. dykes)
11	List two to five key national dilemmas in national development planning regarding development versus climate change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Growing urbanization is reducing the adaptability of Viet Nam whilst increasing its greenhouse gas emissions 2. Viet Nam's strong economic development and industrialization goals conflict with the development of a low carbon economy
C	Lessons , recommendations and advocacy priorities	
1	Based on the above, and Annex 2 form, list up to	1. Viet Nam is leading the development of mechanisms to support the implementation of REDD.

	<p>three examples where your country /actors in your country can serve as a positive example for others to learn from</p>	<p>2. Viet Nam is working hard to develop a strong policy basis for climate change work</p> <p>3. Viet Nam has recognized the need to act on climate change and the value of integrating climate change into other areas such as DM.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Based on the above and on the Annex 2 form suggest 5 - 10 recommendations for actors on climate change in your country</p>	<p>It is recommended that the CCWG:</p> <p><u>Support integration of:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Climate change and disaster management policies by demonstrating how these two areas can be/are integrated and the benefits of this (case study?) with the DMWG. Although this is already a part of the policy strategy, there is an opportunity for the WG's to demonstrate how this can be achieved. 2. Databases, maps, and satellite imagery to support the forecasting and assessment of climate change impacts. Currently, there is a lack of consistency across data platforms, which is likely to restrict information sharing between governmental and non-governmental bodies. <p><u>Advocate for improved</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Engagement of the community and vulnerable peoples (e.g. children, women), through the provision of additional and targeted resources 4. Community awareness raising. This will support improved engagement of local people 5. Capacity of local implementers, particularly regard to participatory approaches and working with vulnerable peoples. 6. Guidelines that better describe methods for achieving policy objectives at the local level. This will support more effective and consistent implementation across localities 7. Program monitoring and evaluation. This will assist in transparency and continual improvement. 8. Funding and budgeting strategies that facilitate the transparent distribution of funds and source new funds (this is important, as Viet Nam's shift into the middle income bracket will increasingly lead to changes in Official Development Assistance (ODA)). 9. Engagement of a range of stakeholders including civil society (e.g. Women's Union) in climate change debate, to improve coordination of on-ground action and local dissemination of the policy;

		10. Representative engagement in the National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, so that it is open to a more diverse range of stakeholders
3	Among the policies / programmes you have covered in Annex 2 forms, list 2 – 5 selected for targeted advocacy efforts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National law on climate change (being considered) 2. NTP-RCC 3. National Strategy on Climate Change Adaptation (in development) 4. National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in Viet Nam (in development)
4	List the case studies , action research you wish to undertake to support your advocacy initiatives	To be completed by CCWG/DMWG
5	List the case studies (successes, failures and challenges) you plan to develop for learning and sharing of information	See the annexes on Case Studies submitted by member agencies of CCWG and DMWG

Individual mapping forms attached (Annex 2's)

No	Name of policy / programme	Priority in terms of strategic advocacy (1 = highest priority, 5 = least)
2.1	National strategy for natural disaster prevention, response and mitigation to 2020	2
2.2	National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (NTP-RCC)	1
2.3	Community Based Disaster Management Program (CBDRM Program) (passed in 2009 by the Decision 1002/QD-TTg of the Prime Minister)	3
2.4	Pilot Program on Agriculture Insurance for the period of 2011-2013 (approved by Prime Minister in Decision 315/QD-TTg dated on March 1, 2011)	4
2.5	Viet Nam National Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation+ (REDD+) Program (NRP)	5

Annex 2: Policy mapping

SOUTHERN VOICES ON CLIMATE POLICY CHOICES

CLIMATE-CHANGE-RELATED POLICY OR PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Each network should aim to fill this form in for 4 – 10 different policies / programmes. Out of these we suggest that 2 – 4 are selected as the most important ones and are prioritized in terms of strategic advocacy.

2.1. National strategy for natural disaster prevention, response and mitigation to 2020

	Form Number	1
	Name (and contact email) of Network completing this form	Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG)
	Name of Country/Region	Viet Nam
	Date completed, by (name and email)	June 30, 2011 by DMWG
A	Basic information on climate-change-related policy / programme	
1	Name of Policy / Programme	National strategy for natural disaster prevention, response and mitigation to 2020 Decision No. 172/2007/QD-TTg, November 16, 2007
2	Brief description of the policy/programme (max 120 words)	This is Viet Nam's main disaster risk management framework and is one of the most important pieces of disaster management legislation in Viet Nam. The strategy aims to reduce disasters and their impacts on people, property, agriculture, economic well-being, environment, and sustainable development. It lays down responsibilities of various implementing bodies. The main objectives of the strategy are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Integrating disaster risk management into socio-economic development plans; 2. Ensuring sustainable disaster recovery integrates disaster risk management; 3. Planning five different disaster risk management strategies for the five geographical regions of

		<p>the country;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Combining structural and non-structural measures in disaster risk management; 5. Dividing implementation responsibilities and timing for risk reduction among a range of ministries.
3	Lead actor – and role of other actors (government, organization, agency....)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC) as the standing agency - Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development (MARD) as a the focal agency
4	Which category see annex 3	1
5	Funding sources	Government and donors
6	Budget – if relevant, total/ per year, and actual expenditures	<p>There is no specific budget line allocated to DRR in national and provincial budget allocations and a general lack of budget information available regarding DRM.</p> <p>MARD estimates that it requires US \$18 billion to implement measuresⁱ. This does not include the funds required by other Ministries and Provinces to implement Action Plans.</p> <p>When a disaster occurs, the state contingency fund at both central and local levels is mobilized for disaster response.</p>
7	Who manages the funds – government, donors, civil society organizations?	<p>MARD (governmental authority) for the national program</p> <p>Relevant Ministries for their sectoral programs</p> <p>Local governments (People’s Committees) for local activities</p>
8	Has the policy/programme been implemented yet? If not, when will it be implemented?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Most Ministries as members of the CCFSC have developed Action Plans for mainstreaming DRR in their sectors, while all 63 provinces have developed their Action Plans to implement the National DRM Strategy.</p> <p>Some DRM action plan activities have been implemented (e.g. dyke construction, relocation, embankments, training, awareness-raising, risk mapping, etc.).</p> <p>Integration of DRR in school curriculum has been</p>

		<p>considered at ministerial level but only in some pilot provinces through projects of international NGOs.</p> <p>A number of legal documents underpin DRM in Viet Nam. This can create complexity in the administration, management and implementation of DRM activities. To address this, the first national Law on DRM is being developed by MARD and is planned for submission at the National Assembly in 2012. If passed, it will be the first comprehensive legislative document that represents DRM in Viet Nam.</p> <p><i>The first National Forum on DRR and CCA</i> was organized in 2009, to prepare for establishment of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation</p>
B	Assessment of the policy/programme	
	<i>Maximum 120 words / 5 bullet points each question</i>	
1	Can the policy/programme or elements of it serve as a positive example for recommendation as a good or best practice? What are its strengths?	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Strengths:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Works towards integrating disaster management into all plans, (e.g. the socio-economic development plan of each province, sector and whole country). 2. Incorporates the development of the National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation 3. Looks at prevention as well as response and recovery, in which, climate change impacts are considered (e.g. sea level rise) 4. Emphasizes the “four-on-the-spot” principle (command on the spot, man-power on the spot, materials on the spot and logistics on the spot) in disaster response, prevention and mitigation. Emphasizing that local prevention, response and mitigation to disasters is crucial. 5. Supports integration of disaster management into school curriculum, providing basic knowledge for children – a vulnerable group
2	Do you see serious problems such as negative or low impact which must be changed? List them briefly.	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poor quality plans resulting from insufficient resources and guidelines being provided to the local level

	<p>What are its weaknesses?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Genuine and representative participation at grassroots level in DRM/DRR planning processes is limited: Many plans are still developed using a top-down method and do not sufficiently include or consider vulnerable peoples. 3. Insufficient integration of DRM with climate change actions or in some sectors and local planning activities. There is no clear mechanism for coordinating program implementation 4. Lack of an integrated/multi-hazard approach. For example, hazard maps remain focused on individual hazards. 5. Lack of emphasis on non-water related disasters and non-structural responses
<p>3</p>	<p>Briefly describe the level of stakeholder involvement in the planning and implementation of the programme / policy (parliament, civil society, media, academia, affected / targeted communities)</p>	<p><i>MARD and other Ministries</i> (e.g. MoET, MoF, MPI, etc.) aim to coordinate and manage Strategy implementation. However, actual coordination does not appear to be occurring. This may be because neither Ministry wants to give up control or funds to the other.</p> <p><i>Local government</i> are given the responsibility for implementation (i.e. local action plans) often with little funding or support</p> <p><i>Civil society</i> involvement is becoming more valued by the Government but is generally involved more in implementation.</p> <p>Some NGO's have been involved in planning and implementation activities.</p> <p><i>Mass organizations</i> such as the Women's, Youth and Farmers Union's act in roles similar to civil society, particularly at the commune level. However, they can lack independence as they are funded by the Government.</p> <p><i>Communities in disaster prone areas</i> will be engaged in implementation activities. These will include Red River Delta and Northern Central region; Coastal Central region, South-western region and island, Mekong River Delta; central highlands</p> <p><i>Research institutes</i> have carried out many projects, assessments and researches in disasters and climate change. However there is limited connection/sharing knowledge between scientists and civil society.</p> <p>The National Platform on DRR and CCA (in development) aims to support the integration of DRR</p>

		and CCA. The platform aims to have strong governance arrangements and focus on policy, technical advice and support, coordination and resource mobilization. There are some concerns that it will not have enough civil society or local NGO representation.
4	Has a human rights-based approach or have social safeguards been applied (such as prior informed consent?), and if so how?	The Strategy does mention the need to engage the community in disaster activities such as planning, but its implementation of this is questionable
5	Have gender equality perspectives or approaches that include indigenous peoples been applied in the policy / programme?	There is little acknowledgement of gender equality or ethnic minorities in the Strategy or its implementation. For example, the Women's Union is not member of CCFSC, even though they are well established at all levels. Also, there is a limited amount of gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity development data available to inform activity.
6	Are the groups most vulnerable to and affected by climate change targeted – and reached? Consider geographic, gender, social / livelihood criteria, indigenous peoples etc	Geographical vulnerabilities are the focus of this Strategy. Those most vulnerable to disasters are not clearly specified in the Strategy and their participation in DRM activities can be difficult to obtain. This is due to time constraints; human resource limitations; and a lack of tools and operational budgets that support local authorities in using participatory processes.
7	Which policy/programme changes would you like to achieve? List up to five key recommendations of your climate network on this policy/programme	It is recommended that the DMWG advocate for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improved budgeting and reporting mechanisms, where there are specific budgets allocated for implementation and that expenditure is transparent 2. More representative participation at grassroots level in DRM/DRR planning processes (with an emphasis on vulnerable people). This will require sufficient funding and capacity building of local staff. 3. An integrated/multi-hazard approach The CCWG and DMWG work together to advocate for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Better coordination between climate change and disaster management programs 5. More diverse representation on the National Platform on DRR and CCA.

C	Resources and expertise for the network to engage in advocacy on the policy/programme: Documentation and evidence, expertise, mobilization <i>Maximum 120 words or 5 bullet points in each. Skip if not relevant. Add extra comments if needed</i>	
1	Is the network and its member organizations already working on influencing this policy-/programme, and if so how	<p>Members of the DMWG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on local level pilot programs that contribute to the development and implementation of the Strategy • Work with government, providing inputs for policies and strategies (e.g. CBDRM, DRM Law, National Platform on DRR and CCA etc.) • Sharing knowledge with Government via meetings, workshops, dialogues such as the national DRR/CCA forums, where good practices and lessons-learnt are discussed. • Organize public events, such as on International DRR Day and National DRR Day, to promote the awareness of policy makers, managers, media, and the public
2	Are affected local communities, social organizations or indigenous people's organizations engaged?	Not yet in a proactive way, more in the implementation stage.
3	List evidence and documentation which the network can use to support its recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex 3 – case studies - World Vision (2011) AADMER Multi-stakeholder partnership study, Viet Nam (draft). World Vision - UNEP (2009) Disaster Risk Management Programs for Priority Countries. UN
4	Does the network have the necessary expertise and resources to engage effectively in advocacy on this policy/programme	<p>The DMWG is well established and has good expertise. Members generally have good on-ground experience and a good reputation amongst policy makers.</p> <p>There is a need for the group to develop their expertise in advocacy, particularly in planning, coordination (especially with CCWG) and monitoring and evaluation</p>
5	List ideas and proposals for the network regarding this policy/programme (further investigation, harnessing external expertise, raising awareness, mobilization,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper that clarifies the similarities and differences in climate change and disaster management and identifies opportunities for short, medium and long term coordination in Viet Nam. • Preparation of a case study that demonstrates to GoV how climate change and disaster management

	alliances, media work...)	<p>can be integrated and what the benefits of this integration would be</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an integration plan to support the development of a stronger formal working relationship with the DMWG
6	What support would strengthen the ability and effectiveness of the network to work on advocacy on this policy (list key areas)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding to implement above • Advocacy training and planning workshops with members of the DMWG and CCWG • Development of CCWG and DMWG sub-committee to support joint advocacy, with a view to integrate the groups in the future • Funding to support DMWG members to attend events, conferences, meetings where there are opportunities to advocate for policy improvements on behalf of the DMWG, whilst also building the groups knowledge.

2.2. National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change

	Form Number	2
	Name (and contact email) of Network completing this form	Climate Change Working Group (CCWG)
	Name of Country/Region	Viet Nam
	Date completed, by (name and email)	Climate Change Working Group, June 30 2011
A	Basic information on climate-change-related policy / programme	
1	Name of Policy / Programme	National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (issued in 2008)
2	Brief description of the policy/programme (max 120 words)	<p>The GoV launched the National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (NTP-RCC) in 2008. This policy establishes priorities on climate change responses nationwide.</p> <p>The NTP-RCC's strategic objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess climate change impacts on sectors and regions and to develop action plans to respond to climate change in the short and long term, • Take opportunities to develop towards a low-carbon economy, and • Join the international community's efforts in mitigating climate change and protecting the climatic system. <p>The program is divided into 3 main periods: 2009-2010 starting-up, 2011-2015 implementation, post 2015 development.</p> <p>The scope and content of programs includes mitigation, adaptation (including disaster risk management) and cross cutting issues (e.g. monitoring implementation, financial mechanisms for implementation, awareness raising, capacity building and human resource development).</p>
3	Lead actor – and role of other actors (government, organization, agency....)	National Steering Committee for NTP-RCC located within MoNRE
4	Which category see annex 3	1
5	Funding sources	The funding for implementation of the NTP-RCC is from

		<p>two main sources as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 50% from foreign capital b) 50% from domestic capital (including 15% of central budget , 10% of local budget and 25% of private sector and other sources)
6	Budget – if relevant, total/ per year, and actual expenditures	<p>The budget for implementing activities of the NTP-RCC in the period of 2009 -2015 (excluding funds for the implementation of the Action Plans of Ministries, sectors, and localities) is approximately 2.374 billion VND (approx. 118.7 million USD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Scientific and technological research : 812 billion VND (<i>approx. 40.6 million USD</i>), 34.2% b) Strengthening institutional framework, organizational structure: 163 billion VND (<i>approx. 8.15 million USD</i>), 6.9% c) Awareness raising and capacity building: 285 billion VND (<i>approx. 14.25 million USD</i>), 12% d) International cooperation: 61 billion VND (<i>approx. 3.05 million USD</i>), 2.6% e) Integrating CC into Socio-economic development plans (SEDP): 172 billion VND (<i>approx. 8.6 million USD</i>), 7.2% f) Developing action plans of ministries, sectors and provinces: 881 billion VND (<i>approx. 44.05 million USD</i>), 37.1%.
7	Who manages the funds – government, donors, civil society organizations?	<p>MONRE, as the leading agency manages the funds. Other ministries government agencies, sectors and localities are responsible for the budget allocated to them for implementation.</p>
8	Has the policy/programme been implemented yet? If not, when will it be implemented?	<p>Yes, the progress so far has included:</p> <p><u>In 2009:</u> Establishment of the National Steering Committee on the NTP-RCC Development of <i>Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Scenarios for Viet Nam</i> The Action Plan Framework of Adapting to Climate Change by the Agriculture and Rural Development was developed.</p> <p><u>In 2010:</u> Five (5) of nine (9) ministries with an allocated budget had developed their action plans (e.g. The Action Plan</p>

		<p>to Respond to Climate Change in Environment and Natural Resources Sector 2011 -2015), as required by the NTP-RCC.</p> <p>Two (2) of eight (8) provinces financed from central budget had issued Action Plans for responding climate change.</p> <p>Action Plans in 47 provinces were not yet developed</p> <p>Implementation of climate change projects funded by international donors, including the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Program</i> funded by Denmark and the <i>Support Program for Responding to Climate Change</i> funded by France and Japan, UN-REDD Program by UN etc. b) <i>The second National Forum on DRR and CCA</i> was organized, to prepare for establishment of National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. <p><u>In 2011:</u></p> <p><i>Climate Change and Sea Level Rise Scenarios for Viet Nam</i> have been updated.</p> <p>A consultation workshop on the <i>Draft National Strategy on Climate Change</i> was held in May 2011.</p> <p>The <i>Draft National Strategy on Climate Change</i> prepared and due to be submitted to the Prime Minister in mid-2011.</p>
<p>B Assessment of the policy/programme <i>Maximum 120 words / 5 bullet points each question</i></p>		
1	<p>Can the policy/programme or elements of it serve as a positive example for recommendation as a good or best practice? What are its strengths?</p>	<p><u>Strengths:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contains climate change goals on adaptation as well as mitigation. 2. Promotes sustainable development, integration, multi-sectoral and participatory approaches to encourage pro-activeness of each sector and province. 3. Aims to build capacity in personnel and agencies and to raise public awareness 4. Promotes international programs and cooperation 5. Promotes participation of the civil society and private sector 6. Attempts to integrate climate change responses into planning processes

2	Do you see serious problems such as negative or low impact which must be changed? List them briefly. What are its weaknesses?	<p><u>Weaknesses:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of coordination of CC activities and CC and DM activities. This is partially due to a lack of clear mechanism and the overlap and competition among agencies 2. Dissemination of NTP-RCC to people at the local level (especially grassroots) is limited 3. Local level implementation restricted due to limited capacity of staff, minimal tools and guidance and over-emphasis on biophysical aspects 4. Implementation, particularly at the local level, has been stalled by a lack of resource provision from the central and local level and a top-down approach to decision-making 5. Insufficient focus and engagement of vulnerable peoples.
3	Briefly describe the level of stakeholder involvement in the planning and implementation of the programme / policy (parliament, civil society, media, academia, affected / targeted communities)	<p>The Government (<i>National Steering Committee on NTP-RCC</i>) leads NTP-RCC implementation, with the support of MoNRE and other relevant ministries.</p> <p>In May 2011, they held a workshop with stakeholders to inform the development of the National Strategy on Climate Change to 2050. 20 ministries and sectors at national level, 26 northern provinces, UNDP, partners and donors in climate change sectors in Viet Nam attended the event. However, there seems to have been a lack of representation from the civil society and NGO community.</p> <p><u>Research institutes</u> involved in research on climate change and impact assessment in different sectors, but only within framework of their projects/programs.</p> <p><u>Civil society</u>, especially iNGOs are involved in climate change issues / programs. Many are engaged in implementation and some are engaged in policy planning. However, it has been recognized that <i>‘there is a need for more participation on CC planning by civil society such as more involvement of the CCWG in GoV activities on CC’</i> (McElwee & Nghiem 2011 p5)</p> <p><u>Donors</u> are quite involved in this program, especially in regards to planning</p> <p><u>Communities</u> are not involved in policy planning</p>
4	Has a human rights-based approach or have social safeguards been applied	This does not appear to be addressed

	(such as prior informed consent?), and if so how?	
5	Have gender equality perspectives or approaches that include indigenous peoples been applied in the policy / programme?	<u>Yes</u> , gender equality approaches are recognized. However, the extent to which this has been applied in the implementation stage is unknown
6	Are the groups most vulnerable to and affected by climate change targeted – and reached? Consider geographic, gender, social / livelihood criteria, indigenous peoples etc	The NTP-RCC identifies the need to conduct vulnerability and adaptation assessment at sectoral, regional and community levels, to identify those who are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change (farmers, ethnic minority, elderly, children and women). It also states that climate change work should consider all sectors and cross-sector linkages, such as gender equality, and efforts to eradicate hunger and reduce poverty. However, the extent to which this has occurred is unknown
7	Which policy/programme changes would you like to achieve? List up to five key recommendations of your climate network on this policy/programme	It is recommended that the CCWG: <u>Support integration of:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Climate change and disaster management policies</i> by demonstrating how these two areas can be/are integrated and the benefits of this with the DMWG. There is an opportunities for the WG's to show government how this can be achieved. 2. <i>Databases, maps, and satellite imagery</i> to support the forecasting and assessment of climate change impacts. Currently, there is a lack of consistency across data platforms, which is likely to restrict information sharing between governmental and non-governmental bodies. <u>Advocate for improved</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. NTP-RCC engagement of the community and vulnerable peoples (e.g. children, women) at the local level and more representative engagement on the National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. 4. NTP-RCC implementation at the local level though providing clearer implementation guidelines and building the capacity of those responsible for NTP-RCC implementation at the local level. This should particularly focus on participatory approaches and working with vulnerable peoples. This could be supported by CCWG members, who have

		<p>experience in these areas</p> <p>5. Processes that support the transparent distribution of funds and increased monitoring and evaluation of climate change policies</p>
<p>1. Resources and expertise for the network to engage in advocacy on the policy/programme: Documentation and evidence, expertise, mobilization <i>Maximum 120 words or 5 bullet points in each. Skip if not relevant. Add extra comments if needed</i></p>		
1	Is the network and its member organizations already working on influencing this policy-/programme, and if so how	The CCWG has contributed in the development of the NTP-RCC. Some core members of CCWG have been invited to provide comments on the Draft National Strategy on Responding to Climate Change that will be submitted to Prime Minister by quarter 2/ 2011.
2	Are affected local communities, social organizations or indigenous people's organizations engaged?	Government-funded social organizations such as the Youth Union, Women Union, Farmer Union and the National Front in the implementation of the NTP-RCC's Task V, are engaged in awareness raising and capacity building. However, the level of their involvement at the local level is unknown and is regionally-dependent.
3	List evidence and documentation which the network can use to support its recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex 3 – case studies - Oxfam (2011) <i>Owning Adaptation</i>. Factsheet: Viet Nam, Oxfam. - Hellmuth M.E., Mason S.J., Vaughan C., van Aalst M.K. and Choularton R. (eds) 2011. <i>A Better Climate for Disaster Risk Management</i>. International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI), Columbia University, New York, USA. - Fortier, F. (2010) <i>Taking a climate change: A procedural critique of Viet Nam's climate change strategy</i>. Asia Pacific Viewpoint, Vol. 51, No. 3, December 2010 - McElwee, P. and Nghiem, T (2011) <i>Poverty and social impact analysis in support of climate change development policy loan in Viet Nam – report on preliminary research</i>. PSIA.
4	Does the network have the necessary expertise and resources to engage effectively in advocacy on this policy/programme	<p>The CCWG was established in 2008 and has expertise from a range of climate change areas.</p> <p>There is a need for the group to develop their expertise in advocacy, particularly in planning, coordination (especially with CCWG) and monitoring and evaluation</p>

5	List ideas and proposals for the network regarding this policy/programme (further investigation, harnessing external expertise, raising awareness, mobilization, alliances, media work...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper that clarifies the similarities and differences in climate change and disaster management and identifies opportunities for short, medium and long term coordination in Viet Nam. • Preparation of a case study that demonstrates to GoV how climate change and disaster management can be integrated and what the benefits of this integration would be • Prepare an integration plan to support the development of a stronger formal working relationship with the DMWG • Stakeholder analysis to better identify and understand specific targets for advocacy
6	What support would strengthen the ability and effectiveness of the network to work on advocacy on this policy (list key areas)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding to implement above • Advocacy training and planning workshops with members of the DMWG • Development of CCWG and DMWG sub-committee to support joint advocacy, with a view to integrate the groups in the future • The media in Viet Nam is interested in identifying stories to air on television. Currently, the media is presenting some information climate change, however it often lacks depth and can be of a poor quality. Future work may include engaging media outlets in communication activities to build their knowledge and capacity to report more effectively on climate change topics and to support key messages of the network/s. • Mobilize funds for activities on CC, especially awareness raising • Funding to support CCWG members to attend events, conferences, meetings where there are opportunities to advocate NTP-RCC improvements on behalf of the CCWG, whilst also building the groups climate change knowledge.

2.3. Community Based Disaster Risk Management Program (CBDRM Program)

	Form Number	3
	Name (and contact email) of Network completing this form	Disaster Management Working Group
	Name of Country/Region	Viet Nam
	Date completed, by (name and email)	30 June, 2011, DMWG
A	Basic information on climate-change-related policy / programme	
1	Name of Policy / Programme	Community Based Disaster Risk Management Program (CBDRM Program) (passed in 2009 by the Decision 1002/QD-TTg of the Prime Minister)
2	Brief description of the policy/programme (max 120 words)	<p>This Program aims to raise community awareness and effectively organize a process where at-risk communities are actively engaged in the identification, analysis, treatment, monitoring and evaluation of disaster risks in order to reduce their vulnerabilities and enhance their capacities.</p> <p>Its goals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - minimize fatalities and property loss; - limit natural resource, environmental and cultural heritage destruction - support national defence and security. <p>There are two main components to the programme. Component I focuses on strengthening the capacity of local officers in managing and implementing CBDRM. Component II focuses on improving communication and education in disaster risk management and mitigation, particularly for residents living in disaster prone areas. The Programme is being implemented from 2009 to 2020. It targets approximately 6,000 communes and villages frequently affected by disasters.</p>
3	Lead actor – and role of other actors (government, organization, agency....)	<p>MARD and CCFSC are the lead agencies.</p> <p>The provincial People’s Committees are responsible to implement the Program in their localities</p> <p>Other ministries will collaborate with MARD and CCFSC in funding, training, awareness raising, etc.</p> <p>Mass organizations will support the implementation of</p>

		the Program through local, on-ground activities
4	Which category see annex 3	1
5	Funding sources	<p>The funding for implementation of the CBDRM Program is from 3 main sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 55% from both Central and local Governments - 40% from grants (other Governments and international organizations) - 5% from communities / and private sector
6	Budget – if relevant, total/ per year, and actual expenditures	<p>The total investment fund requested for the Program is about 988, 7 billion VND (approx. 50 million USD). This will be allocated to the Components as follows:</p> <p>Component 1: 182,9 billion VND (approx. US\$ 91.42 million)</p> <p>Component 2: 805,8 billion VND (approx. US\$ 402.9 million)</p>
7	Who manages the funds – government, donors, civil society organizations?	<p>MARD (Directorate of Water Resources and Disaster Management Centre) and CCFSC will be the focal points to implement this Program and manage the overall fund.</p> <p>The MPI is to lead and work in collaboration with the MoF to balance and manage the State investment and find supporting fund sources.</p>
8	Has the policy/programme been implemented yet? If not, when will it be implemented?	<p><i>Progress:</i></p> <p>So far, a very limited budget has been allocated to central agencies (MARD, Disaster Management Centre-DMC, ministries) and no budget allocated and available for local level. It is expected that by mid-2011 a 1-year and 5-year plan will be approved by the Government (MoF) with clear budget lines and allocations for all stakeholders involved in this Program to implement activities.</p> <p>To date, pilot CBDRM projects are being implemented by international NGOs. The Red Cross and the World Bank funded projects in 23 provinces but at a small scale and short-term.</p> <p>National guidelines for provinces to implement CBDRM are being updated by Disaster Management Centre/ MARD with support from CCWG, CBDRM Technical Working Group and will be issued this year (2011). In addition, training materials and Monitoring & Evaluation</p>

		<p>is under development.</p> <p>Although provinces are required to submit their local Action Plan to implement the CBDRM Program only 50% of the 63 provinces have submitted their Plan as required.</p>
<p>B Assessment of the policy/programme <i>Maximum 120 words / 5 bullet points each question</i></p>		
1	<p>Can the policy/programme or elements of it serve as a positive example for recommendation as a good or best practice? What are its strengths?</p>	<p><u>Strengths:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourages a community-based approach that considers the local context and utilizes local knowledge. 2. Promotes the proactive participation of the communities at risk in the whole cycle of disaster risk management to build local capacity and a shared understanding 3. Engages stakeholders at various level in planning and implementation of the CBDRM 4. Can be an effective tool in working with vulnerable peoples, (if done well)
2	<p>Do you see serious problems such as negative or low impact which must be changed? List them briefly. What are its weaknesses?</p>	<p><u>Weaknesses:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of mechanisms for participating agencies and communities to obtain and report on expenditure has contributed to the lack of committed funding from donors (40% of the budget) and delays in implementation. MARD is currently cooperating with MoF to develop the budget and seek for donor funds for 2011- 2015. 2. Lack of skilled human resources: There is currently no full time staff and a lack of staff training in non-water related areas. This can mean that non storm and flood topics and be under-represented 3. Unclear implementation guidelines for local authorities, resulting in the development of some poor quality plans. 4. Poor community representation in CBDRM activities. Often the most vulnerable people are not actively engaged in CBDRM processes unless specifically targeted. 5. There is no clear legal framework to serve the integration of CCA/DRR and CBDRM, but there is a lot of activity.
3	<p>Briefly describe the level of</p>	<p><i>Implementation</i></p>

	stakeholder involvement in the planning and implementation of the programme / policy (parliament, civil society, media, academia, affected / targeted communities)	<p>Governmental authorities (MARD, CCFSC, DMC) are responsible for leading, guiding and managing the program. This also involves a range of Ministries (see A7).</p> <p>The local governments (province, district) and the community are the core focus of the program. The community will be actively involved in all program activities, with support from civil society and mass organizations (VNRC, WU, Fatherland Front etc.)</p> <p>INGO's have involved in some CBDRM pilot projects and in the development of clearer plans for implementation.</p>
4	Has a human rights-based approach or have social safeguards been applied (such as prior informed consent?), and if so how?	Not explicitly in the Decision.
5	Have gender equality perspectives or approaches that include indigenous peoples been applied in the policy / programme?	<p>Not explicitly in the Decision.</p> <p>Some specific programs linked with CBDRM, (e.g. through Oxfam, Save the Children) have worked specifically on these topics.</p>
6	Are the groups most vulnerable to and affected by climate change targeted – and reached? Consider geographic, gender, social / livelihood criteria, indigenous peoples etc	<p>This Program aims to work with the 6,000 most vulnerable communes. The criteria for determining vulnerability is still being developed. It understood that the criteria will focus on frequency and impact of disaster occurrence and coping capacity and socio-economic conditions.</p> <p>The CBDRM approach aims to engage the range of people in the community, particularly those most vulnerable to disasters. However, this can be difficult as there are often barriers to engaging the most vulnerable (e.g. their available time, remote location, cultural norms, language, knowledge)</p>
7	Which policy/programme changes would you like to achieve? List up to five key recommendations of your climate network on this policy/programme	<p>CCWG/DMWG advocate for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provision of sufficient funds to provinces and districts to implement the Program as well as clear budget and reporting processes. 2. Update guidelines to support CBDRM implementation at the local level. This will contribute to the development of quality local Action Plans 3. Increased emphasis on vulnerable people, by developing specific strategies and programs to

		<p>support their active engagement in CBDRM.</p> <p>4. Additional training for the people working at the local level (e.g. local leaders, volunteers, and network of trained trainers) and for full-time staff to be appointed.</p> <p>5. Active engagement of minority groups in the development of local action plans – whilst this is in the policy it requires specific funds and monitoring</p>
C	Resources and expertise for the network to engage in advocacy on the policy/programme: Documentation and evidence, expertise, mobilization <i>Maximum 120 words or 5 bullet points in each. Skip if not relevant. Add extra comments if needed</i>	
1	<p>Is the network and its member organizations already working on influencing this policy-/programme, and if so how</p>	<p>The DMWG successfully piloted CBDRM projects and advocated to the GoV to approve a national CBDRM program.</p> <p>The DMWG has actively worked with MARD to roll-out the Program such as the development of National Guidelines for CBDRM Implementation, monitoring and evaluation system, training documents, etc.</p> <p>The CBDRM Technical Working Group has been established to provide supports for government authorities to implement CBDRM program (including piloting projects, developing policies and guidelines, developing training materials, raising public awareness, etc.)</p> <p>Members of the DMWG have been involved in on-ground activities directly linked to CBDRM</p>
2	<p>Are affected local communities, social organizations or indigenous people's organizations engaged?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>However, the representation in CBDRM processes is often dependent on the availability of local people</p>
3	<p>List evidence and documentation which the network can use to support its recommendations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex 3 – case studies - Partnerships for Disaster Reduction South-East Asia (PDRSEA) (2008) <i>Monitoring and reporting progress on community-based disaster risk management in Viet Nam.</i> PDRSEA - Torrente, E. Zhang, J. and Le-Huuff, T. (2008) <i>CBDRM and Poverty Reduction.</i> PRDSEA
4	<p>Does the network have the necessary expertise and resources to engage</p>	<p>The DMWG is well established and has good expertise. Members generally have good on-ground experience</p>

	effectively in advocacy on this policy/programme	and a good reputation amongst policy makers. There is a need for the group to develop their expertise in advocacy, particularly in planning, coordination (especially with CCWG) and monitoring and evaluation
5	List ideas and proposals for the network regarding this policy/programme (further investigation, harnessing external expertise, raising awareness, mobilization, alliances, media work...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper which clarifies the similarities and differences in climate change and disaster management and identifies opportunities for short, medium and long term coordination in Viet Nam. • Preparation of a case study that demonstrates to GoV how climate change and disaster management can be integrated and what the benefits of this integration would be • Prepare an integration plan to support the development of a stronger formal working relationship with the CCWG
6	What support would strengthen the ability and effectiveness of the network to work on advocacy on this policy (list key areas)?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding for above 2. Funding to support DMWG members to attend events, conferences, meetings where there are opportunities to advocate for Strategy improvements on behalf of the working group 3. Advocacy training and planning workshops with members of the CCWG 4. Development of CCWG and DMWG sub-committee to support joint advocacy, with a view to integrate the groups in the future

2.4. Pilot program on agriculture insurance for the period of 2011-2013

	Form Number	4
	Name (and contact email) of Network completing this form	Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) Disaster Management Working Group (DMWG)
	Name of Country/Region	Viet Nam
	Date completed, by (name and email)	June 1, 2011 by CCWG and DMWG
A	Basic information on climate-change-related policy / programme	
1	Name of Policy / Programme	Pilot Program on Agriculture Insurance for the period of 2011-2013 (approved by Prime Minister in Decision 315/QD-TTg dated on March 1, 2011)
2	Brief description of the policy/programme (max 120 words)	<p>Yet to be implemented, this pilot program aims to support farmers <i>to actively recover and compensate for financial losses caused by natural disasters and diseases, contributing to ensure the stability of social security rural areas, promote agricultural production.</i></p> <p>The program will be piloting for crops, livestock and aquaculture products in 21 selected provinces during three years (2011-2013) as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>Insurance for crops</i> in Nam Dinh, Thai Binh, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Binh Thuan, An Giang, Dong Thap ii. <i>Insurance for buffalos, cows, pigs and livestock</i> in Bac Ninh, Nghe An, Dong Nai, Vinh Phuc, Hai Phong, Thanh Hoa, Binh Dinh, Binh Duong and Hanoi iii. <i>Insurance for aqua-cultural products including catfish, basa fish, shrimp, white shrimp</i> in Ben Tre, Soc Trang, Tra Vinh, Bac Lieu and Ca Mau. <p>The program targets to poor, pro-poor farmers and farmers with different supports for insurance fees. The State will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 100% insurance premium for poor farmers and households, involved in agricultural production - 80% premium for pro-poor farmers and households; - 60% premium for farmers and household not subjected to poverty; and - 20% premium for agriculture organizations involved in the pilot insurance program.

3	Lead actor – and role of other actors (government, organization, agency....)	<p>MoF is the lead agency.</p> <p>MARD collaborates and provides technical support</p> <p>The <i>provincial People’s Committees</i> in selected provinces will be responsible to manage and implement the Program in their localities.</p> <p><i>Insurance companies</i> are responsible for implementing agriculture insurance under guidance of MoF and MARD.</p> <p><i>Viet Nam National Reinsurance Corporation (VinaRe)</i> is responsible for reinsurance of agriculture under guidance of MoF.</p>
4	Which category see annex 3	1
5	Funding sources	<p>The funding for implementation of the Insurance program is from state budget is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The central budget supports 100% for the province received additional allocations from the central budget. b) The central budget support of 50% to the cities/ provinces where the contribution from local budget to national budget is under 50%, the 50% remaining will be paid from local budget. c) The local budget is responsible for 100% in the remaining provinces.
6	Budget – if relevant, total/ per year, and actual expenditures	<p>There is no specific information of budget for the Program implementation in the Decision 315/QD-TTg. This requires further discussion between MoF and MARD, before the Program is implemented in July.</p>
7	Who manages the funds – government, donors, civil society organizations?	<p>The <i>MoF</i> is responsible for budget allocation.</p> <p>The <i>provincial People’s Committees</i> in selected provinces will be responsible to manage the fund at their localities</p>
8	Has the policy/programme been implemented yet? If not, when will it be implemented?	<p>The pilot program has just been approved by Prime Minister in March 2011. The program will be implemented in July 2011. Currently, MoF and MARD have carried out several related activities, to prepare for the program implementation this July.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Steering Committee of MARD for implementing the pilot insurance program in the period 2011-2013 has been just established in April 2011 (by Decision 739/QD-BNN-KTHT of MARD, dated on

		<p>April 13, 2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A workshop in June 2011 to discuss the feasibility of agricultural insurance and collect opinions from representatives of localities and insurance companies • Most other activities for planning and implementing the program are in development or not yet released, thus there is no evidence/information to conclude the program is on track or not.
B Assessment of the policy/programme <i>Maximum 120 words / 5 bullet points each question</i>		
1	<p>Can the policy/programme or elements of it serve as a positive example for recommendation as a good or best practice? What are its strengths?</p>	<p><u>Strengths</u> (based on policy intentions, as policy is yet to be implemented)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increases the risk resilience of vulnerable groups by financially compensating disaster affected households 2. Encourages on-farm investment in agricultural production by providing agricultural investment loans and reducing the impact of losses. 3. Improves the awareness of the community regarding risk minimization. Currently, households and farmers affected by disasters mostly depend on subsidy/supports from government. This does not encourage proactive risk-minimization. 4. Supports more accurate loss assessment and evaluation 5. Encourages involvement of the enterprise community and insurance sector. The GoV provides supports for insurance companies involved in the Program. In addition, VinaRe will be responsible for reinsurance from insurance companies.
2	<p>Do you see serious problems such as negative or low impact which must be changed? List them briefly. What are its weaknesses?</p>	<p><u>Weaknesses:</u> (based on policy intentions, as policy is yet to be implemented)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Criteria defining the eligibility for participants will restrict some poor people from being involved. <p>The criteria includes: (i) having agricultural products to be insured; (ii) have benefits from insurance; (iii) involved in the pilot agriculture insurance program and pay for premium; (iv) producing, cultivating agricultural products according to guidance of MARD.</p> <p>For example, it may be difficult for the poor and households near poverty to meet the demands of</p>

		<p>production scale necessary to be eligible for agricultural insurance.</p> <p>Also, MARD's 'standard processes' of agricultural production are not always appropriate to the local conditions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. <i>Awareness and attitude of the community towards insurance</i> is limited. Farmers can be unwilling to pay for any insurance because of concerns regarding complicated compensation process and existing subsidy mechanisms. 3. <i>Experience and knowledge of implementers.</i> Weather insurance index is relatively new area, hence much capacity needs to be developed 4. <i>Potential difficulties engaging private insurance companies:</i> Agriculture insurance is a high risk product for insurance companies, because the frequency and intensity of disasters in Viet Nam is quite high and it has been increasing as a consequence of climate change. In addition, the failure of previous agriculture insurance programs has made the private insurance sector cautious in getting involved in the program.
3	Briefly describe the level of stakeholder involvement in the planning and implementation of the programme / policy (parliament, civil society, media, academia, affected / targeted communities)	<p><i>Governmental authorities</i> are responsible for planning, leading, guiding and managing the program.</p> <p><i>Insurance sectors (state and private insurance companies)</i> provide insurance products, in accordance with guidance of GoV.</p> <p>Certain iNGO's and groups such as the Farmers association have been engaged in the pilot programs development</p> <p>The <i>farmers and poor, pro-poor households</i> satisfied requirements involve in the Program as beneficiaries.</p>
4	Has a human rights-based approach or have social safeguards been applied (such as prior informed consent?), and if so how?	Not explicitly mentioned in the Program.
5	Have gender equality perspectives or approaches that include indigenous peoples been applied in the policy / programme?	Not explicitly mentioned in the Program.

6	Are the groups most vulnerable to and affected by climate change targeted – and reached? Consider geographic, gender, social / livelihood criteria, indigenous peoples etc	This Program plans to target those vulnerable to disasters, including farmers, poor and pro-poor households. It also focuses on specific vulnerable agriculture products in 21 prone provinces.
7	Which policy/programme changes would you like to achieve? List up to five key recommendations of your climate network on this policy/programme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More detailed monitoring and evaluation of the criteria that determines program eligibility on vulnerable people. 2. Awareness raising of the community regarding the benefits of insurance 3. Improve the capacity of implementers, particularly in regard to weather indices
C Resources and expertise for the network to engage in advocacy on the policy/programme: Documentation and evidence, expertise, mobilization <i>Maximum 120 words or 5 bullet points in each. Skip if not relevant. Add extra comments if needed</i>		
1	Is the network and its member organizations already working on influencing this policy-/programme, and if so how	Some members of the network and donors have been providing support to weather risk insurance initiatives (e.g. the project of SNV funded by BMU - German Government in Nghe An province) since early 2011.
2	Are affected local communities, social organizations or indigenous people, organizations engaged?	Social organizations such as the Farmers Association and local representatives have been engaged in discussions. The engagement of ethnic minorities and women in these discussions is unknown, but unlikely.
3	List evidence and documentation which the network can use to support its recommendations	<p>Annex 3 – case studies</p> <p>Final Report on developing agricultural insurance in Viet Nam (Asian Development Bank 2009)</p> <p>GlobalAgRisk. Designing Agricultural Index Insurance in Developing Countries: A GlobalAgRisk Market Development Model Handbook for Policy and Decision Makers. Lexington, KY: GlobalAgRisk, 2009.</p> <p>Hill, R.V., Hoddinott, J. and Kumar, N (2011) Adopting of weather-index insurance: Learning from willingness to pay among a panel of households in rural Ethiopia. International Food Policy Research Institute</p> <p>Wang, X., Maul, O. and Stutley, C. (2010) <i>Weathering the Storm: Options for Disaster Risk Financing in Viet Nam</i>. World Bank</p>

4	Does the network have the necessary expertise and resources to engage effectively in advocacy on this policy/programme	<p>The DMWG and CCWG were established in 1999 and 2008 respectively.</p> <p>The DMWG is well established and has good expertise. Members generally have good on-ground experience and a good reputation amongst policy makers.</p> <p>There is a need for the group to develop their expertise in advocacy, particularly in planning, coordination (especially with CCWG) and monitoring and evaluation</p> <p>More specific to this policy, risk financing, risk transfer especially weather insurance index has been applied widely over the world but it is a new issue in Viet Nam thus detailed knowledge of it in Viet Nam and in the CCWG/DMWG is restricted to a few members.</p>
5	List ideas and proposals for the network regarding this policy/programme (further investigation, harnessing external expertise, raising awareness, mobilization, alliances, media work...)	<p>As this policy is about to be implemented, it is a good opportunity for the CCWG and DMWG's to get involved and conduct advocacy activities, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Raising public awareness on risk insurance through dissemination of the Program to community and private sector 2. Promoting active involvement of mass organizations (Women Union, Farmer Union etc.) and micro-finance organizations at local level in the Program 3. Strengthening capacity of the governmental staff responsible for planning and implementing the Program. 4. Advocating to prevent vulnerable people from becoming disadvantaged by the program 5. Encourage more active involvement of iNGO's, civil society and communities in monitoring and evaluation of the pilot, encouraging transparency and continual improvement 6. Advocate for a mandatory disaster risk insurance policy following the pilot
6	What support would strengthen the ability and effectiveness of the network to work on advocacy on this policy (list key areas)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy training and planning workshops with members of the DMWG • Development of CCWG and DMWG sub-committee to support joint advocacy, with a view to integrate the groups in the future • Funding to support CC/DMWG members to attend events, workshops, conferences, meetings to improve/update knowledge of risk transfer

2.5. The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme)

	Form Number	5
	Name (and contact email) of Network completing this form	Climate Change Working Group (CCWG)
	Name of Country/Region	Viet Nam
	Date completed, by (name and email)	June 30, 2011 by CCWG
A	Basic information on climate-change-related policy / programme	
1	Name of Policy / Programme	The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme)
2	Brief description of the policy/programme (max 120 words)	<p>The UN REDD programme began in Viet Nam in 2009 to assist the country build capacity to reduce emissions and participate in a future REDD+ mechanism. The idea behind a REDD+ is that countries that are willing and able to reduce emissions from deforestation are financially compensated for doing so.</p> <p>UN REDD includes 3 phases:</p> <p>Phase I (2009-2010) focussed on preparing the country (institutional arrangements; design of measurement, capacity building, reporting and verification framework (MRV)).</p> <p>Phase II (2011-2014) aims to make REDD+ operational, with full-scale piloting in five provinces. <u>UN REDD is currently working with the GoV to develop the National REDD Program (NRP).</u> This is expected to be officially presented to the Prime Minister in mid-2011 for consideration of promulgation as a Decree. This would allow Viet Nam to formally engage in an international REDD+ mechanism - expected to be put in place under the UNFCCC.</p> <p>Phase III (post 2015) aims to implement REDD+ across the country.</p>
3	Lead actor – and role of other actors (government,	Department of Forestry - MARD

	organization, agency....)	
4	Which category see annex 3	1
5	Funding sources	<p>Mainly funded by the Government of Norway, with contributions from Norway and Spain. These funds are then transferred to three UN Programmes for distribution:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. UNDP 2. Food Agriculture Organization (FAO) 3. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) <p>The GoV also contributes some funding for the programme</p>
6	Budget – if relevant, total/ per year, and actual expenditures	<p>The total funded budget is USD 4,504,756 for 20 months (from September 2009-2011³).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN (UNDP, FAO, UNEP) (\$4,384,756 USD) - GoV (\$ 120,000 USD)
7	Who manages the funds – government, donors, civil society organizations?	UN
8	Has the policy/programme been implemented yet? If not, when will it be implemented?	<p>Yes. UN REDD been implemented in Viet Nam since September 2009</p> <p>Achievements in 2010 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of a draft NRP in collaboration with the UN-REDD Programme. - Analysis and development of benefit distribution system - Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process developed and piloted in two districts, Lam Ha and Di Linh in the province of Lam Dong - Participatory carbon monitoring model developed for REDD+ (likely to be one of the first models in the world) - Manual and field testing of Participatory Carbon Monitoring (PCM) completed and applied in two pilot districts

³ United Nations (2011) *UN REDD Program. 2010 Year in Review*. United Nations, Geneva.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Several workshops held to build capacity and share knowledge - Regional REDD+ working group established in the Lam Dong province - Communication and awareness strategy, and website developedⁱ
B Assessment of the policy/programme <i>Maximum 120 words / 5 bullet points each question</i>		
1	<p>Can the policy/programme or elements of it serve as a positive example for recommendation as a good or best practice? What are its strengths?</p>	<p>Strengths:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financially, UN REDD is a good example for Viet Nam. This is because it is transparent and there are clear commitments and guidelines to its management 2. Clear approach that looks at issues holistically at the national level 3. Is working with the GoV to develop the NRP using strong consultative methods 4. Connected to a global network 5. Independent evaluation of some processes (e.g. FPIC) 6. Engages stakeholders
2	<p>Do you see serious problems such as negative or low impact which must be changed? List them briefly. What are its weaknesses?</p>	<p>Weaknesses:</p> <p><i>UN REDD is working to establish a National REDD mechanism (NRP) in Viet Nam. Due to the interrelatedness of these two areas, weaknesses of both are presented</i></p> <p><u>UN REDD</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As a new area, much of the REDD+ work occurring in Viet Nam is amongst the first of its kind (e.g. FPIC, participatory carbon monitoring model). Hence, <u>capacity</u> to manage the REDD+ program in specialist technical areas and at the local scale needs further development 2. Current FPIC processes do not provide the necessary time to allow the community to make an informed decision on this complicated topic. FPIC also needs to provide clearer communication and disclosure about the current and future opportunity costs of REDD+/NRP (i.e. the economic benefits that come from forestry activities may be greater than from REDD+).

		<p>3. There is still a lack of <i>quality data</i> to inform environmental improvement, FPIC processes and REDD+ implementation</p> <p>4. There is a risk that REDD+ activities will intensify poverty issues rather than help alleviate them, as forest resources are not as available for use.</p> <p><u>National REDD Program (NRP)</u></p> <p>1. Most forest areas are managed by the State and little by local communities. This makes REDD+ difficult to implement in Viet Nam, as it relates to benefit sharing</p> <p>2. Land use rights for ethnic minorities are lacking. These groups don't have a certificate of ownership. This could hinder the implementation of REDD+.</p> <p>3. Governance arrangements to ensure equitable distribution of REDD+ funds are insufficient. Currently, fund distribution mechanisms are not strong, decentralized or transparent enough to ensure that funds reach those their intended source (e.g. those involved in protecting the forest or disadvantaged by being unable to utilize forest resources). This is particularly a risk for vulnerable people such as ethnic minorities, women and the disabled.</p> <p>4. Although REDD+ brings financial profits for community involved, but it also causes risks "ellipse capture": (some people save forests, do not give forest to government), that may cause "devolution/decentralization".</p>
3	<p>Briefly describe the level of stakeholder involvement in the planning and implementation of the programme / policy (parliament, civil society, media, academia, affected / targeted communities)</p>	<p>There has been good stakeholder consultation during UN REDD+ and NRP planning and implementation</p> <p>Institutional arrangements to support stakeholder involvement in the development and review of UN REDD strategies have been developed. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The National Steering Committee (chaired by the Prime Minister) - REDD+ technical working groups (co-chaired by a donor) - The National REDD Network (est. 2009) stakeholder forum chaired by the Government, with participants including Government departments and agencies, international organizations, and non-

		<p>government organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCWG engagement - Public-Private partnerships (e.g. Ford Foundation)
4	<p>Has a human rights-based approach or have social safeguards been applied (such as prior informed consent?), and if so how?</p>	<p>Pilot FPIC programs were implemented in the Lam Dong province in 2010 by UN REDD FPIC is designed so that local authorities, communities and (local) people, including ethnic minorities actively participate in the design and implementation of REDD+ measures, and give their consent to such measures; and that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) actively participate in designing and implementing REDD+ measures The FPIC process is expected to be expanded in the next stage of the programme.</p>
5	<p>Have gender equality perspectives or approaches that include indigenous peoples been applied in the policy / programme?</p>	<p>The UN REDD FPIC process aims to engage a range of local peoples (including ethnic minorities) give their consent to REDD+ and participate in the design and implementation of REDD+ measures. However, discussion of the social impacts of REDD+, particularly in regards to gender, can be weak. REDD+ has been criticized for not taking full account of the differentiated rights, roles and responsibilities of men and women, and promote gender equality and equity⁴.</p>
6	<p>Are the groups most vulnerable to and affected by climate change targeted – and reached? Consider geographic, gender, social / livelihood criteria, indigenous peoples etc.</p>	<p>Yes. This programme aims to engage a diverse range of people who would be most affected by the programme (e.g. ethnic minorities, women). However, engagement of these groups will be impeded by their lack of available time and base knowledge as well as challenges such as remoteness and language</p>
7	<p>Which policy/programme changes would you like to achieve? List up to five key recommendations of your climate network on this policy/programme</p>	<p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the development of technical and participatory skills and knowledge of both UN REDD+ and NRP staff 2. Advocate for improved FPIC processes that provide sufficient time for considered decision-making 3. Encourage an increase in the quantity and quality of data being gathered to support informed decision

⁴ Gurung, J. and Quesada, A (2009): *Gender-differentiated Impacts of REDD to be addressed in REDD Social Standards*. CARE Denmark

		<p>making</p> <p><u>NRP</u></p> <p>4. Support improvements in governance arrangements. This includes stronger decentralization, transparency and integration with existing programmes to support effective use of funds and to ensure that the people who the funds are intended for, receive them</p> <p>5. Advocate for independent evaluation, particularly in regard to REDD+'s impact on vulnerable people</p>
C	<p>Resources and expertise for the network to engage in advocacy on the policy/programme: Documentation and evidence, expertise, mobilization <i>Maximum 120 words or 5 bullet points in each. Skip if not relevant. Add extra comments if needed</i></p>	
1	Is the network and its member organizations already working on influencing this policy-/programme, and if so how	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Individual CCWG members are inputting into the new programme by engaging directly with developers, however, the network does not have a coordinated approach</p>
2	Are affected local communities, social organizations or indigenous peoples organizations engaged?	<p>Yes. This is mainly occurring through the FPIC process and stakeholder consultation.</p>
3	List evidence and documentation which the network can use to support its recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annex 3 – case studies - Thuy, P.P. (2011) REDD+ politics in the media. A case study from Viet Nam. CIFOR - UN (2011) <i>UN REDD Program. 2010 Year in Review</i>. United Nations, Geneva. - Gurung, J. and Quesada, A (2009): <i>Gender-differentiated Impacts of REDD to be addressed in REDD Social Standards</i>. CARE Denmark - UN REDD (2011) <i>Brief on the status of a National REDD++ Programme Strategy: For consultation</i>. UN
4	Does the network have the necessary expertise and resources to engage effectively in advocacy on this policy/programme	<p>The CCWG has good experience in the REDD+ area. The mitigation sub-group has members with specific skills and experience in this area.</p> <p>The network is aware of the need to work as a collective in advocacy efforts on REDD+; however this is yet to occur</p>

		More generally, the CCWG was established in 2008. It has experience and knowledge in a range of climate change areas. There is a need for the group to develop their expertise in advocacy, particularly in planning, coordination and monitoring and evaluation
5	List ideas and proposals for the network regarding this policy/programme (further investigation, harnessing external expertise, raising awareness, mobilization, alliances, media work...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper which clarifies the similarities and differences in climate change and disaster management and identifies opportunities for short, medium and long term coordination in Viet Nam. • Preparation of a case study that demonstrates to GoV how climate change and disaster management can be integrated and what the benefits of this integration would be • Prepare an integration plan to support the development of a stronger formal working relationship with the DMWG • Develop of case studies to better understand how to effectively engage vulnerable groups and ensure that they are not further disadvantaged by REDD+ • Raise awareness in local communities of REDD+ to facilitate better engagement during FPIC processes
6	What support would strengthen the ability and effectiveness of the network to work on advocacy on this policy (list key areas)?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Funding for above 2. Funding to support CCWG members to attend events, conferences, meetings where there are opportunities to advocate for Strategy improvements on behalf of the working group 3. Advocacy training and planning workshops with members of the DMWG 4. Development of CCWG and DMWG sub-committee to support joint advocacy, with a view to integrate the groups in the future

Annex 3: Case studies – Viet Nam

Case study 1: Joint Advocacy Network Initiative (JANI) in Viet Nam: A joint effort to ensure CBDRM initiatives are included on the National agenda.

JANI is a joint action initiative between the European Commission, CARE International in Viet Nam and 14 partners (mainly INGOs and mass organisations in Viet Nam) that work in the field of Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM). It aims to strengthen CBDRM advocacy, information sharing and coordination through effective networking and joint initiatives.

With the support of Humanitarian Aid department of the European Commission (ECHO), JANI has been in existence since 2007. It has now entered phase III as of July 2010 which is due for completion by September 2011. JANI is coordinated by CARE International in Viet Nam.

For the last 15 years, several INGOS have been implementing various CBDRM models in Viet Nam focusing their action mainly at commune and village level. Setting up a joint network of organizations working closely with the government has been instrumental to advocate for the replication of good practice models. The most noticeable result in advocacy around Disaster Risk Management was that the government decided in 2009 to issue the Prime Minister's decision 1002 that aims to scale up CBDRM activities in two thirds of the communes in Viet Nam. This decision recognizes the work undertaken in the field by the INGOS in Viet Nam and highlights the importance of involving the communities in DRR.

JANI members now work closely with the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) and other stakeholders such as UNDP or the World Bank to develop the "building blocks" of this ambitious program (development of national, provincial and commune guidelines, standardization of training packages and drafting of a Monitoring and Evaluation framework to name a few). This work is organized through a CBDRM technical working group co-chaired by the DMC and UNDP from which several task forces have been set up to work on discrete building blocks. It is foreseen that this technical working group will be an important component of the forthcoming National platform on DRR and CCA.

In addition JANI has been invited by government to provide input on several important policy documents such as the draft national platform as well as the draft law on DRR scheduled to be passed at the end of 2012. As part of its action plan and with the support of UNDP, JANI will gather the voices of communities and feed this information in to the process of developing the draft DRR law. Some members of the drafting committee of the National assembly will be invited to gather the feedback of the local communities into the draft of the DRR law.

More recently, as part of its annual work plan, JANI developed linkages between the organizations that have been involved in the implementation of school based DRR models at community level. Those organizations are now working closely with the MoET to develop a set of Information Education and Communications (IEC) materials that aim to mainstream DRR and Climate Change into the current formal curriculum. This national initiative seeks the involvement of schools that will pilot the materials developed through the JANI project before their approval by the Ministry.

Every year JANI supports the celebration of the national and international DRR days as a means to convey key advocacy messages to the government and to the donors. The media are also a strong ally of the network. This year JANI chose a common advocacy message drawn from the results of the recently completed *“Views from the front line survey”*.⁵ The survey has involved most of the JANI members and was conducted in 17 provinces (of the 63 provinces in Viet Nam). The survey evaluated the community perception regarding the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action– a major international agreement on disaster risk reduction. One of the key findings was the lack of funding allocated to the local level for the implementation of CBDRM activities. *“Invest today for a safer tomorrow, increased investment in local action”* was therefore the key message selected by JANI for the 2011 national of the DRR day in Viet Nam. JANI will continue to advocate for the voice of vulnerable communities for DRR activities in Viet Nam.

As mentioned by the Vice Minister Dao Xuan Hoc (from MARD) during his speech to launch the DRR day in Da Nang province this year: *“INGOs bring little funds but their input in the setting up of the national CBDRM program is very much appreciated”*.

⁵ *“View from the front line”* is an initiative of the Global network of civil society organizations for disaster reduction that gathers views on progress in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) from several communities in the World.

Case Study 2: Sustainable livelihoods coping with climate change

Sustainable Rural Development (SRD) has undertaken studies that reveal the vulnerabilities and needs of poor communities in four provinces in Viet Nam's northern mountainous region.

Recently, many donors and other development organisations working to address climate change in Viet Nam have tended to focus their attention on *southern* Viet Nam, partly because rising sea-levels are expected to result in vast areas of low coastal land and infrastructure being lost in the Mekong region of Viet Nam by the end of this century.

However, through SRD's experience working in *northern* Viet Nam, we are seeing strong evidence that Viet Nam's coastal regions are by no means the only part of the country to be affected by climate change. Climate change is already having significant negative impacts among poor communities in Viet Nam's northern mountainous areas.

Poor people living in remote rural areas are among the most vulnerable to climate change impacts, because they rely so heavily on natural resources – such as arable land for farming, and clean water for good health – and because they are least able to rebuild their homes and livelihoods if they are hit by natural disasters.

Viet Nam is still in the early stages of gathering information about how specific communities will be affected, and what is needed to assist them to adapt. Information about climatic trends over past decades and projected future climate change scenarios, where it is available, tends to be at a national or regional level. It is a challenge to find information at the local level that grassroots communities can use and act upon.

SRD is a Vietnamese NGO with strong connections at the grassroots level in Viet Nam's northern and central mountainous region. We recognise that all the communities we work with are likely to face additional challenges to their livelihoods due to impacts of climate change.

In order to find out how exactly local people in rural mountainous areas are experiencing the impacts of climate change, what their particular vulnerabilities are, and to work out how best to support them to adapt, SRD has conducted climate change needs assessments in five different provinces in northern Viet Nam.

SRD conducted a preliminary climate change needs assessment in Bac Kan province in 2009, and following the success of this research, the methodology was extended to four more provinces in 2010: Hoa Binh, Thai Nguyen, Quang Ninh and Yen Bai.

The studies took a sustainable livelihoods approach. The main methodology used was participatory rural appraisal (PRA) which allows local people to take a central role in reporting how the climate has been changing, identifying how this is impacting on their livelihoods, and developing solutions and coping strategies together. Government authorities at the provincial, district and commune level were also consulted.

Recognising that climate change impacts cannot be analysed in a vacuum, without reference to the many other challenges faced by farmers, the research teams focused in particular on three key interlinked factors that can contribute to the sustainability of livelihoods:

- land entitlements and management

- water resources and sanitation
- value chains / access markets.

There was found to be a close correlation between farmers' resilience to the impacts of climate change and their level of access to land, water and markets.

All the farmers and government officials had a certain level of awareness about the impacts of climate change, even if they did not have a strong understanding of the science of it. Participants reported experiencing a wide range of different changes in the weather and the climate in recent years, including worsening water shortages, higher and more unpredictable temperatures, and more frequent extremely heavy rainfall that results in landslides and soil erosion. Other less direct impacts included increasing incidence of pests in crops and diseases in livestock.

Participants were able to make the link between these events and negative effects on their livelihoods. Climate change-related impacts are affecting not only local people's agricultural productivity, but also their food security and health.

An important focus of the study was to learn about how local people are already adapting to these changes. Many households and communities are indeed modifying their livelihoods in various ways to attempt to cope with climate change impacts, for example shifting from rice to less water-dependent crops such as maize, or moving homes and assets to a location less vulnerable to flash flooding.

However, significant gaps were identified in local knowledge about coping strategies, and capacity to adapt in the long-term. Some coping mechanisms even have the potential to increase vulnerability, for example many farmers are increasing their use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides – partly in an effort to combat rising levels of disease in their crops, but also due to other facts such as the promotion of subsidised hybrid varieties. Such 'maladaptation' is damaging to human health, soil and water quality and biodiversity, and has the potential to undermine crop productivity in the long term.

Some farmers who have enough land, capital and good local infrastructure are making the transition from subsistence farming to cultivating cash-crops, and this brings them opportunities for a more sustainable future. However, it also brings new challenges and requires particular skills and resources that farmers whose main experience is subsistence rice farming do not yet have.

The reports conclude that interventions supporting rural communities to adapt to climate change will be most effective if they take into account the full range of interlinked factors which contribute to vulnerability. Building resilient livelihoods in the face of climate change may mean:

- improving access to, and management of, natural resources – including land, water and forests – so they can continue to sustain livelihoods into the future and to ensure development is not undermined by environmental degradation
- being better prepared for natural disasters in the short-term, but also diversifying into different livelihoods in the long-term, so that if one livelihood activity is adversely affected, households have an alternative source of income
- not only increasing the quality and quantity of agricultural outputs, but also improving farmers' ability to get a good income from their products by supporting them to add value to their goods post-harvest and negotiate a fair price

The results of this study clearly show that if local communities are not supported to adapt their livelihoods to cope with the impacts of climate change, there is a risk not only that poverty will get worse, but also that the stability of Viet Nam's economy and environment will be threatened.

SRD is using the information and recommendations generated from these climate change needs assessments to develop projects to support communities in mountainous areas to develop more sustainable and resilient livelihoods. It is intended that lessons learned from these activities will then be extended to support other rural communities whose livelihoods are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Case Study 3 – Strengthen and Develop Farmer Rice Seed System in Bac Kan Province

This case study provides an overview of one of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development's recent projects. It provides background to the project and then focuses on the advocacy component, and the successful results which were achieved here.

PROJECT PURPOSE: To develop and strengthen traditional rice seed systems to help farmers adapt to climate change and to support sustainable agriculture in Viet Nam.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The project had three main objectives:

- a) Improving capacity of rice seed production for more farmers, especially farmers and women in villages and communes, to improve household income and sustainable develop agriculture and reduce poverty;
- b) Supporting farmers to gradually adapt to the impacts and implications of WTO integration. In particular, government's seed price subsidy is totally abolished and farmers will have to manage their own rice and seed production according to local, national and international market forces;
- c) Advocating for policy change in order that the government recognizes farmers' role in seed production, supports them in seed production to serve local demand, and at the same time supports the certification of some varieties of seed crossbred by farmers that are suitable to local conditions.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

In 2005, SRD started working on the project "Building Farmer Group's capacity in Sustainable community rice varieties" in Bac Kan Province, with the aim of improving livelihoods and social capital of farmers, especially the poor and women, through the strengthening and development of farmer rice seed systems. This project result made a contribution to utilizing, strengthening and diversifying local purebred varieties of rice in 20 out of the province's total 122 communes. However, the number of farmers who directly participated in the project, as well as the farmers who acquired technical knowledge from key farmers, made up only 3 – 5% of Bac Kan Province's population, and due to the challenges in mountainous terrain accessibility farmer-to-farmer knowledge spread was limited.

Therefore, in 2008 – 2011, SRD ran Phase 2 of this project, titled "Strengthen and Develop Farmer Rice Seed System in Bac Kan Province". This project had a strong focus on assisting farmers to adapt to climate change impacts.

Climate change exacerbates vulnerabilities in farming communities, due to increased droughts and unstable water availability, more intense and heavy rain and flash flooding, and the increasing spread of diseases.

Some current farming practices also contribute to the emission of greenhouse gases. Wet farming practices with flooded rice paddies lead emit methane, and chemical fertilizers release nitrous oxide.

KEY PROJECT ACTORS:

The main local project partner was the Sub-Department of Plant Protection of Bac Kan province. Other organizations that were involved include the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development of Bac

Kan, the Centre of Crop Seeds and Agricultural Materials, and the Agricultural Extensionists and Scientists.

The direct beneficiaries of the project were the participating farmers in the Bac Kan province, and indirect beneficiaries those farmers who were trained by participating farmers.

WHOLE OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES:

a) Build capacity of farmers to:

- apply PGR and SRI
- do better business planning;
- negotiate, sign contracts

b) Share experiences by:

- developing manuals
- disseminating results in media
- running rice seed fairs and workshops

c) Promote a supportive policy environment by bringing farmers and government authorities together to:

- Advocate development of guidelines for the Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Law
- Encourage government to certify varieties created and selected by farmers and reduce hybrid varieties in use

ADVOCACY FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION LAW:

The diversification of local rice varieties is important in assisting farmers to adapt to climate change impacts because it minimizes the risks of pests and diseases that can damage crops, and means rice varieties can be selected which are well suited to the local terrains and conditions, and are resistant to unusual weather changes, droughts and floods.

Certification of local varieties also reduces farmers' dependence on imported rice varieties, allows control over seed quality, which is particularly important for poor farmers doing small-scale production.

Advocacy was a strong element of the project. The project aimed to lobby government for issuing Plant Variety Protection (PVP) Laws and to support certification for farmers selected varieties.

During the implementation of the project, many meetings, workshops and field days were held in which farmers and technicians shared information and advocate results to local authorities.

The community joined existing national and regional networks on farmer rice seed systems to share experiences and lessons learnt through experimentation, and to broaden farmers, technicians and scientists' knowledge and experience.

The advocacy efforts of the project resulted in the following outcomes:

- Two rice varieties selected by farmers were certified by the province in 2009, named Mutative Khang Dan and KBN. The Plant Protection Sub-Department is continuing to research with the aim of selecting more local rice varieties for certification by the province.

- Farmer networks have provided an opportunity not only for farmers, but also for technician and extension staff to share experience, as well as to learn from each other. Through the network, farmers have more chances to consult with the technicians on their agricultural production.
- The participation in the provincial workshops, steering committee meeting and feedback meetings of policy makers, authorities at all level, seed producing agency and the scientists has created a direct dialogue and discussion about plans for developing local rice seed cultivation. The policy perspective of policy makers have changed gradually. In 2011, government ceased supporting hybrid rice seed and instead they provide funding for the farmers to choose the type of rice seed they will produce. Bac Kan province also produces local rice seeds. The policy direction is to support FFS farmer groups of the project to produce local rice seed. This support ensures the reduction of risk and helps to gain rapid success as well as sustainability for rice production.
- Provincial Working Group has been providing certification training in sampling and testing seed quality. They will continue to help producers in evaluating rice seed selected as well as implementing activities related to the same in accordance with the provisions on plant variety protection laws.

Project results and the rice seed production techniques were also well disseminated to a large number of famers in the province. A series of six articles on the research results, field trials, and workshops were released in the Bac Kan newspaper, with 16 provincial television broadcasts, and 4 CDs produced. The project results have also been presented at domestic and international conferences.
