



**Seminar on Sustainable Development Goals
Sustainable Development Goals in Asia and Europe.
Localising the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Millennium Development Goals Lessons for Sustainable Transition: Vietnam Experience

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Sustainable Development Policy Framework

National Sustainable Development Policy Framework

Sustainable development has become a main direction of the Government of Vietnam (GoV), expressing by:

- In 1992, GoV approved a “**National Plan for Environment and Sustainable Development 1991–2000: Framework for Action**”.
- In 8/2004, the **Strategic Orientation for Sustainable Development (Vietnam Agenda 21)** was approved. It is a framework strategy, including major orientations as the legal basis for the ministries, branches, localities, organizations and individuals concerned to implement and coordinate actions to ensure sustainable development country in the 21st century.
- In 2012, the Prime Minister of GoV approved **Vietnam Sustainable Development Strategy** in period 2011 – 2020
- **The Socio-Economic Development Strategy (SEDS)** for 2011–2020 states “rapid development in close linkage with sustainable development represents an all-thru requirement in the Strategy”

Agenda 21 Implementation

To achieve the goals of Agenda 21, Viet Nam established an institutional framework:

- **The National Council on Sustainable Development (NCSD)** was established in September 2005 (and then strengthened in February 2009), mandated to advise the Prime Minister, to guide the implementation of the Vietnam Agenda 21 at the national scale, and to monitor and assess the implementation of sustainable development objectives in the country
- **Sustainable Development Offices** have also been set up at the ministerial and local levels (Government of Vietnam, 2012). In addition, Viet Nam has established the **Vietnam Business Council on Sustainable Development (VBCSD)**.
- **A Sustainable Development Office in the Ministry of Planning and Investment- MPI**, which serves as the standing office of the NCSD.

SD monitoring indicators (2011 – 2020)

General Indicators	Economic Indicators	Social Indicators	Environmental Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green GDP - Human Development Index (HDI) - Environmental Sustainability Index (ESI) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incremental Capital - Output Ratio. - The productivity of social labor. - The share contribution of total factor productivity growth in general. - Reduction of energy consumption to produce a unit of GDP. - The proportion of renewable energy in energy consumption structure. - Consumer Price Index (CPI). - The current balance. - The state budget deficit. - Liabilities of government. - Foreign liabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poverty rate. - Unemployment rate. - Percentage of trained workers - Coefficient of inequality in income distribution (Gini - The sex ratio at birth. - The number of students per 10,000 inhabitants. - The number of Internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants. - The percentage of people got social insurance, medical insurance, unemployment insurance. - The death toll from traffic accidents per 100,000 inhabitants. - Proportion of communes gained new rural criteria. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forest cover. - The percentage of protected land - The area of degraded land. - Reduction of ground water and surface water. - The percentage of days with concentrations of toxic substances in the air exceeds the permitted standards. - The percentage of urban areas, industrial zones, export processing zones and industrial solid waste treatment, wastewater gained national standards or national technical regulations - The percentage of solid waste collection and treatment

Achievements, lessons learnt and challenges in MDGs implementation

VIET NAM - 2/3 OF THE WAY ACHIEVING MDGs

Goal 1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger (Achieved)



Goal 2. Universal primary education (Achieved)



Goal 3. Promote gender equality and empower women (Achieved)



Goal 4. Reduce child mortality (Nearly achieved)



Goal 5. Improve maternal health (Achieved)



Goal 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other disease (Partially achieved)



Goal 7. Ensure environment sustainability (Partially achieved)



Goal 8. Develop global partnership for development (Partially achieved)



Goal 7. Ensure environmental sustainability



Millennium Development Goal:

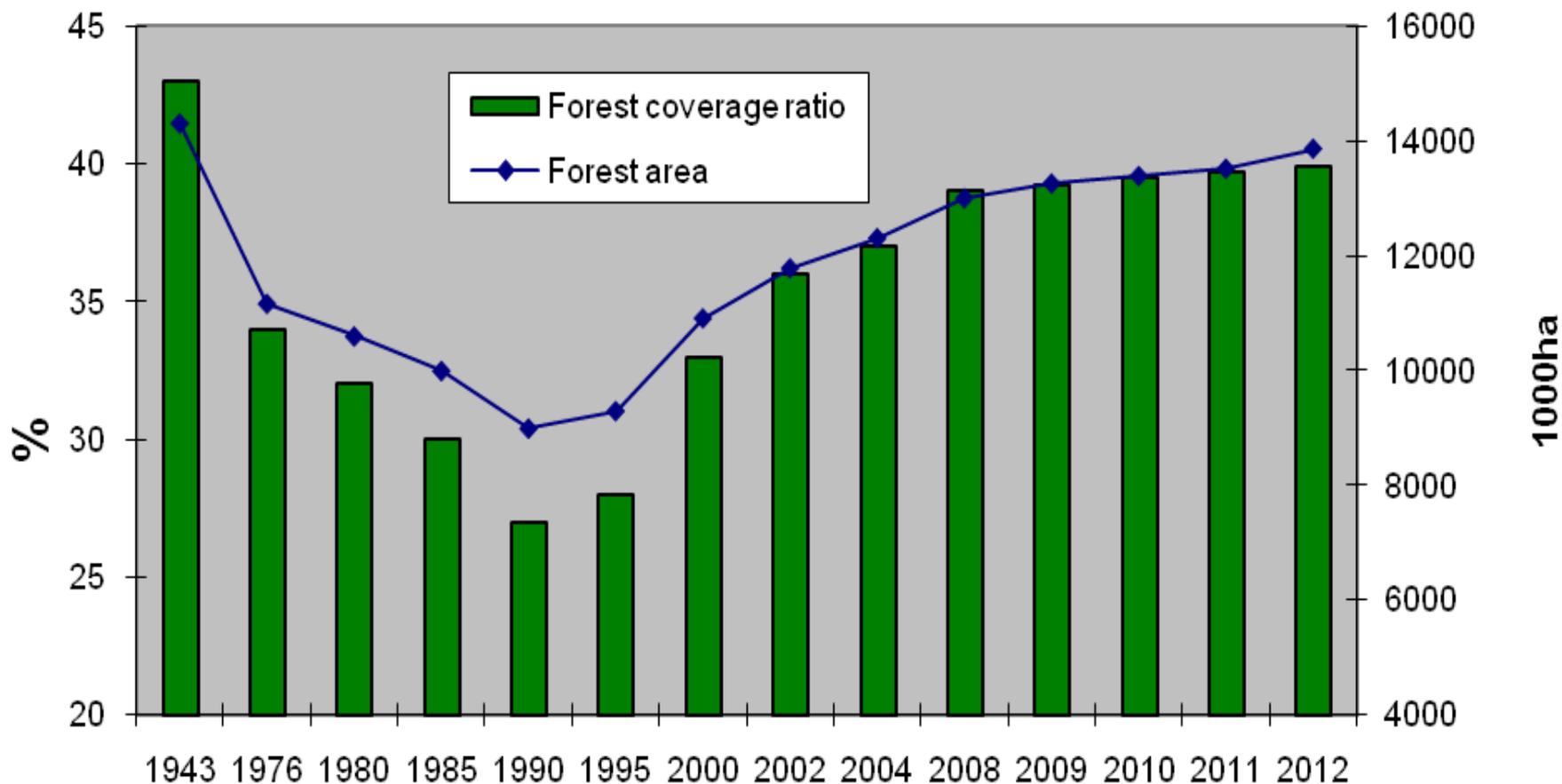
- ❖ Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programs
- ❖ Reverse the loss of environmental resources, achieving a significant reduction in the rate of loss
- ❖ Reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
- ❖ Achieve significant improvements in the lives of slum dwellers.

Goal 7. Achievements

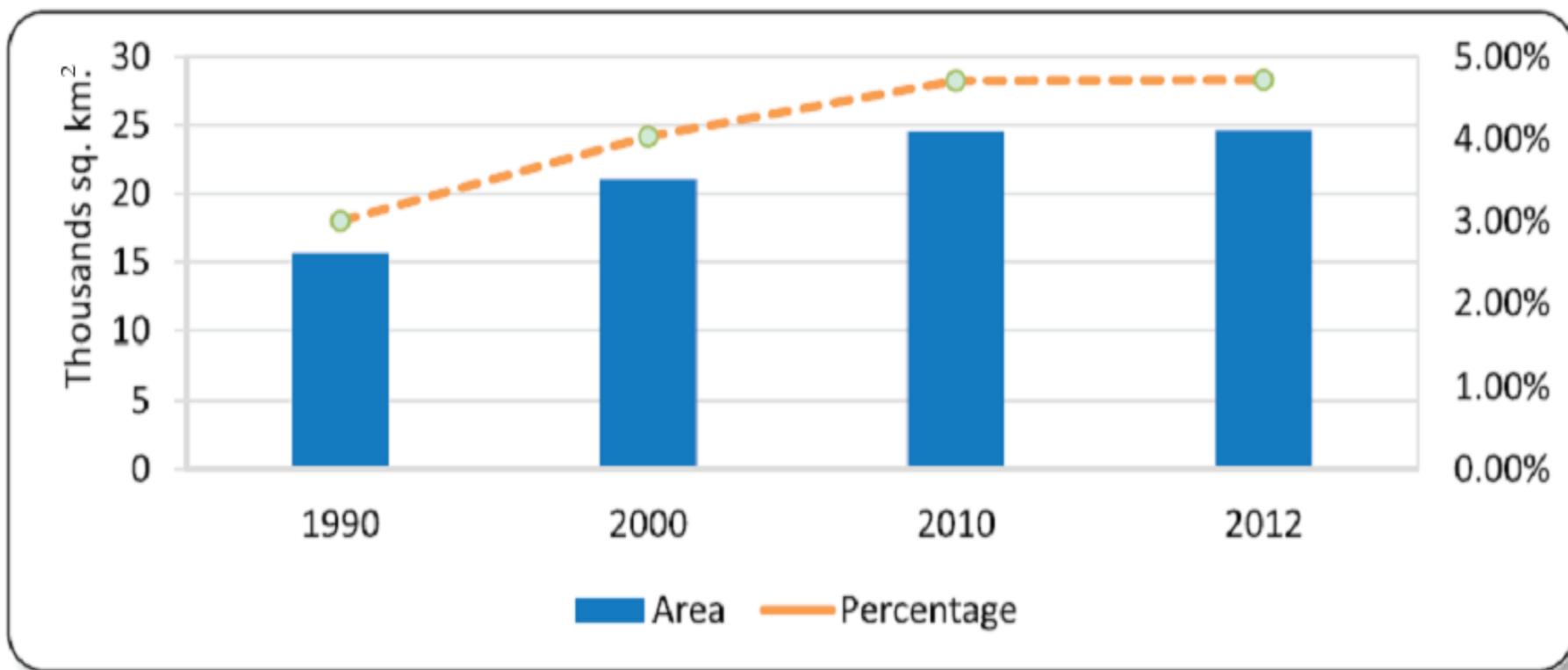
Integration of sustainable development principles:

- Sustainable development/environmental protection principles have been integrated into policies and programs: into National Socio-Economic Development Strategies 2001-2010; 2011-2020; sectoral and local development policies and plans.
- National budget expenditure on environment has been increased

Forest: Increase in area and coverage due to aforestation effort



Increase in protected area



Source: GoV, Country Report, 15 years achieving MDGs, September 2015

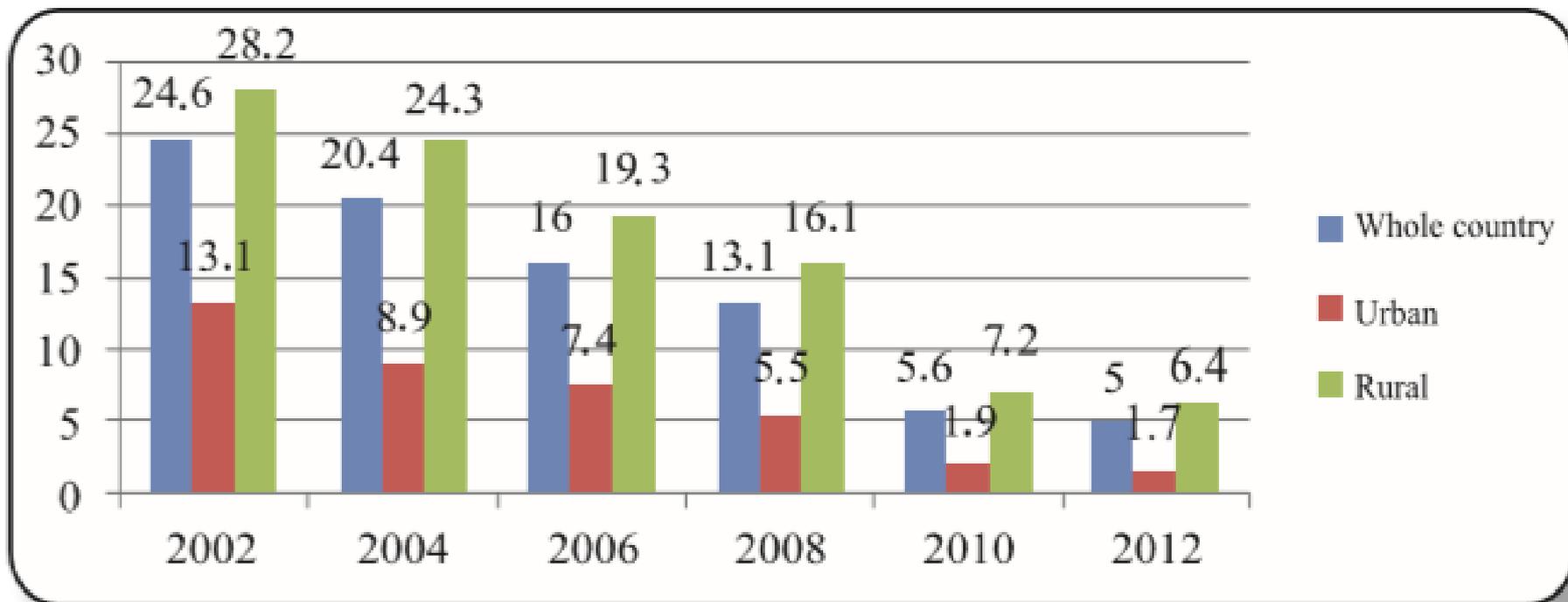
Improvement in sanitation and clean water supply

- Share of rural population having access to clean water	30% (1990)	87.4%	82.5% (2013)
- Share of rural households having sanitary toilets	20% (1990)	67.1%	60% (2013)

Source: GoV, Country Report, 15 years achieving MDGs, September 2015

Improvement in housing for the poor people

Proportion of households living in temporary and non-permanent housing (%)



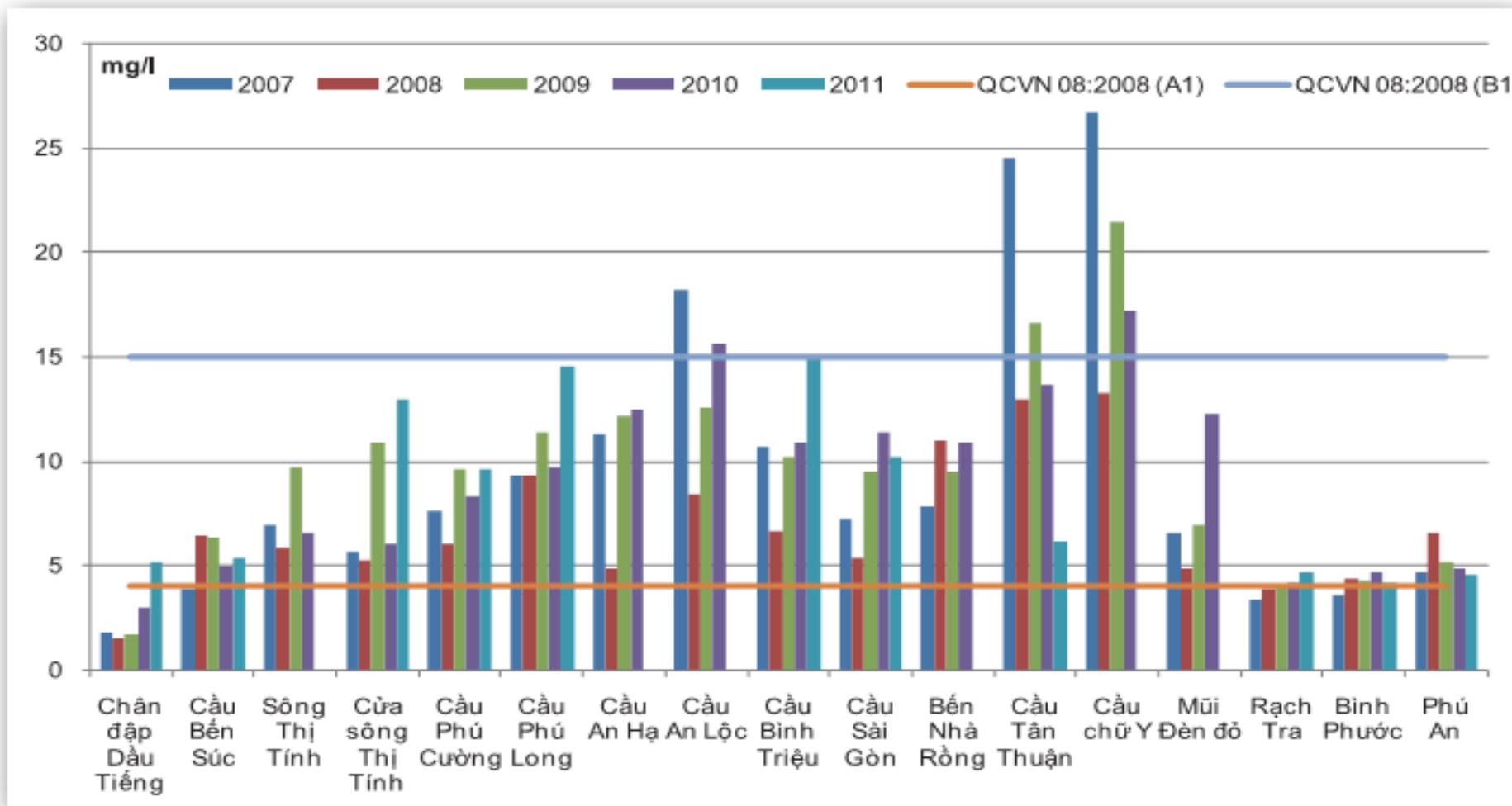
Source: GoV, Country Report, 15 years achieving MDGs, September 2015

Environmental Issues and Challenges

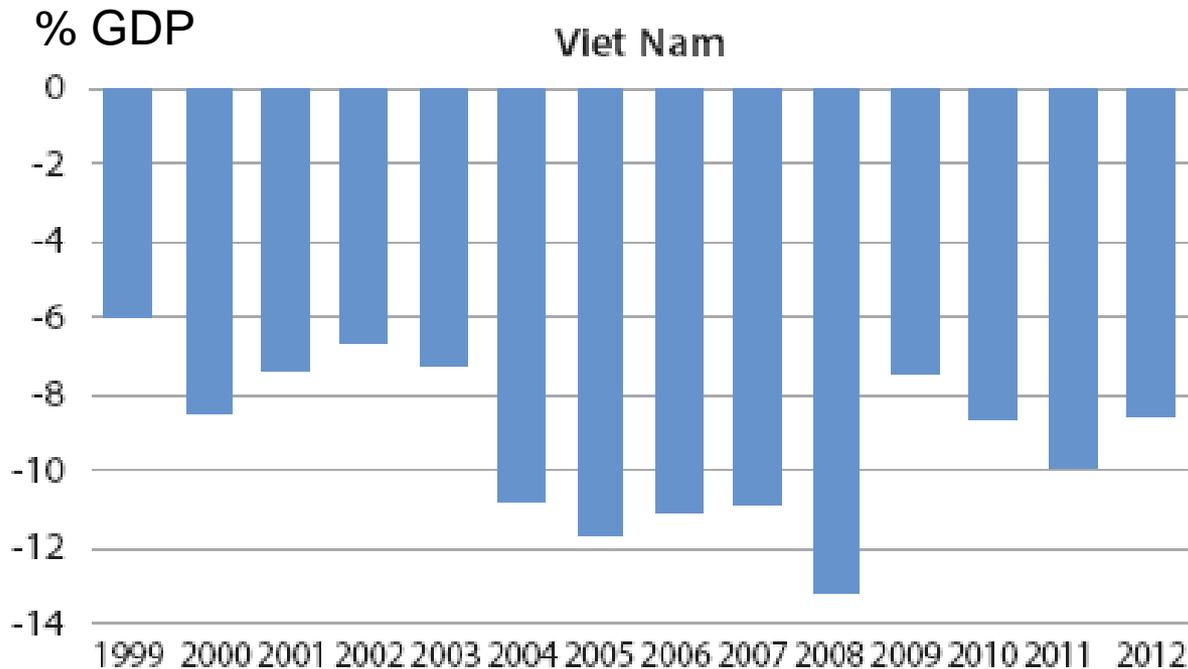
- 1. Environmental pollution and degradation are continuing and increasing*
- 2. Natural resources have been depleted due to unsustainable exploitation and inefficient use*
- 3. Biodiversity declines*
- 4. Climate change impacts*

Water pollution has not been resolved

Surface water is polluted: BOD5 in Sai Gon River 2007-2011



Natural capital has been depleted



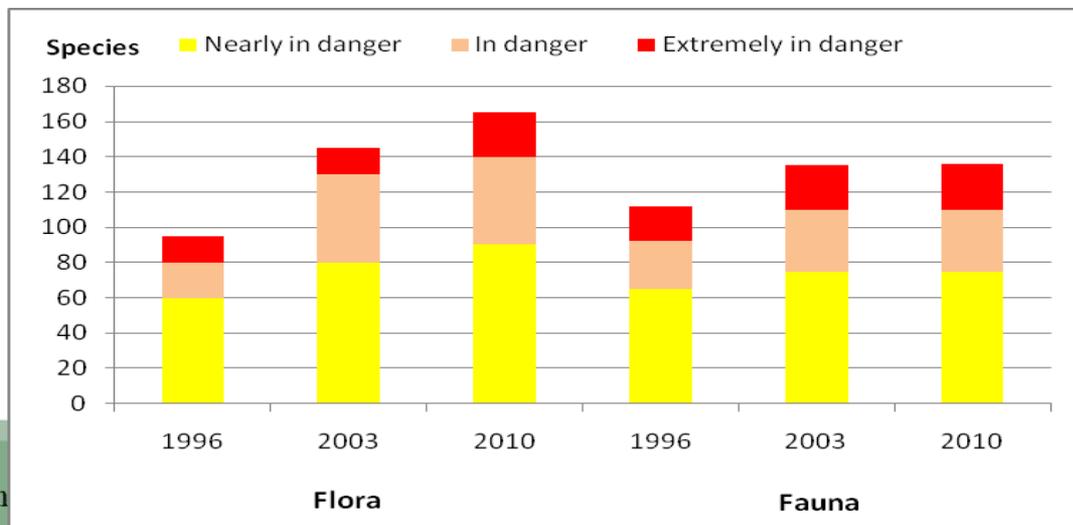
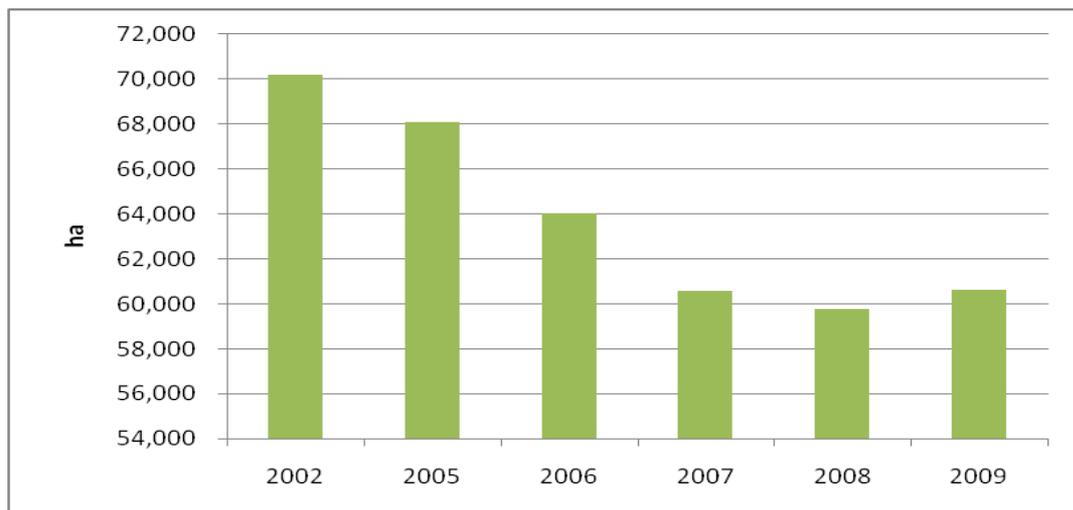
Note: Natural capital depletion is computed as the sum of net forest depletion, energy depletion, mineral depletion and particulate emission damage; all components are expressed as % of GDP.

Source: OECD, *Toward Green Growth in South East Asia, 2014*

Biodiversity decline

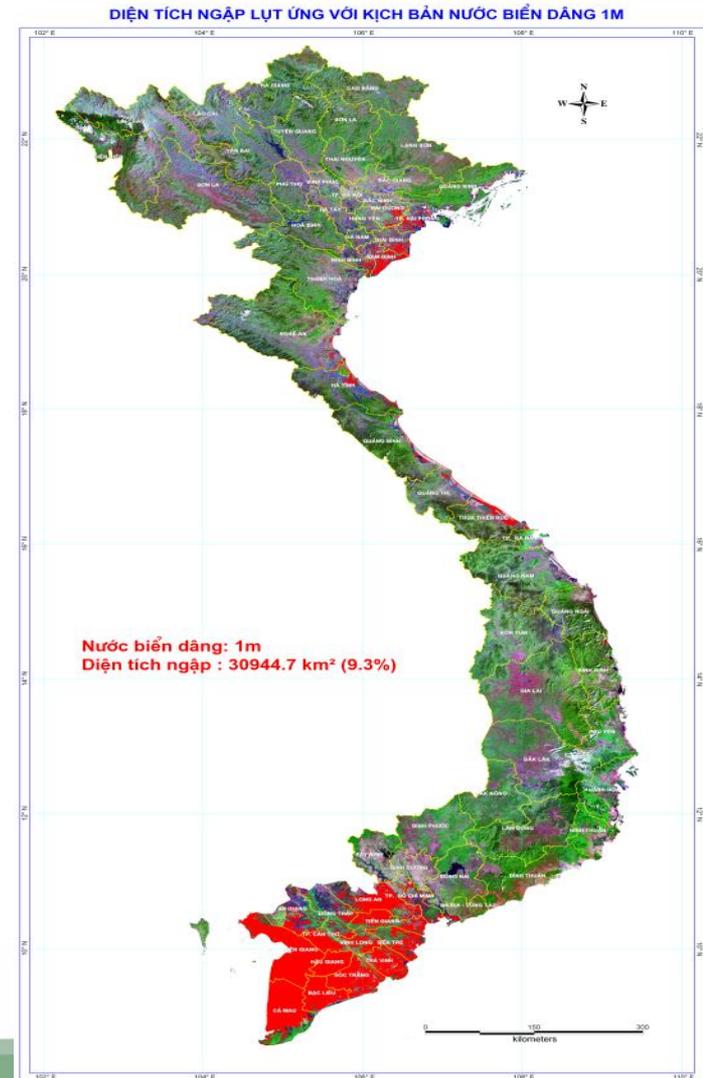
- Degradation of ecosystems (mangrove)
- Number of wild animal in the Red Book is increasing. Some of species have recently declared for disappeared
- Some alien plants and animal imported: red ear turtles, mai duong, oc buou vang...

Source: Viet Nam Environment Administration, 2012



Vietnam is one of the most seriously impacted countries by CC

- Within past 50 years, the average temperature has increased by about 0,5 - 0,7°C.
- Average sea level has risen about 20 cm over past 50 years. Saltwater intrusion occurs along the coast of Vietnam with different levels
- Natural disasters will be more and more complex, uncertainty, unpredictable, unexpected.
- Annual losses caused by natural disasters around 1.5% of GDP.



Some lessons learnt for success

- The GoV has been implementing different National Target Programs (NTP) on: afforestation; clean water supply and sanitation to rural area; new rural development; program on housing supports to the poor...
- Giving priorities and mobilizing resources in implementing these NTP: increasing national budget; mobilizing international supports from donors; involve participation of communities in the implementation of programs.

Reasons for failures

- Economic growth model has not been a sustainable one: relied on natural resources exploitation, capital investment and cheap labour.
- Although SD principles are integrated into policies, sense of responsibilities on environment protection are still low. Priorities are given to economic growth and ignorance of EP.
- Enforcement of legislations and policy in many cases has been very weak. Fines on the violations have not been strong enough.
- Investment for EP have still been limited: There are big needs for treatment of wastewater, solid waste..., but resources are not available and can not meet the demand.
- There are still constraints in institutional system: not clear division of responsibilities, overlaps in functions and task... between ministries, between national and local levels; legislations system is not complete, still lacking various regulations.

Some key challenges for SDGs implementation

- Three key constraints for development: (i) institutional and legislations system; (ii) infrastructure system; (iii) human resources .
- The threat of being trapped in small-scale, low-value added manufacturing economy
- Population growth and rapid urbanization cause big pressure development
- Challenge from regional and international integration
- Increasing impacts of climate change

Proposing orientation for VSDGs implementation

Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet. Securing Means of Implementation in Viet Nam

PROCESS:

- Team of national researchers
- Sectoral consultations
- Setting focus points:
 - + **Poverty:** multidimensional poverty
 - + **Agriculture:** rice production
 - + **Energy:** electrification
- Identifying policy gaps and looking into possible actions to address it

ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM

Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet
Securing Means of
Implementation in Viet Nam



Key findings

- Poverty should be re-defined in multidimensional poverty concept.
- Rice land-use should be flexible to promote large-scale production; Good farming practice VietGAP should be promoted.
- *Electrification should be promoted through action plans, transparent electricity pricing and financing policies; involvement of international partners, PPP and financial mechanism such as preferential micro-credits to rural villagers.*

Orientations for SDGs

- The GoV should strive forward to achieving unfinished MDG goals; matching as much as possible already existing NTP programme documents
- The economic growth model should be re-structured: growth should be based on technology innovations, rational and efficient use of resources. Restructuring the economy towards green growth and sustainable development
- Implementing measures to overcome 3 key challenges: (i) institutional; (ii) infrastructure and; (iii) human resources.

Orientations for SDGs

- Developing Sustainable Development Goals/Objectives consistent with the social economic context of Vietnam (VSDGs) and implement the action program for VSDGs
- Integrating VSDGs into all socio-economic and sectoral development policies plans at national and local level.
- Mobilizing resources for VSDGs implementation through NTPs; interational supports and involvement of all stakeholders including communities.
- Development of monitoring system of VSDGs; promoting effective enforcement systems to SDGs implementation.
- Raising awareness for SDGs, VSDGs of all stakeholders in the society: management agencies, enterprises, communities.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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