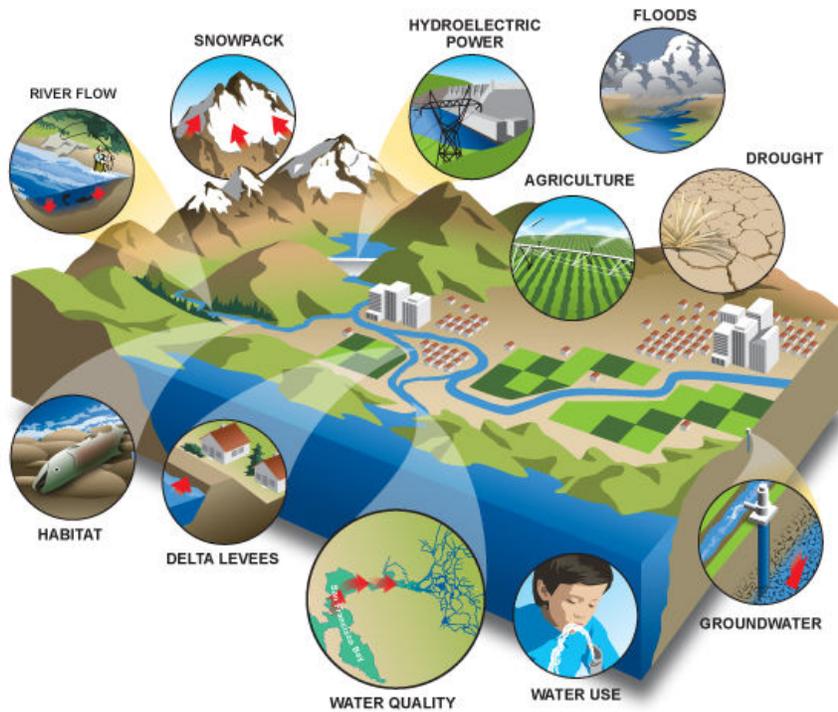


# Final Report

## Climate Change Working Group Capacity Building Needs Assessment Workshop on Climate Change

Hanoi June 2008.



## **1. The needs for a communal Climate Change program**

The NGO Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) was formed in February 2008 in recognition that Vietnam is likely to be significantly affected by climate change. NGOs have a role to play in providing and supporting a localised response. The group aims to contribute to a reduction in the vulnerability of poor people in Vietnam to the impacts of climate change through environmentally and economically sustainable and socially just responses to climate change. This is to be achieved through activities focusing on NGO coordination, advocacy and capacity building under the four priority themes of Policy, Adaptation, Mitigation and, Awareness and Behaviour Change.

Capacity building has been identified as a core objective for the CCWG. The mix of activities and actions will ensure that NGOs in Vietnam are trained in the science of climate change, have knowledge on potential local/community impacts of climate change, and have an appropriate mix of tools to drive adaptation programmes, develop mitigation projects, and have access to support for individual NGO's climate change activities. The CCWG plans to meet these objectives by developing and delivering a program of capacity building events tailored to the needs of member of the CCWG throughout 2008/2009. An initiating Capacity Building Needs Assessment Workshop on Climate Change was held on the 1st of July 2008; as an outcome this draft report synthesises the outputs being a step towards designing a comprehensive program.

## **2. Capacity Building Needs Assessment Initiating Workshop**

The objective of the capacity building needs assessment workshop was to collect information to support the CCWG in developing a comprehensive capacity building program of events for NGOs with current or planned activities and/or programmes responding to climate change needs and opportunities in Vietnam.

At the close of the workshop the CCWG compiled adequate information from a number of group activities to design a program of needs and subsequent actions and activities that meet the specific needs of the local NGO community.

The workshop was attended by approximately 100 representatives from NGOs, Government and the private sector. Participants came from a diversity of backgrounds and professions. The majority of participants were staff were from Vietnamese NGOs working on environmental and socio-economic development issues and are currently addressing or are planning to address climate change issues and/or opportunities in their programming within Vietnam. These NGOs came from different locations in Vietnam, including vulnerable provinces.

The workshop was held over one (1) day and comprised of two distinct sessions. The first session was made up of a series of presentations that provided context around the potential impacts of climate change in Vietnam and examples of pro-poor responses already being delivered by NGOs. Participants were given an opportunity to explore ideas, knowledge and information on existing and planned actions around Vietnam with workshop presenters during the question and answer periods.

This session was followed by a facilitated discussion in the afternoon, centred on a number of questions designed to draw out the information required to meet the workshop objectives. The workshop participants were separated into three (3) groups and the discussion questions focused on:

- Current and planned activities, knowledge and skills of NGOs active in Vietnam and interested in delivering pro-poor climate change programming;
- Opportunities and constraints faced by NGOs in developing climate change responses in Vietnam;
- Gaps in the knowledge and skill base of NGOs that need to be filled to realise plans and opportunities and overcome constraints; and
- Modalities preferred by NGOs for the delivery of capacity building events.

The discussion was facilitated carefully, with questions being clearly explained, answers provided and discussed, and final outputs captured on suggestion cards and paper. Further details on the methodology and specific questions asked can be found in the facilitator's guide at Annex 1.

### **3. Workshop outputs – preliminary Capacity Building Programs and Activities**

#### ***3.1 General needs assessment for capacity building programs***

The current capacity (knowledge, skills, and experiences) of NGOs varies greatly; there are already a number of Adaptation and Mitigation activities being driven, but on the whole there is a lack of basic scientific knowledge of climate change, its sources and impacts. The willingness of a number of NGOs to share current knowledge and provide case studies will continue to strengthen the groups understanding of the issue, however, due to the lack of basic information of a number of participants and the need for members to debate and develop programmes and projects requires a detailed and comprehensive education plan. In general, there is limited knowledge on which agents could provide member with such capacity ad a systematic approach to knowing where funding is available.

Opportunities currently exist with donors providing funds for a diverse range of activities dealing with Climate Change, however, it has been expressed by the majority of the CCWG that they are unaware of these opportunities.

The Government of Vietnams has recently driven a number of directives (example) and published the (example) to express the concerns it has on the impacts of CC on communities. The CCWG is ideally placed in a position to assist reaching these goals and objectives as they are employed in activities on a grass roots level.

All participants showed strong interest to be involved in future climate change programs and activities (e.g. preparation, participation, etc) and thus, have indicated that they would appreciate a capacity building program.

#### ***3.2 Existing projects, knowledge and skills relating to Climate Change activities***

The current knowledge of NGOs regarding climate change are limited to a select few, specializing in specific activities. The table below provides a list of those NGOs and the knowledge and skills base that they have contributing to climate change programs. It does not exclusively capture all existing NGO's skills relating to climate change in Vietnam, but provides a basis to what information can be shared between all members, who can initiate workshops on certain activities

and can be used to identify gaps that will be needed to be addressed by workshops conducted by professionals outside the scope of the members of the WWGC.

<i>Agencies</i>	<i>Existing knowledge and skills</i>
VNRC/NLRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationships with local partners and experience in community development projects and disaster mitigation projects</li> <li>• Training on how to help communities adapt to climate change</li> <li>• Research on indigenous knowledge on disaster prevention and mitigation</li> <li>• Relationship between climate change and disaster prevention</li> </ul>
Challenge to Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge relating to climate change</li> <li>• Skills to write and develop projects related to climate change</li> <li>• Preparation of climate change projects and extensive network of consultants and collaborators, both locally based and based overseas, who are well known scientists and specialists in climate change</li> </ul>
RDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building</li> </ul>
CRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community needs assessment</li> </ul>
TRACEH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management and operation of projects</li> <li>• Training for communities on first aid and protection of people from epidemics</li> <li>• Monitoring working environments</li> <li>• Experience in training and organizing workshops relating to climate change</li> </ul>
VRN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research</li> </ul>
Oxfam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and advocacy</li> </ul>
FFI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience in working with local people and Government/authorities to support forest protection</li> <li>• Able to apply for funding, but have not been able to identify potential effective projects</li> </ul>
Live & Learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of communication for change</li> <li>• Skills in leadership in a changing world (youth leadership)</li> <li>• Experience in environmental impact assessment</li> <li>• Skills in systematic thinking (sustainable development partnership network)</li> </ul>
DWF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with experts to build hazard maps (e.g. flood, flood warning) for vulnerable districts/provinces</li> <li>• Construction of storm/typhoon proof houses (with technical support of the Consultative Construction Company of TTHuế)</li> <li>• Experienced in assessment of shelters</li> </ul>
CERPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge of desertification in Vietnam</li> <li>• Knowledge of soil degradation in Vietnam</li> <li>• Prevention of soil and forest degradation, improvement of desertified land in the mountainous areas of Vietnam</li> <li>• Improvement of aluminous wetland in the Mekong Delta</li> </ul>
VUSTA Thanh Hoá	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to conduct assessment and analysis of potential risks to communities presented by climate change</li> </ul>

A list of climate change projects known to workshop participants is included in Annex 1

### ***3.3 Needs Assessment and suggested Actions and Activities***

The needs of the member of the CCWG will make up the basis of how the capacity building programme will be developed. This includes what skills, knowledge, and tools members require being able to develop and implement successful adaptation and mitigation projects. The members themselves developed a list of possible actions and activities to address these needs. The requirement for an internet site and an education program stand out as two of the main activities that will address the majority of the CCWG needs. The following provides a list of needs that have been identified by members of the CCWG as well as suggested actions and activities to meet those requirements.

#### **Need 1.** Information sharing

##### Actions.

- Develop a CCWG website;
  - Individuals and members can ask questions and share experiences through out Vietnam
  - Develop a database listing current and proposed activities of NGOs, Donors and the development community on Climate Change.
  - List local and international experts on climate change along with the research they are involved in and papers published
  - List consultant with capacity to engage in project activities and to develop capacity of group for project design and implementation.
  - Launch of an e-bulletin of information on CC issues on website
- Experiences workshop once every month to report to CCWG group on progress and learning experiences.
- Production of a climate change fact sheets with emphasis on adaptation, mitigation, and trade for use in awareness raising.
- Develop user-oriented interactive training tools, including methods, materials, approaches, case studies, and practical applications for the Clean Development Mechanism.
- Develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the NGO Resource Centre to act as a central information point on climate change.
- Workshops/training held by current members with established capacity
- Hold lunch time seminars by members of the scientific community researching on a variety of issues related to CC to bridge the science community with WWCC
- Hold experiences workshop to develop an understanding of the complexities of relationships between stakeholders within project activities.
- Compile all documents published by the Vietnamese government addressing climate change (e.g.)

#### **Needs 2.** Accessing funds from Donors, Government and Private Sector

##### Actions

- Hold workshops to understand how CDM operates and assess opportunities to develop CDM projects.
- Develop a database of project and funding opportunities that the local donor community present.
- Engage in dialog with the ‘Group of Like Minded Donors’
- Develop a database of carbon credits purchasers to sell credits, or work with a broker to help develop projects and find buyers.

**Needs 3.** Training – to increase knowledge on Climate Change

Actions

- Training of trainers program: develop a training series and associated materials on climate change, sustainable development and poverty reduction that can be delivered within Vietnamese NGOs.
- Develop a syllabus for all members of the CCWG that includes;
  - disaster prevention
  - science behind climate change
  - Impacts of CC on Vietnam
  - strategies and methods for adaptation to CC
  - GIS
  - Integration of CC into community based projects
  - conservation and livelihoods models
  - Pedagogy skills development
  - CC and links to health impacts
  - Social, economic and environmental nexus and CC
  - Criteria for CC projects
  - Community needs assessment
  - Advocacy skills
  - Research skills
  - Skills to design a climate change project and write a successful proposal
  - Skills to conduct needs and vulnerability assessments and analysis
  - Skills to mainstream climate change into projects
  - Impact assessments of the projects
  - Monitoring and evaluation of activities, project, and programme skills and tools
  - Skills for climate change impact assessment
- Provision of handouts on CC causes, impacts, and solutions
- Internship Program: develop linkages with private sector/academic institutions/international agencies that are willing to provide internship opportunities for NGO candidates with suitable backgrounds

**Needs 4.** Training - Comprehensive project design and planning skills

Actions

- Training and designing successful projects
- Workshop on writing skills for climate change project proposals
- Sharing experience in designing and implementing CC projects through training.
- Build capacity of monitoring and evaluation taking into account the indicators
- Organise training sessions on vulnerability assessment and project planning tools such as CVCA, ORCHID, and CRISTAL

**Needs 5.** Onsite experience of project activities

Actions

- Site visit to successful CC models
- Site visit to pilot models within VN and abroad

**Needs 6.** Comprehensive policy advise

Actions

- Work with multinationals to integrate NGO and project activities under a framework for effective project outcomes.
- Develop open communications and dialog to assist the Vietnamese government in their CC adaptation and mitigation goals.
- Capacity building for policy advocacy
- Linkages between climate change and disaster management, health, and conservation
- Engage with relevant authorities to deliver sufficient guidelines to enable us to learn from the interventions of NGOs which are effective in responding to climate change

#### **Needs 7. Research and Analysis capacity**

##### **Actions**

- Collate a database on ongoing research/studies, access and acquire timely updates to knowledge on climate change
- Develop a research program to assist in meeting the CCWG's objectives.
- Research on climate change impacts on each region and different target groups
- Research on real environmental situations in forests
- Develop an appropriate awareness raising program for specific target group on the effects of CC
- Survey to collect sufficient information on the most vulnerable groups
- Develop an appropriate coping methodology and local people need to understand logical steps in design
- Research in CC in VN in light of global CC to design relevant CC responses
- Production of guidebooks on specific topics such as REDD, CDM, how to initiate and sustain adaptation at the local-micro level etc.
- Access to disaster warning information

### **3.4 Who can provide such services**

The requirement of the information needs to have a comprehensive understanding of Climate Change the skills and tools and skills for a successful programme are extensive. Apart from the mentioned agents already active within the NGO CCWG the remaining needs and subsequent actions will require local and foreign professional from outside . The following is a list of local organizations able to provide a large portion of the capacity building requirements. Each organizations expertise that are in line with the needs outlined by workshop participants are included in the table below.

<i>Service providers</i>	<i>Areas of expertise</i>
CECI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on community-based disaster risk management</li> </ul>
MOSTE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy advocacy</li> </ul>
MONRE Climate Change Standing Office of MARD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General information, knowledge on climate change</li> </ul>
DWF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical support to build typhoon resilient houses</li> </ul>
AITCV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short courses on climate change</li> </ul>
DWC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to support the development of women and children through rights based approaches</li> </ul>

Institute of Development Studies (IDS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy research and advocacy</li> </ul>
Sustainability Asia (based in Thailand)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education on sustainable development</li> </ul>
Vietnam Red Cross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and disaster prevention</li> </ul>
INGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on policy advocacy skills relating to climate change and climate change impact assessment</li> </ul>
NGOs/CECEM/AITCV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project writing skills and fund raising</li> </ul>
Experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge of climate change and adaptation solutions and tools and methods relating to climate change</li> </ul>

### **3.5 Where to now; building our own capacity and initiating group activities**

The CCWG is well aware that it will take more than the mentioned needs and subsequent actions to develop the capacity of the working group. There are also internal mechanisms that need to be developed for the group to collude and maximize the benefits derived from the funding. At the end of the facilitated discussion the participants were invited to raise additional issues and questions that they felt were needed to move the CCWG forward internally. A list of statements and questions are put forth that will need addressing during subsequent work shops to clarify the CCWG’s immediate developments and strategies.

- What is the current capacity of members of the CCWG on climate change?
- How does/will the NGO Climate Change Working Group operate?
- What is the first step and when to start ( does the CCWG need to develop a strategy?)
- How can NGOs coordinate and move on in the field of climate change?
- As climate change is a new issue, there might be an “overwhelming” investment targeting the same vulnerable area, how can this be coordinated?
- There is a need to ensure officers in the provinces have access to information (through newsletters, brochures, etc).
- There is a need for awareness raising on climate change issues among CCWG stakeholders at all levels.
- There is a need for support to mainstream climate change within NGO operations.
- As the focal point for all NGOs in Vietnam, the NGO Resource Centre is expected to make climate change resources available through NGO resource library so as to facilitate information access and exchanges of ideas and practices.

## **4 NGO CCWG role in Adaptation and Mitigation on Climate Change in Vietnam.**

Climate Change will have real and severe impacts on social, economic and environmental sectors of Vietnam. NGOs are operative at a grass roots level and can have immediate and positive impacts on communities. Thus, the role of NGOs within a National Action Plan will assist in providing direct benefits in both Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation programs. It is for this reason that the NGO CCWG is colluding to build their capacity to ensure that they can effectively respond to community needs. The assessment workshop has put forth the needs and subsequent actions of the CCWG to develop the capacity for a comprehensive and effective mobilization of its members.

## Annex 1: List of climate change projects

### Status: being completed or implemented

<i>Implementing agencies</i>	<i>Description of projects</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
Oxfam	Research on effects of drought and climate change on people in Ninh Thuan	Sep 2007
	Climate change impact assessment on the poor in Quang Tri and Ben Tre	May 2008
	Effect of climate change on the poor in Vietnam	Nov 2007
	Integrating climate change into Disaster Management program in Nghe An, Quang Tri, Dong Thap and Tien Giang	2008
	Conducted research on the impacts of climate change on the poor in (draft report is available)	May 2008
	Disaster mitigation in Thanh Hoa and Tra Giang (USAID funded project)	2007-2008
Save the Children UK	Strengthening of community capacity on disaster prevention centered on Children in Yen Bai, Thanh Hoa and Tien Giang	2008
DWF	Implementing livelihood rehabilitation project in 3 districts in T-THuế	2008-2009
	Management of the Huong river in Hue	2007-2008
	Strengthening awareness of natural disaster mitigation	
	CRD implement the project "Disaster Mitigation in Phu Vang, Hue"	2008-2009
	Disaster Mitigation Model (PEP VN)	2007-2008
CARE International	Implementing mangrove in Thanh Hoá province, Hậu Lộc District People's Committee	2007-2009
	Project on participatory management of watershed, TUSTA-Bá Thước District People's Committee	2007-2009
CEACE	Impact of climate change on the Mekong Delta, Can Tho	2008
FFI	Awareness raising on environment for pupils and students	2005-2008:
	EcoBoat programme in Hạ Long Bay, mangrove planting, forest conservation projects	
Centre for Social and Environmental Development (CERSED):	Impacts of climate change on Ba Ria-Vung Tau	
	Community Development project in Tien Giang, Vinh Long focusing on water for daily use, latrines, waste management	2008-2012
SIDA	A collection of sustainable community forest management models in Vietnam (Dr. Cao Vĩnh Hải)	2001
CERPA	Demonstration of a sustainable community forest management model in Nhu Xuân, Thanh Hoá (SNV funded)	2002
	Demonstration of an ecological village against desertification in Bình Thuận (CERPA-SNV funded)	2003
GTZ	Drought and desertification in Vietnam, problems and solutions	2001
UNDP (DIPECHO)	Building resilience of community to recurrent disaster, particularly flash floods in the upland areas of Vietnam (Lao Cai and Kontum)	Ended May 2008

<i>Implementing agencies</i>	<i>Description of projects</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
Vietnam Natural and Environmental Protection Association and Vietnam Environmental Protection Department	Project on developing Vietnams response to climate change framework	Since Mar 2008
Challenge to Change	Consultative role for embassies (e.g. Swedish Embassy) and NGOs on support for climate change projects	2008
	Survey on organizations addressing climate change in Vietnam	2008

**Status: planned**

<i>Implementing agencies</i>	<i>Description of projects</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
FFI	Planning forest protection projects funded by REDD (following the Aceh example)	
CSDM	Planning to carry out a project to address flooding in Ha Giang	
Challenge to Change and M&D	Planning to carry out a climate change project in Soc Trang	
	Planning for adaptation to climate change in Hue and Quang Tri	
TRACEH	Capacity building for workers in Transport Branch and people on disaster mitigation	2009
CORENARN	Monitoring and assessment of changes in sea and river water levels in Thua Thien Hue	2009
CDECC in Quang Tri	Community-based adaptation to climate change	2008
CARE	Collecting data to design a project on climate change impact mitigation in Bá Thước and Hậu Lộc district, Thanh Hoá province	
Live & Learn	Conduct training, awareness raising for communities and volunteers on environment and sustainable development including climate change	From 2008
NAV in Huế	Organizing workshops on disaster preparedness with a focus on climate change to plan for the implementation of a climate change programme in a participatory manner among the ACT members	Aug 2008
DWF	Making a climate change adaptation plan (for survival and development)	