

SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR OP6

COUNTRY: VIET NAM

OP6 resources (estimated US\$): US\$2,366,000

- a. **CORE funds: US\$400,000**
- b. **OP5 remaining balance: US\$66,000**
- c. **STAR funds: US\$1,500,000 (to be endorsed)**
- d. **US\$ 400,000 (ICCA)**

Background:

As a GEF corporate programme, SGP aligns its operational phase strategies to that of the GEF, and provides a series of demonstration projects for further scaling up, replication and mainstreaming. Action at the local level by civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities is deemed a vital component of the GEF 20/20 Strategy (i.e. convening multi-stakeholder alliances to deliver global environmental benefits and contribute to UNDP's Strategic Plan and focus on sustainable development). At the global level, the SGP OP6 programme goal is to "effectively support the creation of global environmental benefits and the safeguarding of the global environment through community and local solutions that complement and add value to national and global level action."

In Viet Nam the SGP country programme strategy also reflects the priorities of the Government of Viet Nam in environmental protection and response to climate change (CC), the SGP requirements, as well as the priorities outlined in the Viet Nam's GEF 6 strategy.

1. SGP country programme - summary background

1.1. Contribution of SGP in Viet Nam for the global environmental benefits

The GEF/SGP program has started in Viet Nam since 1999 (OP2). As of Dec 2015, GEF SGP funded 215 projects (141 full projects and 74 planning grants) with the total grant amount of more than US\$ 11.6 Mil. (more than US\$ 6.2 Mil. from SGP and US\$ 5.3 Mil. of cofinancing, see Table 1)¹. Along with the main funding of the SGP CORE and RAF, thanks to quick and effective mechanism, GEF SGP was selected to implement the regional and global projects including UNDP GEF community-based adaptation (SPA CBA), the Mekong-Asia Pacific Community Based Adaptation project (MPA CBA), and UNEP South China Sea Projects (UNEP SCS). The cofinancing of local partners, such as the Provincial and District People's Committees, NGOs /CSOs and communities are the strategic fundings, enhance the local participation and ownership and ensure the sustainability, success and replication of the SGP project models.

¹ SGP's database, 3/2016

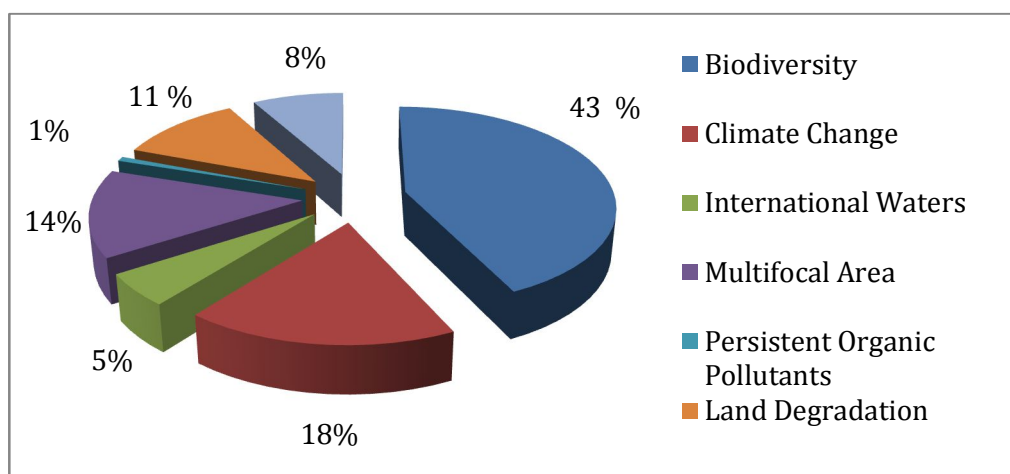
Table 1: Projects during 1999-2015

No. of project	Grant amount (US\$)	Co-financing (cash) in US\$	Co-financing (in kind) in US\$ equiv.	Total co-financing
215	6.238.099	1.575.553	3.797.422	5.372.975

Source: GEF/SGP-UNDP Viet Nam, 2016

The focal areas of biodiversity and response to CC (including CC adaptation) occupied the largest part in the previous operation periods, 43% and 26% respectively, while the chemicals, persistent organic pollutants (POP) accounted for the least, less than 1% (See Figure 1).

Figure 1: Projects during 1999-2015 by GEF focal areas



Source: GEF/SGP-UNDP Viet Nam, 2016

The SGP programme's achievements include:

- Restoration, stabilization and sustainable management of natural ecosystems (limestone, brackish water ecosystem, ...); identification of suitable plant structure, use of appropriate crop varieties, application of irrigation system and effective rotation and intercropping cultivation methods, contributing to limiting desertification and land degradation;
- Communities awareness raising, capacity building and behavior change on environmental protection and adaptation to climate change; establishment of partner relationships with agencies, professional organizations involved in the implementation of project activities; contribution to the implementation of the United Nations' millennium goals; contribution to poverty reduction and gender equality;
- The SGP program is one of the few direct and long-lasting funding sources to NGOs /CBOs in the country. Although its funding is small compared to other programs aiming to local NGOs/CBOs but the SGP financial source is very transparent and has direct impacts on local communities; it is one of the few programs that work directly with the people and bring direct benefits to the people;
- Taking advantage of being managed by UNDP, the SGP programme works closely with the UNDP programs and through the partnership between the UNDP and the Government of Vietnam, it may

have impacts on policy by providing positive results of the SGP projects and then would bring added values, etc.

Most of the projects include pilot activities, community-based demonstration and testing community-level strategies and technologies that are sustainable use natural resources (biodiversity, soil and water) for the local livelihood. The three main components in the SGP projects include raising awareness, capacity building and demonstration pilot. Although the ratio of SGP projects being replicated and scaled up is low, but the staff involved in the projects had opportunity to develop their capacity, cognition and been promoted in higher positions than in the local and national Government system. Therefore, they contribute to spread out awareness and policy thinking, to integrate the environmental issues and adaptation to climate change in the broader scope, to bring actual benefits to the national and international levels.

Several lessons learnt from the SGP programmes include:

- Site selection and issues selected suitable with the reality, in line with local socio-economic development plans, met critical needs of communities;
- Good relationships with local authorities helping attract co-financing and replicate the project successful results, bringing community voice to the higher levels in the Government system;
- Participation and consent of local people in project formulation and implementation;
- Capable project management members help the better project performance; and
- It is useful to combine traditional knowledge with advanced scientific and technological knowledge, which is applied in the community projects.

The results and lessons learnt from the implementation of SGP projects contribute to building awareness and capacity of local people and officials at all levels, improvement of environmental policies in the areas of biodiversity, response to climate change and combating land degradation, and contribute to environmental protection in Viet Nam, one of the of the world's largest biodiversity centers and one of the five largest countries affected by the sea level rise. The Viet Nam's SGP shares lessons learned in the GEF focal areas, which Viet Nam has implemented, with other countries in the region as well as at the global scale.

1.2 Overall situation analysis for the SGP country program

SGP projects though having limited funding could potentially be an important channel for the implementation of GEF medium and full projects or the Government programs/projects on relevant areas at the local level bring benefits to the local people and use funds effectively. Several potential Government large programmes include the new rural area development program, the CC response program, the national biodiversity action plan, and the renewable energy program or GEF programs, e.g on benefit sharing, etc... Thus, by directly or indirectly contributing to the overall goals of the GEF projects or Government projects SGP projects can mobilize counterpart funds from the programs/projects.

1.3 Promotion of the past periods achievements for the effective implementation of SGP initiatives

Continuing to promote the experience and achievements of the previous period, especially in the areas where there are strong partnerships with local governments and communities as well as where the NGO/CBO capacity in project implementation is built, the GEF SGP OP6 will support reviewing, documenting lessons learned to integrate with other socio-economic development programs, application of advanced sciences and technologies, environmental protection, and new rural development programs using the State budgets and other resources of societies, and activities using remaining revolving funds of SGP

projects; continue to promote communication, sharing experiences and mobilizing funds from new projects under the larger program and ODA projects with related components for scaling up or replicating in other localities.

With the lessons learnt from the previous periods, the program OP6 implementation will pay attention to link multiple projects in the same selected locality and the possibility of their replication in the future. In addition, part of the funds will be allocated to (i) test new groundbreaking initiatives; (ii) focus on documenting right at the beginning of the project implementation to collect baseline data for further project monitoring and evaluation; (iii) focus on communication and dissemination of the project outputs; (iv) engage local people in dialogue with decision-makers and policymakers at all concerned levels; and (v) engage more women, ethnic minorities, youth, etc...

The past projects and experience can serve as foundation for effective implementation of SGP initiatives in OP6. GEF SGP has successfully promoted partnership, cooperation, implementation and projects co-financing with other stakeholders, which resulted with US\$5,372,975 contribution in projects cofinancing. The major co-financing partner was Local Governments.

2. SGP country programme niche

2.1. SGP OP 6 will continue to reflect national priorities as shown in the implementation of international conventions, programs/projects that are indicated in Table 2.

Table 2. List of the relevant international conventions and programs/plans

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
Convention on Biodiversity	16/11/1994
The Ramsar Convention	20/8/1989
Cartagena Protocol on biosafety; and The Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	19/4/2004 12/02/2014
National Strategy and Action Plan on Biodiversity	31/5/2007
Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity	23/4/2014
United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	16 /11/ 1994
The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	26/4/1994
Kyoto Protocol	25/9/2002
National Communication to the UNFCCC	1rst: 02/12/2003 2nd: 07/12/2007 (2010?);
National Strategy on Climate Change	05/12/2011
National Strategy for Green Growth	25/9/2012
The first national biennial report submitted to the UNFCCC	2014
The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	23/11/1998
National Action Programme to implement UNCCD	02/9/2006
National target program for climate change adaptation (3 phases: inception 2009- 2010; implementation 2011-2015 và development post 2015)	02/12/2008 05/12/2011
National target program for climate change response 2012-2015	

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants	22/7/2002
National plan deploying the Stockholm Convention	10/8/2006
WB's Poverty Reduction Strategy Program	Ratified 5/2002
Minamata Convention on mercury	Signed 11/10/2013, Not ratified yet
National Strategy for Environmental Protection until 2020 and vision to 2030	Decision No. 1216/QĐ-TTg dated 05/9/2012
The national targeted program on new rural development 2010 - 2020 (hereinafter referred to as the new rural program).	Decision No. 800/QĐ-TTg dated 04/6/2010
National target program on sustainable poverty reduction	Decision No. 1489/QĐ-TTg dated 08/10/2012
Strategy for renewable energy development in Vietnam to 2030, vision 2050	Decision No. 2068/QĐ - TTg dated 25/11/2015

2.2. Vietnam is an agricultural country with 66.9% of the population lives in rural areas². Along with the economic development of the country, the agricultural production has been boosted and farmers' lives have been improved. Thus the volume of waste from crops, livestock and farmers' family activities has also rapidly increased, beyond the local control, polluted the environment and affected people's health. In the periods earlier than 2015, the projects in the biodiversity conservation and climate change focal areas accounted for nearly 70% of the total project as well as the total grant amount, while chemicals and POP consisted less than 1% as shown in above Figure 1. Therefore, for the GEF SGP OP6 the following criteria for selecting priority areas include:

- The most critical and urgent environmental issues but received little attention and affected to the majority of population at the community level;
- Being able to integrate with other Government programs/projects;
- Being of the areas in which the GEF SGP has advantage
- Being consistent with GEF SGP provided resources and characteristics (community level).

Hence, the next GEF SGP OP6 will focus on the following priority areas:

1. Integrated management and use of land, water and biodiversity resources to maintain, improve and expand livelihoods, through community outreach to adapt to rising sea level/drought/saline water intrusion due to climate change impacts, especially in the Mekong Delta region, all of which contribute to the conservation, management and sustainable use of marine/coastal/inland ecosystems. Community empowerment in management of protected areas and conservation of culture and traditional knowledge of the local communities, especially of ethnic minorities and development of sustainable financial mechanism for ICCA.
2. Community-based Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) on the basis of combining traditional knowledge (TK) and advanced technologies application (converting farming systems, plants and

² GSO: The mid-term housing and population census, 2014.

livestock structures; using resistant and quality varieties/breeds; appropriate farming techniques; IPM, INM, IWM; post-harvest preservation techniques), combining conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity with sustainable land management (SLM) within CSA to ensure production efficiency/sustainability, climate change adaptation, prevention of land degradation and reduction of adverse impacts on the environment.

3. Development of renewable energy including biomass, solar energy. Increased use of agro-products effectively contribute to reducing environmental pollution.
4. Management of solid wastes in rural areas of the Red River Delta, including raising awareness about waste separation at source, collection, transport and disposal in a proper manner, thereby reducing the amount of waste to be transported, dumped or burned in qualified incinerators. For pollutions in handicraft villages, depending on the specific situation and the capacity of each locality, the SGP will be in collaboration with Government's programs;

These areas are inextricably linked with the life of communities, directly affecting the health and life of local people, therefore active participation of the community is vital in the implementation of OP6. The selection of the above areas has created an opportunity for the community to participate actively in the GEF SGP activities, which can meet the priorities of Vietnam as outlined in Table 2. Moreover, local people's capacity and awareness should be enhanced through NGOs/CSOs to actively engage in the formulation of appropriate policies and have a voice in planning process as well as decisions making process concerning their life.

2.3. SGP is a program with a small amount of funding than the majority of programs being implemented in Viet Nam, so the selection of priorities as presented above is a way to be able to link the program with activities and priorities of projects and programs supported by the Government, UN agencies, international donors and other NGOs (See Table 3).

Table 3. SGP contribution to national priorities / GEF-6 corporate results

1 SGP OP6 strategic initiatives	2 GEF-6 corporate results by focal area	3 Briefly describe the SGP Country Programme niche relevant to national priorities/other agencies	4 Briefly describe the complementation between the SGP Country Programme UNDP CO strategic programming
Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society</i>	Integrated management and use of land, water and biodiversity resources to maintain, improve and expand livelihoods, through community outreach to adapt to rising sea level/drought/saline water intrusion due to climate change impacts.	Conservation of important wetlands reserves and habitat connectivity Build capacity to implement the Nagoya Protocol
Innovative climate-smart agro-ecology; Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)</i>	Community-based Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) on the basis of combining traditional knowledge (TK) and advanced technologies application combining conservation and sustainable use	Sustainable development goals

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		of biodiversity with sustainable land management (SLM) within CSA to ensure production efficiency/sustainability, climate change adaptation, prevention of land degradation and reduction of adverse impacts on the environment.	
Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Promotion of collective management of trans-boundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services</i>	Community empowerment in management of protected areas and conservation of culture and traditional knowledge of the local communities, especially of ethnic minorities and development of sustainable financial mechanism for ICCA.	Regional Mekong Initiatives
Energy access co-benefits	<i>Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path</i>	Development of renewable energy including biomass, solar energy. Increased use of agro-products effectively contribute to reducing environmental pollution.	Sustainable development goals
Local to global chemicals coalitions	<i>Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern</i>	Management of solid wastes including POPs in rural areas of the Red River Delta	Updated National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on POPs; Building Capacity to Eliminate POPs Pesticides Stockpiles; Vietnam POPs and Sound Harmful Chemicals Management Project.
CSO-Government dialogue platforms	<i>Enhance capacity of civil society to contribute to implementation of MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and national and sub-national policy, planning and legal frameworks</i>	Dialogue between NGOs / CBOs and government on climate smart agriculture, land degradation and desertification, solid waste management and promote the voice of the ethnic minority and local communities on forest related issues to policy makers Bringing the voice of the ethnic minority and local communities to the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on the	

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		environment	
Social inclusion (gender, youth, indigenous peoples)	<i>GEF Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Gender Equality Action Plan and GEF Principles for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples</i>	Engagement of women, youth, ethnic minorities, and disabilities in the SGP activities.	UNDP policies on the gender equality, SES, FPIC
Contribution to global knowledge management platforms	<i>Contribute to GEF KM efforts</i>	Lessons learned/ policy brief on REDD +, the management of marine protected areas, aquatic resources ecosystems, coastal management, community-based solid waste management, biomass and solar energy, efficient use of agricultural residues.	

3. OP6 strategies

3.1. Cross-cutting OP6 grant-making strategies

From the initiatives outlined in Table 3 above, based on the lessons learnt from projects in previous periods in Viet Nam, projects cross-cutting the above mentioned focal areas include:

- (i) Documentation of lessons learnt in the project implementation, including organize workshops to assess the CC adaptation models, REDD +, the management of marine protected areas, aquatic resources ecosystems, coastal management, community-based solid waste management, biomass and solar energy, efficient use of agricultural residues, revolving funds, etc...; close collaboration with concerned authorities at all levels, collection of data to illustrate and provide Government agencies concerned of the with lessons learned to scale up, replicate, develop policies;
- (ii) Testing initiatives, new approaches that directly contributes to policy development in the key areas of SGP priority; promotion of CSO-Gov. dialogues, e.g. new forestry law concerning community forests, advocacy, social audits; etc...
- (iii) Awareness raising and capacity building for local people, especially the youth, women, ethnic minorities in the project area, and encourage them to actively participate in planning, management, use and benefit sharing in the protection and development of natural resources, collecting and sharing local knowledge, e.g through knowledge fairs; and

- (iv) Enhance of sharing of experiences, lessons learned between projects as well as replication and scaling up of successful models, at first, in the same geographic areas; capacity building in project proposal development, project management, and M&E (using FPIC approach).

These projects should be integrated with existing projects of the government, the Associations of Sciences and Technologies or mass organizations in localities and through the network of the Union of Associations of Sciences and Technologies (VUSTA) to convey their opinions to concerned decision-makers and policy-makers, bring the voice of the grassroots people to the government.

3.2 *Landscape/seascape-based OP6 grant-making strategies*

The process of Country Programme Strategy development was implemented in 3 (three) phases: Step 1. OP6 Country Programme Strategy consultations and Scoping exercise Step 2. Selected Landscape Baseline Assessment Step 3. Country Programme Strategy Finalization.

Based on (i) review of the projects carried out in the previous OPs in Vietnam, the focal areas that these projects covered; (ii) the priorities of the Government of Vietnam expressed through the strategies, action plans, national target programs, (iii) the emerging environmental issues identified in reports of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the mass media, and (iv) the results of consultations with SGP NC, NSC and the relevant authorities at central level (see Annex 1: Baseline Assessment Report), it revealed that **rural environmental pollution** is one of the outstanding issues, which has not been paid sufficient attention to the Government of Vietnam and GEF SGP in the previous operational periods. Rural environment has particularly significant impacts on human health and the environment in the delta, where there are many people residing with high population density, intensive farming, many livestock, poultry and aquaculture farms are focusing, and low-lying terrain, hence the ability to absorb and assimilate pollutants is low.

The Red River Delta and the Mekong River Delta are two largest deltas in Viet Nam. According to CC scenarios, if the sea level rises by 1m by the end of the 21st century, 40% of the area of the Red River Delta and the Mekong River Delta would be lost and a wider area affected by saltwater intrusion. This requires immediate measures to cope with climate change, such as smart and climate-resilient agriculture in these areas.

To reduce pollutions caused by excessive use of plant protection chemicals (fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides), traditional farming practices and/or agroecology should be studied, collected, shared among people and encouraged them to use as well as local knowledges should be promoted widely among localities with the similar natural conditions and agricultural cultivation practices. Communication, digitization, documentation and dissemination of the knowledge could be granted from the resources reserved for projects outside the selected landscape.

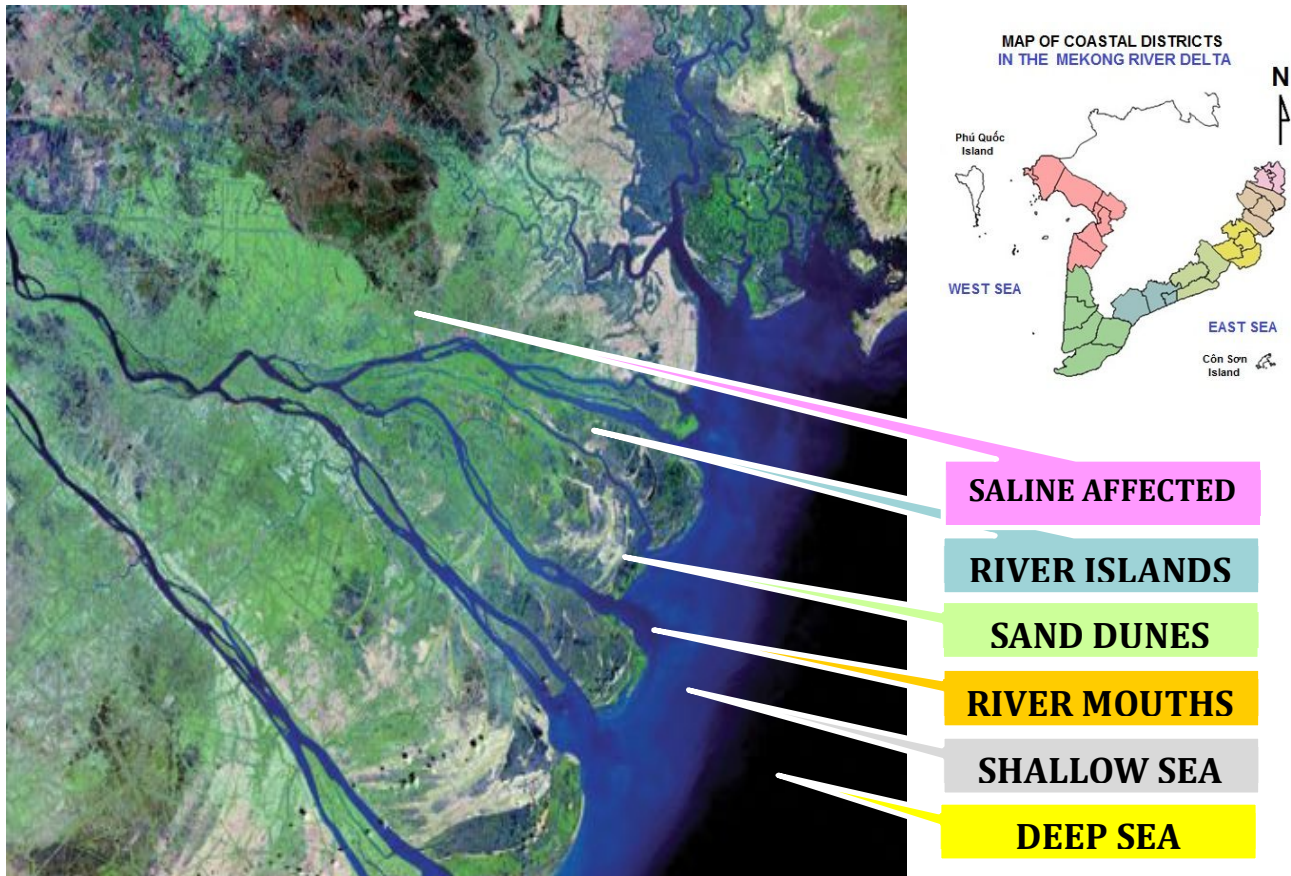
Results in the two regional workshops confirmed the needs to address the environmental problems and effective use of natural resources, especially land and water, as well as the strengths of the GEF SGP in mobilizing NGOs/CSOs of the rural areas of the Red River Delta and the Mekong River Delta in the implementation of environmental projects. Furthermore, the presentations at the two workshops in the Red River Delta and Mekong River Delta also contributed to make the preliminary assessments on the environment, land use and water resources in the two deltas. Maps/diagram of the two deltas are shown in Figures 2 and 3 below:

Figure 2: Diagram of natural conditions in the Red River Delta



Source: http://tulieu.violet.vn/document/show/entry_id/119769

Figure 3: COASTAL GEOGRAPHICS ZONING IN THE MEKONG RIVER DELTA
(Dr. LE ANH TUAN, Research Institute for Climate Change - CanTho University)



The following initiatives are recommended to receive SGP funding in the two deltas:

1. Integrated management and use of land, water and biodiversity resources to maintain, improve and expand livelihoods, through community outreach to adapt to rising sea level/drought/saline water intrusion due to climate change impacts. Community empowerment in management of protected areas and conservation of culture and traditional knowledge of the local communities, especially of ethnic minorities and development of sustainable financial mechanism for ICCA;
2. Community-based Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) on the basis of combining traditional knowledge (TK) and advanced technologies application (converting farming systems, plants and livestock structures; using resistant and quality varieties/breeds; appropriate farming techniques; IPM, INM, IWM; post-harvest preservation techniques), combining conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity with sustainable land management (SLM) within CSA to ensure production efficiency/sustainability, climate change adaptation, prevention of land degradation and reduction of adverse impacts on the environment;
3. Development of renewable energy including biomass, solar energy. Increased use of agro-products effectively contribute to reducing environmental pollution;
4. Management of solid wastes in rural areas of the Red River Delta.

During OP6, attentions should be made to focus on raising awareness, forming good behaviours in collecting, sorting and disposing domestic solid wastes, especially plastics, PVC, nylons, batteries, electronic wastes, drugs etc, ... in some villages in the Red River Delta; dissemination of biological buffers appropriate to local circumstances to contribute to reducing environmental pollution in rural areas. The Women's Union and Youth Union, particularly youth from the local universities, Young Pioneer Brigades in local secondary schools will be trained and act as the core forces.

SGP projects will coordinate closely with farmers associations, agricultural cooperatives, agricultural extension units to guide the farmers to use the right dose of chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides, for the right kind of soils and crops, and ensure efficient and safe use for human and the environment health. In addition, the projects also work with the above mentioned organizations in the exploitation of traditional and indigenous knowledge to restructure crops to suit the local situations, adapt climate change, the use of organic fertilizers, natural enemies or organic pesticides to reduce the amount of chemical fertilizers and plant protection chemicals, save input costs for farmers, and contribute to the protection of human and the environment health, and biodiversity conservation. For the Mekong Delta, focusing on guidance, share of experiences in efficient and save use of clean water for living and agricultural production.

On renewable energy, local associations of sciences and technologies network of VUSTA should associate with women's unions, youth unions and veterans' associations, etc ... to produce biomass and biogas from crop residues and livestock wastes, combine models such as garden - pond - barn - forest to reduce environmental pollution, create energy and solve post-biogas problems. Where possible, use a combination of biomass from rice husks, sugarcane residues, and corn with other traditional fuels, searching for alternative sources of animal manure for biogas when the number of cattle is decreased, e.g hyacinths in Mekong River Delta, etc...

In the program, try to incorporate initiatives such as pollution reduction, use of energy from agricultural residues and wastes, agroecology and combating land degradation in one project or in a region with many

projects to achieve synergy and positive impacts of the project. At the adjacent localities, if possible, try to link projects to create a chain with different stages of development to create an umbrella project, which can finalize one or more problems that one project cannot solve. This approach requires a careful selection of projects, coordinated project proponents and preferably proposed by a technical advisory unit serving as the focal point.

In rural areas try to incorporate selected projects with the existing government programs, such as the national target program on new rural area development, renewable energy program, the international donor supported programs, such as of UNDP/GEF, GIZ, SNV or INGOs and VNGO in the Red River Delta and Mekong River Delta on wetlands, ABS, POP, disaster prevention and restoration of mangroves, etc...

For projects outside the two deltas, especially in North and South Central regions, where there have been many SGP projects in the previous periods, it should focus on documenting and sharing lessons learnt from successful projects with new projects in the two deltas. The communication projects should also regularly share experiences between the two deltas, and contribute to policy dialogues between the government and local people in these regions. Ethnic minorities, women, youth and people with disabilities should be given priority to participate in projects outside the selected two deltas.

3.3 Grant-maker+ strategies

3.3.1 CSO - government dialogue platform

GEF SGP aims to promote the CSO-government dialogues in climate smart technologies, initiatives on prevention of land degradation and desertification, domestic waste management. The programme also continues to help bring the local ethnic minority to environmental convention COPs and new forestry law with the ICCA project support in the areas of marine and forest resource management. Some of these climate smart technologies and initiatives on prevention of land degradation and desertification have been resulted from outstanding achievements of OP4, OP5 and proved their success over time.

These dialogues will help promote role of CSOs, create a “bridge” to link the grassroots to high level national planners and policy-makers, facilitate the uptake of good practices to local policy development and enhance communications.

3.3.2. Policy influence

Aside from the CSO-Government Dialogue Platform initiative, GEF SGP will use its experiences and lessons learnt to inform and influence local policy on REDD+ (implementation of REDD+ action plan); the management of marine protected areas, the co-management of coastal ecosystem resources and renewable energy. As part of its role as ‘Grant-makers+’ in OP6, GEF SGP will continue to be the “bridge” to potential donors including UNDP/GCF, IUCN/MFF, USAID, GEF medium-sized projects on wetland, ABS and POPs Pesticide and the Vietnam Forest and Delta (by USAID).

GEF SGP will also promote the sharing of community experience by using NGO networks and NSC/NC networks, at relevant national workshops and fora. GEF SGP will provide good projects and best practices for big programmes and projects through working in partnership with UN/DP projects, targeting GEF MSPs and FSPs. SGP Viet Nam will distill lessons learned and aggregate results for development of publications to promote the replication, upscaling through integrating into big programmes and projects.

3.3.3 Promote the social inclusion

Viet Nam has relatively good statistics for gender equality at the aggregate level. Policies on gender equity have improved over the last few years although challenges remain in policy implementation. At the household level, there is an unequal sharing of household responsibilities between women and men and this continues to put a heavy burden on women to balance family and work. The degradation of natural resources and the loss of biodiversity often impacts women disproportionately, as women and children are more dependent on natural resources for households' needs.

Traditionally, women in the project sites work in the rice fields, take care of livestock, collect mollusks and other aquatic products, as well as taking care of elderly people, children, other household members and various other household chores. They generally have a very limited role in decision-making on the livelihood choices and development of their family. They are also not often involved in training courses, social networks (other than the Women's Union), local meetings or micro-credit systems, and so they have limited access to knowledge, skills or inputs to adapt their household and livelihood practices to enhance their own wellbeing.

Conservation efforts that fail to take into account gender differences in resource use and management are likely to be unsustainable in the long term and could even contribute to increased poverty, inequality, and resource degradation.

The programme will develop community capacity, thereby also increasing local adaptive capacity. Recognizing the disadvantages faced by women, the programme will make a concerted effort to ensure that women are able to participate effectively in project activities that are most relevant to them, including having access to training and being able to engage in ???.

The programme will fully integrate both men and women in the planning and implementation of the activities at commune and village level. In particular the training for sustainable livelihood will incorporate a gender perspective, to ensure that the needs of women, who frequently form a marginalized group, are taken into account and that implementation the project could promote gender equality. Thus, benefits made to households and communities should include safeguards to ensure gender equality.

The programme will work with both groups to enhance their participation in the project activities as well as to promote gender equality in order to (1) empower women's role in awareness raising and education activities; (2) engage women in adopting more environmental-friendly practices; (3) awareness raising and capacity building on climate change adaptation and natural disaster prevention for women.

All projects will take the gender dimension into consideration. The projects indicate the target rate of women participation in its activities. The project revolving loan is normally managed by the women union. GEF SGP attracts female experts to provide technical assistance.

GEF SGP will continue to give priority to projects targeting indigenous peoples as the key beneficiaries by promoting ICCA, testing ABS and documentation and utilization of traditional knowledge in natural resource management.

GEF SGP will involve youth and children in country portfolio programming in particular the environmental awareness training/compaigne and contest. Some projects and revolving loan are managed by the Youth Union.



The FPIC approach/process is applied in project development and implementation. GEF SGP also follows UNDP safeguards policy (SES). The check list on SES compliance will be developed before OP6 grant-making.

3.3.4. Knowledge Management

GEF SGP will continue to strengthen capacity development and linkages among SGP projects in through workshops and capacity development activities to link and connect projects for shared landscape goals and objectives.

Generating and sharing knowledge is an important goal of GEF SGP. As a result, all projects should incorporate a significant knowledge generation and sharing component as part of project design. They will be expected to develop and submit knowledge products, including a final project sheet summarizing project activities and achievements that can be included in the SGP global database. GEF SGP will help maximize national and local learning through the sharing of experiences and best practices, both in person through horizontal grantee exchanges and national workshops. Based on these experiences, the programme will promote the adoption and replication of these best practices when designing new projects across similar thematic areas. GEF SGP will promote sharing through knowledge fair, GEF SGP network as well as social media. GEF SGP will also continue to support grantee partners to apply to recognized awards i.e Equator Initiative, SEEDs as well as support grantee partners to reach other donors including VFD (USAID), UN-REDD, Vietnam Forestry Fund, FCPF...

GEF SGP will target community-based waste management, climate smart agriculture, initiative on prevention of land degradation and desertification, ICCA, REDD+, ABS and renewable energy as key topics for knowledge management. Best practices and projects will be paid special attention for documentation and promoting the use as case studies/researches under big projects for law and policy development and revision. Post evaluation of SGP selected closed projects will be conducted for the assessment on project sustainability and replication/upscaling. The results of the M&E at the project and programme levels will be documented in knowledge management and communication products, such as policy brief, publications, project technical guidelines, newsletters, leaflets and posters, and video clips.

3.3.5. Communication Strategy

GEF SGP will communicate and engage key stakeholders and CSOs to promote their participation, build relationships and foster partnerships to articulate the contribution of the SGP to the national priorities, GEF programming, and UNDP strategies.

GEF SGP will strengthen working partnership and networking with its strategic partners at local and national levels, for effective programme and project implementation. They include CSOs, NGO networks, community groups, and local authorities, VUSTA, academic institutions, UN Convention Secretariats and national government focal point agencies, and UN/DP projects and local authorities (provincial people's committees):

- Strengthening partnerships with local authorities and stakeholders is key to the project's success, sustainability and replication. Lessons learned of successful projects showed that projects having participation and commitment of the local authorities ensure project sustainability and replication and upscaling and mainstream into the local programs.
- Establishing partnerships with the academic institutions and individual experts who can provide technical assistance for project implementation, especially for knowledge management is very necessary.
- GEF SGP maintains a working relationship with Government focal point agencies of UN Conventions, including Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (for CBD and FCCC) and

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (for UNCCD). Through these working partnership, SGP Viet Nam make opportunities to share information and lessons learned from grassroots experience for policy making, and advocate for CSO work in environment and poverty reduction. KM will be given a high priority to contribute to this strategic purpose. GEF SGP will demonstrate as an effective funding mechanism for CSOs work in SD areas so as to convince donors and government at local and national levels for resource mobilization for CSOs.

- GEF SGP will continue to enhance its partnership with Viet Nam Union of Science and Technology Associations (VUSTA) who is an umbrella organization of local NGOs in Viet Nam. GEF SGP will provide support and assistance to strengthen networks among its grantees and of local NGOs, focusing on local initiatives and CSOs under REDD+ and Viet Nam NGOs and Climate Change Network (VNGOs and CC), and Viet Nam Environment Network (VEN), RE (renewable energy) Viet Nam Group. These networks will serve better as a forum for CSOs to share information and lessons learned, to raise the voice of community concerns on relevant policies, and to advocate CSOs work in environmental areas. By doing this, GEF SGP will mobilize and enhance CSOs contribution to policy advocacy.
- GEF SGP will enhance integration with big programmes and projects, targeting UN/DP Viet Nam projects, including GEF MSPs and FSPs (UN-REDD, ABS, Wetland...). GEF SGP projects and best practices can be serves as case studies for researches and policy work as a key objective of UN/DP projects.

4. Expected Result Framework

Table 4. Consistency with SGP OP6 global programme components

1 OP6 project components	2 CPS targets	3 Activities	4 Indicators	5 Means of verification
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 1:</u> Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation:</p> <p>1.1 SGP country programmes improve conservation and sustainable use, and management of important terrestrial and coastal/marine ecosystems through implementation of community based landscape/seascape approaches in approximately 50 countries</p>	<p>Integrated management and use of land, water and biodiversity resources to maintain, improve and expand livelihoods, through community outreach to adapt to rising sea level/drought/saline water intrusion due to climate change impacts. Community empowerment in management of protected areas and conservation of culture and traditional knowledge of the local communities, especially of ethnic minorities and development of sustainable financial mechanism for ICCA.</p>	<p>12-15 projects</p> <p>CORE: USD100,000</p> <p>ICCA: USD 400,000</p>		
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 2:</u> Climate Smart Innovative Agro-ecology:</p> <p>2.1 Agro-ecology practices incorporating measures to reduce CO2 emissions and enhancing resilience to climate change tried and tested in protected area buffer zones and forest corridors and disseminated widely in at least 30 priority countries</p>	<p>Community-based Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) on the basis of combining traditional knowledge (TK) and advanced technologies application combining conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity with sustainable land management (SLM) within CSA to ensure production efficiency/sustainability, climate</p>	<p>15 projects</p> <p>STAR: USD700, 000</p>		

	change adaptation, prevention of land degradation and reduction of adverse impacts on the environment.			
<p>SGP OP6 Component 3: <i>Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits:</i></p> <p>3.1 Low carbon community energy access solutions successfully deployed in 50 countries with alignment and integration of these approaches within larger frameworks such as SE4ALL initiated in at least 12 countries</p>	Development of renewable energy including biomass, solar energy. Increased use of agro-products effectively contribute to reducing environmental pollution.	10 projects STAR: USD 500,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The number of household beneficiaries from renewable energy; - The renewable energy model built and effectively operated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress reports, back-to-office reports, review, - NC/NSC's field visit reports; - Information from the mass media.
<p>SGP OP6 Component 4: <i>Local to Global Chemical Management Coalitions:</i></p> <p>4.1 Innovative community-based tools and approaches demonstrated, deployed and transferred, with support from newly organized or existing coalitions in at least 20 countries for managing harmful chemicals and waste in a sound manner</p>	Management of solid wastes including POPs in rural areas of the Red River Delta	5-6 projects STAR: USD300, 000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of beneficiaries (by women, youth, ethnic minorities, and disabilities people) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Socio-economic reports of the relevant localities; - Reports of the relevant sector (trade and industry, agriculture, ...); - NC/NSC's field visit reports; - Information from the mass media.
<p>SGP OP6 Component 5: CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms (Grant-makers+):</p> <p>5.1 SGP supports establishment of "CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms", leveraging existing and potential partnerships, in at least 50 countries</p>	Dialogue between NGOs / CBOs and government on climate smart agriculture, land degradation and desertification, solid waste management and promote the voice of the ethnic minority and local communities on forest related issues to policy makers Bringing the voice of the ethnic minority and local communities to the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on the environment	2-3 projects CORE: USD100,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of target "CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogues - Number of forums/seminars organized; - Percentage of women and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress reports, back-to-office reports, review, evaluation of each project; - Reports of the relevant NGOs/CSOs and of the Fatherfront; - NC/NSC's field visit reports; - Information from the mass media.

			ethnic minority people engaged (%).	
<p>SGP OP6 Component 6: Promoting Social Inclusion (Grant-makers+):</p> <p>6.1 Gender mainstreaming considerations applied by all SGP country programmes; Gender training utilized by SGP staff, grantees, NSC members, partners</p> <p>6.2 IP Fellowship programme awards at least 12 fellowships to build capacity of IPs; implementation of projects by IPs is supported in relevant countries</p> <p>6.3 Involvement of youth and disabled is further supported in SGP projects and guidelines and best practices are widely shared with countries</p>	<p>Engagement of women, youth, ethnic minorities, and disabilities in the SGP activities.</p>	<p>3-4 projects</p> <p>CORE: USD 200,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of target beneficiaries (gender, youth, indigenous peoples, and disability disaggregated); - Number of ethnic minority people granted scholarships under global SGP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress reports, back-to-office reports, review, evaluation of each project; - Reports of the relevant NGOs/CSOs (of womens, youth, and of the Fatherfront) and from Ethnic Committee; - NC/NSC's field visit reports; - Information from the mass media.
<p>SGP OP6 Component 7: Global Reach for Citizen Practice-Based Knowledge program (Grant-makers+):</p> <p>7.1 Digital library of community innovations is established and provides access to information to communities in at least 50 countries</p> <p>7.2 South-South Community Innovation Exchange Platform promotes south-south exchanges on global environmental issues in at least 20 countries.</p>	<p>Lessons learned/ policy brief on REDD +, the management of marine protected areas, aquatic resources ecosystems, coastal management, community-based solid waste management, biomass and solar energy, efficient use of agricultural residues.</p>	<p>2 projects</p> <p>CORE: USD50,000</p> <p>STAR: USD50,000</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of successful lessons learnt from traditional knowledge collected and disseminated; - Number of publications, films, video clips produced and shared; - Number of meetings to share experiences among projects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data from global SGP and Việt Nam; - Progress reports, back-to-office reports, review, evaluation of each project; - NC/NSC's field visit reports; - Information from the mass media.

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5. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

M&E plans are developed to keep track on progress and results, to make decision and revision in a timely manner. Documenting and sharing lessons learned is a key result of M&E. The M&E Plan at the country programme level will be developed based on the indicators and targets set in Table 3 of the CPS. Indicators at the country level will be tracked and reported on through the Annual Country Reports (ACR), when progress towards the CPS outcomes is assessed and appropriate adaptive management measures may be identified as necessary.

Project M&E plan is required in GEF SGP approved project proposals with detailed activities, timeframe and criteria for assessment. Participatory and multi stakeholder approaches are adopted in project M&E. Genuine participation of local communities and people is ensured and their voice and concerns need to be heard and taken into consideration for project management in general and for policy link in particular. Project site visits are regularly scheduled on a quarterly basis during project life. Project midterm and final evaluation to be conducted by independent team/experts are required for grant disbursement and result assessment, lessons learned documentation and project revision in case needed.

Results from project M&E are to be shared among all project stakeholders, especially to local authorities for policy advocacy as well as mainstreaming into local programmes for sustainability and replication/upscaling. Project technical guidelines, a key project product, will be developed based on the results of the project demonstrations/pilots and this required a thorough and comprehensive monitoring on technical aspects of the project. Project midterm and final reports are shared at the project workshops as well as to be sent to local authorities with recommendations/suggestions on project sustainability and replication/upscaling.

Local stakeholders, community members and/or indigenous peoples will participate in setting project objectives and outputs during the project development phase. They will continue to participate in monitoring the project activities every six month following the grassroot democracy decree, FPIC principle as well as UNDP social and environmental standards.

The grantee partners will be required to submit a sheet summarizing project activities and achievements that can be included in the SGP global database for every six months.

M&E and result-based management is among the key agenda item in SGP trainings on project management and M&E. M&E is ensured to have adequate funding in project budget to ensure an effective M&E. Due to limited staff of SGP Viet Nam, project M&E is implemented with NSC contribution as well as independent evaluation teams and experts. There is a need for training on M&E for independent evaluation teams and experts to ensure a good understanding on GEF and SGP strategic priorities and approaches.

Table 5. Schedule of monitoring and evaluation

Activities requiring monitoring and evaluation	Objectives/Results	Responsible party	Budget	Time frame
Develop national program strategy	Create strategic framework to identify community-level	NSC, SGP NC, proposal unit, stakeholders	Budget for the project preparation	In the beginning of OP6

Activities requiring monitoring and evaluation	Objectives/Results	Responsible party	Budget	Time frame
	projects			
Evaluate annual national program	Adaptive study and management; recommend support	NC, NSC, CPMT	Budget of national program	The evaluation is conducted annually to ensure the strategy or amendment.
NSC organizes meetings for current evaluation and project analysis	Evaluate the effectiveness of the project, activities, methodology; adaptive study and management	NC, NSC, UNDP	Budget of national program	At least twice a year; once at the end of year of funding for monitoring and evaluation and adaptive management
Annual national report	Enable efficient reporting to NSC	NC to NSC	Budget of national program	Once a year in June
Survey annual monitoring report (AMR)	Enable efficient reporting to CPMT and GEF to report to donor	NC submits the report to CPMT	Budget of national program	Once a year in July
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	Learning; adaptive management for strategic development of Country Programme	NSC	Budget of national program	Once a period

6. Resource mobilization plan

Since project selection phase, GEF SGP will require the co-financing from local stakeholders as an eligibility criterion, including from project grantee for project management cost, local communities and people for sustainable livelihoods and poverty reduction, and local authorities for replication and upscaling. Lessons learnt showed that local authorities give funding to its local NGOs (rather than national NGO). The co-financing in cash is from local budget for science and technology development, agriculture and rural programmes, and environmental programmes and the new rural development programme.

GEF SGP help communities and CSOs develop proposals to access other donors and funding facilities. These shall include GCF, USAID, ABS, Wetland, UN-REDD, FCPF, VFD...

GEF SGP will also explore the opportunity to match the fund especially those from private sector, sectoral programmes as well as from other development partners. This need to be intensively studied during the project development phase.

7. Risk management

7.1. Risks and risk management

Table 6. Risks in OP6

Risks	Risk level (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Expected solutions
The livelihood of people is affected by the mangrove protection areas. As a result, the people cannot collect timber, firewood or other forest resources as previously.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize workshops on alternative measure of livelihood improvement. - Enhance people's capacity and awareness about sustainable conservation and cultivation.
The species in eco-tourism area could be affected (noise, waste..) due to excessive tourism development.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Determine the maximum tolerance of the ecosystem. - Control the maximum number of tourists for not destroying natural landscape.
The benefits in sustainable ecosystem management and exploitation are not distributed fairly to people because they are not empowered to manage natural resources by the government.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop sustainable co-management mechanism with participation of all stakeholders. - Recommend the local authority to allocate people with long-term land and forest management.
People have not changed the crops that adapt to climate change.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The change of domestic animals and plants must to be discussed and agreed by the people. - Make models, enhance the people's capacity in applying intensive farming techniques.
The areas of ecological restoration are easily ruined by the projects of industrial zones, tourism sites by external investors.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop stakeholder-involved models. - Obtain local people's consensus for programs and projects of local socio-economical development.
The structure of community is broken. The regulations on community management in biodiversity conservation and economic development are not committed to implement because they are not legally binding.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institutionalize the community commitment through the approval by local authorities. - Enhance the monitoring and support from local authorities and unions.
The landfill and composting at home do not match the culture and practices of some local communities.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance to propagate the benefit of waste management and environmental protection in order to change the habits and traditions in daily life of the community.

Risks	Risk level (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Expected solutions
People are vulnerable to toxic chemical because of inappropriate collection of plant protection product bags and bottles.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supply labor protection equipment and guide people to collect bottles or bags of plant protection products. - Advise the technology of safe collection.
The risk of partial environmental pollution increases because of collecting too many untreated bottles and bags of plant protection chemicals.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the technology and measure for recycling or effective management before collecting. - Cooperate with plant protection product company to recycle the material.
The participation of women, ethnic minorities and people with disability is not guaranteed.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the rate of women and ethnic minorities involved in each project. - The content and form of project must attract the participation of women, ethnic minorities and people with disability.
Unusual weather due to climate change results in the death or abnormal development of species in pilot project.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyze the shortcomings of weather to select the appropriate solution. - Assign a qualified person to follow weather forecast to make timely remedy.
The risk of CH ₄ emission is higher due to inappropriate biogas composite.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance the awareness of people in using biogas composite. - Apply appropriate technology based on local conditions.
The habit of littering does not change because of small-scale SGP.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperate with projects of new rural development and environmental protection to make waste composition models.
Local authority does not support/allow pilot SGP policy dialogue.	Low	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gain the support from people and CSOs to organize policy dialogue forum. - Indicate the lessons or benefits for local authority before the policy dialogues.
The capacity of project development of CBOs/NGOs is limited.	Low	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote the communication and introduction of SGP. - Organize training courses for new partners about methods of SGP development.
The scale of SGP is small. The solution in practice remains limited.	Low	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Link small projects into a big project. For example, the policy completion needs much evidence.

Risks	Risk level (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Expected solutions
The cooperation between the divisions/departments/agencies and GEF-SGP related NGOs/CBOs during the implementation of OP6 is not strict.	Low	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop partnerships during the implementation of OP6. - Regularly update relevant information and identify the cooperation if necessary.
Few source of finance from partners is mobilised.	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Find alternate partners or diversify partners.
SGP project has not attracted the attention of partners and local authorities.	Low	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organize meetings with partners, advisory units, coordinators and local authorities about SGP and projects. - Connect with big projects to handle the problems.

7.2 In order to minimize the risks and handle the risk management, the project has to consist of risk analysis and minimization. The more specific the risks are, the better the solutions are.

Based on the framework of risk management of each project, SGP should develop a framework of risk monitoring and recommend for risk solutions. The report on risk management for the entire project should be made once every 6 months. On the basis of the report, NSC members will discuss about the risk solutions for the entire SGP.

8. National Steering Committee Endorsement

Annex 1: Baseline Assessment Report

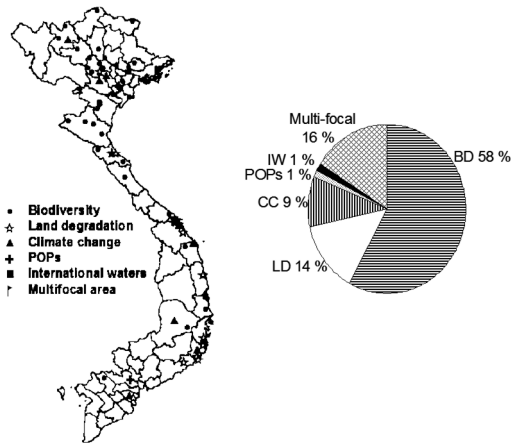
1. Selection of landscape/seascape

Viet Nam is an agricultural country with about 69% its population living in the rural areas. The country has been divided into six/seven agro-ecological regions (see Figure 3), namely:

- Midland and Mountainous Northern region;
- Red River Delta;
- North Central Coast;
- South Central Coast;
- Highland region;
- South East region; and
- Mekong River Delta.

SGP had started in Viet Nam since 1999 (OP2). Until 2015, almost all SGP projects located in the North and South Central Coasts (see Figure 1 and 2).

Figure 1: Geographical and thematic focus in 1999-2005 and 2006-2010



(grey part shows projects in 2006-2010)

Figure 2: Geographic focus of SGP in 2006-2015

region)

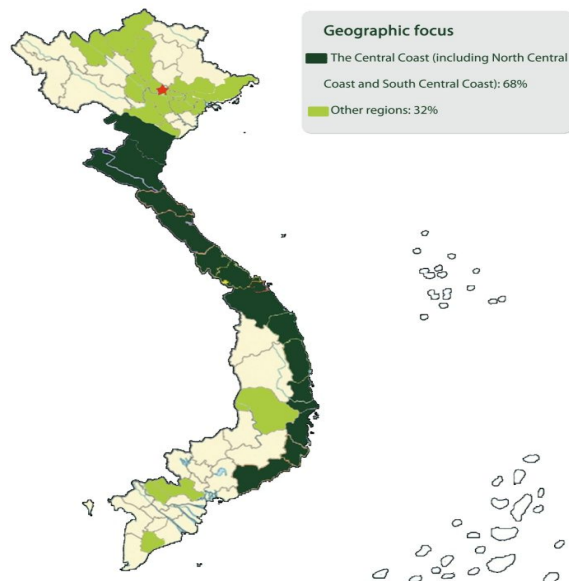


Figure 3: Agro-ecological region of Viet Nam

(Northeast+Northwest =Northern



Based on (i) the SGP guideline for OP6 country program strategy development, (ii) the priorities of the Government of Viet Nam in environmental protection and response to climate change (CC), (iii) the priorities outlined in the Viet Nam’s GEF 6 strategy, (iv) a review of the SGP projects in the previous OPs (OP2-OP5), and (v) consultations with Viet Nam’s SGP/NSC members, GEF focal points in Conventions of Biodiversity, Stockholm, Combating Desertification, and other key stakeholders at the national level, a list of criteria for selecting landscape/seascape was developed. The selected landscapes/seascapes should have:

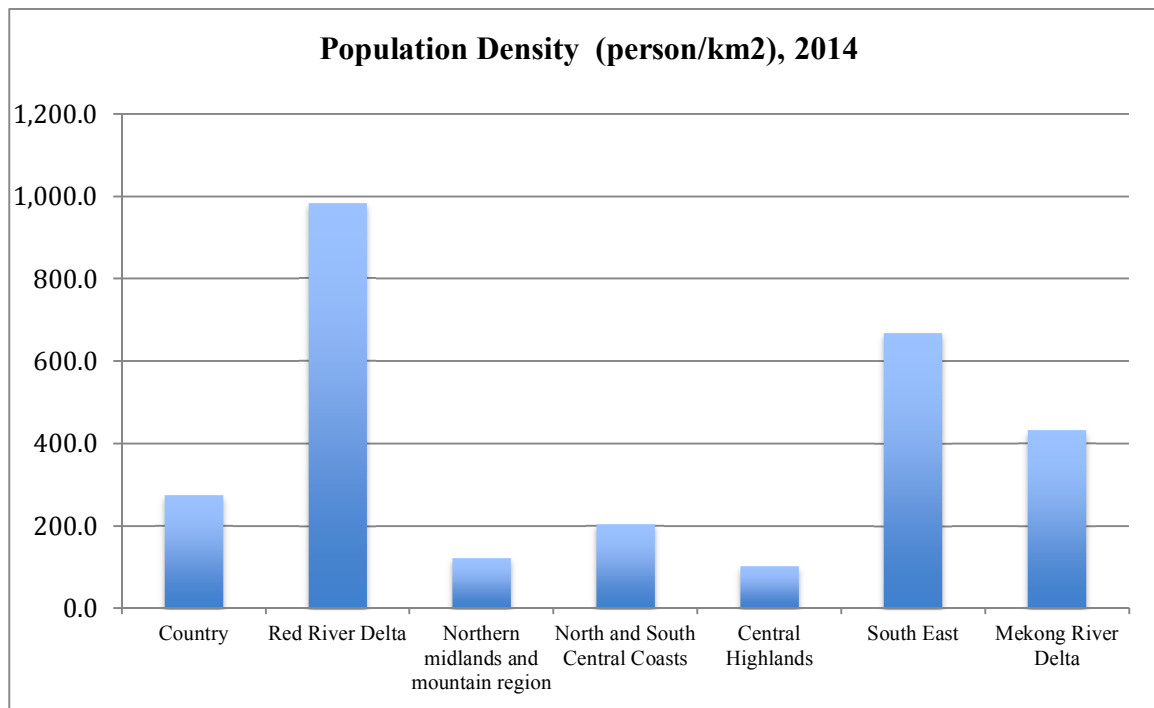
- Most critical issues in CC adaptation,
- Most POP and chemicals’ pollutions issues,
- Opportunities to link with the Government programs,
- Opportunities for SGP projects (SGP niches), and
- Less SGP projects in the previous OPs.

According to these criteria, the Red River Delta and the Mekong River Delta have been primarily selected for further assessment and consultations. Statistical data for the two regions have been collected, data on the rural environmental pollutions, impacts of CC on the two deltas were further reviewed, and two local consultation workshops were held in the Red River Delta (Bac Giang province) and the Mekong River Delta (Can Tho province) in February and March 2016. The detailed reports are attached.

2. Recommended landscape

Statistical data and figures below show overall pictures of the agro-ecological regions in Viet Nam.

Figure 4: Population Density, 2014



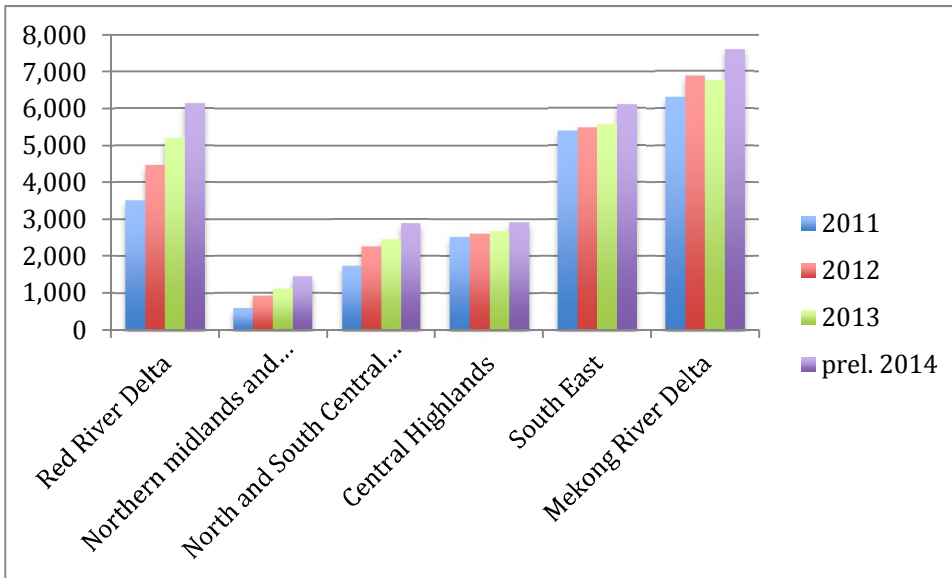
Source: General Statistical Office, 2014

The Red River Delta has the highest population density and the Mekong River Delta ranks the third highest place. Therefore, domestic solid wastes in these two deltas are also high. The South East region is also populous but its rural population is only around 5.9 millions compared with 9.6 millions of the Red River Delta and 13.2 millions of the Mekong Delta. Moreover, there are overlapping responsibilities/tasks in the rural environment in Viet Nam: the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) is in charge of the environment in rural areas but only for hazardous waste and wastes/pollutions from handicraft villages, while the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) is in charge of rural areas, including the rural environment, fertilizers and plant protection chemicals. Furthermore, the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) is in charge of chemicals production and trading, etc... Hence in reality it seems that the rural domestic wastes rest with the local authorities, who have limited capacity in dealing with the issues. Currently in rural areas, where more than 31.500 tonnes of solid waste are generated per day, only 40-55 percent is collected.³ The Government of Viet Nam has launched a national target program for the new rural development with 19 criteria, in which there is one criterion on the environment (c. No. 17). This is considered to be one of co-financing sources for SGP projects.

³ Source: <http://en.vietnamplus.vn/Home/Vietnam-boosts-solid-waste-treatment-efforts/20149/55048.vnplus>, September 08, 2014

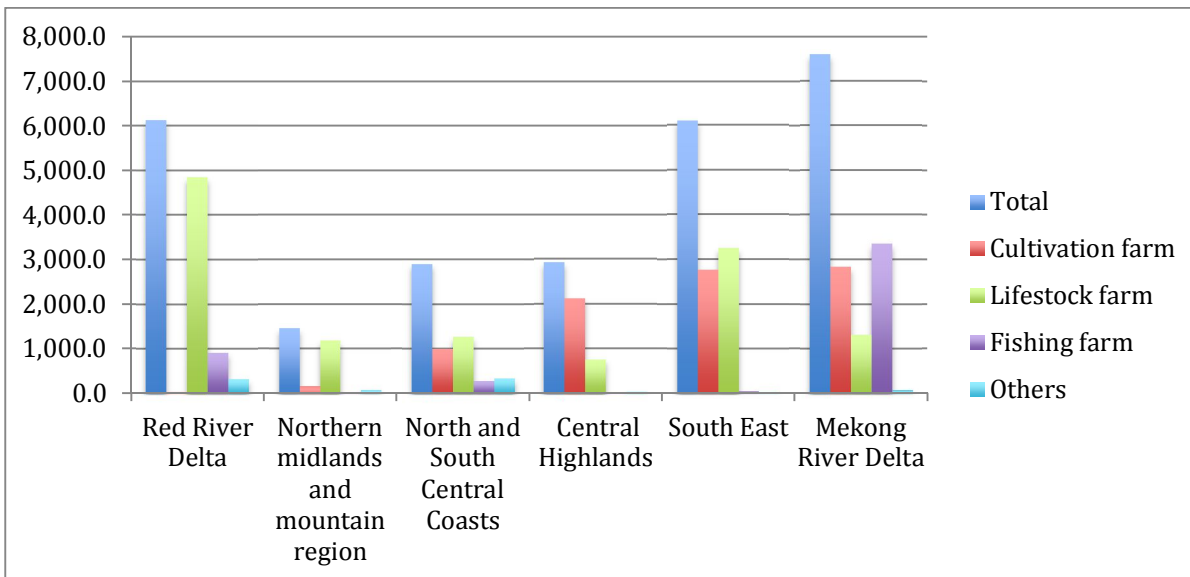


Figure 5: Number of farms by region



Source: General Statistical Office, 2014

Figure 6: Number of farms in 2014 by kinds of manufacturing sector and by region

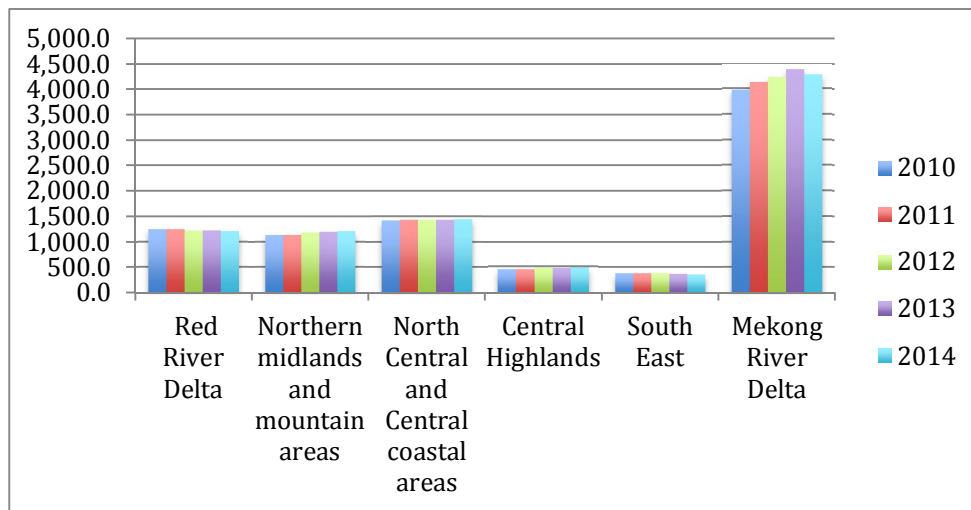


Source: General Statistical Office, 2014

These figures (5-8) indicate that the two deltas have biggest numbers of farms and areas of cereals or paddy in the country. Especially, the Mekong Delta has much more areas of paddy and cereals compared to the remaining regions, consisting of 54% and 48% of the country paddy and cereals areas, respectively. This means the two deltas have been using a lot of chemical fertilizers (in 2015, Viet Nam needed 10.83 millions

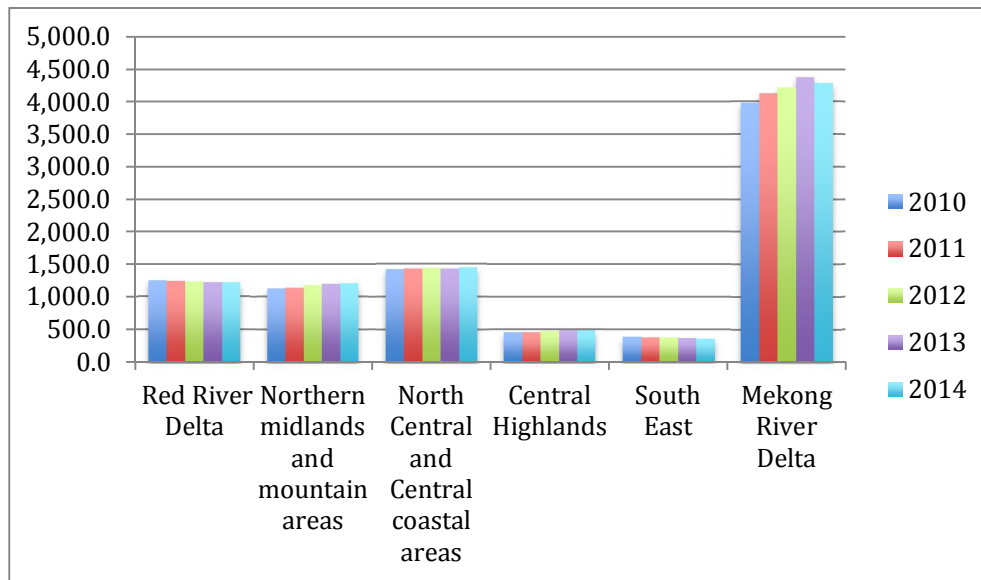
tonnes of fertilisers)⁴ and plant protection chemicals, and there are plenty of opportunities for SGP projects to intervene in focal areas of POP and chemicals, as well as agro-ecology.

Figure 7: Planted area of paddy by region



Source: General Statistical Office, 2014

Figure 8: Planted area of cereals by region



Source: General Statistical Office, 2014

Statistics on the current use of chemical fertilizers show that due to improper use, every year a large volume of fertilizers is washed away or evaporates, affecting the adjacent agricultural environment and

⁴ <http://thoibaotaichinhvietnam.vn/pages/thong-ke-va-du-bao-gia-ca/2015-01-18/thi-truong-phan-bon-nam-2015-cau-cao-gia-giam-17258.aspx>

habitat and causing soil, water and air pollution. The overuse of pesticides in epidemic prevention without following technical procedures and the pre-harvest interval of each type of pesticide have led to many cases of food poisoning, reduction in food safety and hygiene and polluted fields. In a number of localities, the volume of pesticide residue in the soil has reached or even exceeded the allowable level according to Vietnam Technical Regulation.⁵

3. Consultations at the local level

To prepare for the local consultation workshops, lists of preliminary topics suitable for each delta were sent to all provinces for comments and requests for presentation preparation. The workshop participants were introduced about the SGP in Viet Nam, updated about the Government priorities in the socio-economic development, related programs on rural development, environmental and natural resources protection, and response to climate change. Then they were requested to discuss on the most critical environmental and CC issues in the region, and to identify priority landscape/seascape for SGP interventions in OP6. The roles of NGOs/CSOs were also discussed. The following critical issues were chosen but not limited to:

For the Red River Delta:

- Rural environmental pollutions (domestic wastes, chemicals for plant protection and chemical fertilizers, ...);
- Agroecology and climate change adaptation cultivation (drought, saltwater intrusion, organic fertilizers and pesticides, ...);
- Renewable energy (biogas, biomass energy, ...); and
- Agrobiodiversity and natural resource protection.

For the Mekong River Delta:

- Effective use of natural resources (land and water), fertilizers and pesticides;
- Climate change adaptation cultivation (drought, saltwater intrusion, ...);
- Rural environmental pollutions (domestic wastes, chemicals for plant protection and chemical fertilizers, ...);
- Energy from agricultural residues and biogas; and
- Coastal ecosystem conservation.

The workshops' participants agreed with the following issues to be addressed by SGP projects in OP6 in there regions:

For the Red River Delta: (i) rural pollutions caused by domestic solid wastes; (ii) agriculture cultivation adapted to climate change; and (iii) renewable energy from biomass. For the Mekong River Delta: (i) effective use of natural resources; (ii) agriculture cultivation adapted to climate change; (iii) Rural pollutions from chemicals; and (iv) energy from agricultural residues and biogas. For more detail, see the workshops reports/minutes.

⁵ Rural Environment – National state of the environment, 2014, p.54.

Annex 2: Relevant projects/programmes and partners

No.	Project title	Project field relevant to OP6	Managing agency	Project Site	Budget	Timeframe
I	Red River Delta					
1.	Vietnam's Forest and Delta	Aiming to strengthen capacity for the local organizations and communities and to mobilize the community engagement, the project does not just focus on the immediate natural hazards (such as hurricanes, floods) but also deals with the long term effects (sea level rise, salinization, ecosystem degradation ...) at Red River Delta and Mekong River Delta where there is high population and is considered as the economic center of the country. Long An and Nam Dinh are selected to implement activities on adaptation.	MARD (ODA from USAID)	Nam Dinh, Long An, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An	27,322 million USD	2012-2017
2.	Youth program and climate change adaptation in Red River Delta - Ready	Youth programs and climate change adaptation in the Red River Delta will promote these initiatives effectively and creatively about climate change adaptation in the Red River Delta region of Vietnam. The project will be implemented in four districts of 4 provinces in the Red River Delta: Giao Thuy (Nam Dinh); Tien Hai (Pacific); Kim Son district (Ninh Binh) located in the Biosphere Reserve Red River Delta and Cat Hai district (Hai Phong) located in Cat Ba Biosphere Reserve.	MCD Center (ODA from USAID)	Nam Dinh, Thai Binh, Ninh Binh, Hai Phong		2015-2018
3.	Initiative Coalition Ha Long - Cat Ba	The project aims to enhance the people's awareness about the environment conditions, to increase the	MCD Center (ODA from USAID)	Hai Phong, Quang Ninh	0,97 million USD	2014-2017

No.	Project title	Project field relevant to OP6	Managing agency	Project Site	Budget	Timeframe
		licensing criteria for the businesses on overnight yacht on the bay, to improve the water quality in Ha Long - Cat Ba and to provide the technical consultancy for the World Heritage reports submitted to UNESCO. The project also promotes the participation and establishment of the safety practice methods and the effective cooperation between stakeholders including government agencies, businesses, community organizations and NGOs in the environment protection.				
4.	Program supports the management structure of domestic waste in rural and semi urban areas in Vinh Phuc	Projects will be implemented in three years, aiming to reduce the saturation in the landfill and to limit the negative impacts on the environment by technical measures; to strengthen the capacity of cooperatives to provide professional services based on the suitable demands; to improve the sustainable management of waste at the provincial levee	(The fund from AFD)	Vinh Phuc	1,34 million Euro	2016-2018
II	Mekong River Delta					
1.	Operationalizing REDD+ in Viet Nam	To enhance Viet Nam's ability to benefit from future results-based payments ¹ for REDD+ and undertake transformational changes in the forestry sector	MARD (fund from UN-REDD)	Lao Cai, Bac Kan, Ha Tinh, Binh Thuan, Lam Dong and Ca Mau)	30,229,808 million USD	2013-2018
2.	Synthetic climate tolerance and sustainable livelihoods in Mekong River Delta	The Project builds up the solutions to coastal protection, reforestation and restoration of mangrove systems; to improve the production of aquaculture in the region, which is mainly organic shrimp farming; to supply the fresh	MARD (the fund from WB)	An Giang, Kien Giang, Dong Thap, Ben Tre, Tra Vinh, Vinh Long, Soc Trang, Ca Mau, Bac Lieu	384,979 million USD	2016-2022

No.	Project title	Project field relevant to OP6	Managing agency	Project Site	Budget	Timeframe
		water for drinking; to control tides, water regulation for the production of rice - shrimp and aquaculture				
3.	REDD+ Action plan “Reducing green house gas emissions through efforts to limit deforestation, sustainable management of forests, conservation and enhance forest carbon stock in Camau, period of 2016-2020” ⁶	The project contributes to enhance the coverage and quality of forests; to increase forest carbon stocks by raising the awareness of people about the value of forests; to improve the combined silviculture and agro - forestry - fisheries, to enhance the forest protection capacity and forest fire prevention; to improve the income of people who depend on forest resources.	Provincial Committee of People in Camau	Ca Mau	271,863 billion VND	2016-2020
4.	Coastal resources for the sustainable development ⁷ (CRSD)	The project conducts all the activities aiming to agents causing to the degradation, property of the people and damaging the lives, thereby to protect the infrastructure and to improve the product quality, livelihoods and the management of coastal and marine resources and the essential ecosystems for the sustainability of the fishing profession.	MARD (with the fund from WB)	Ca Mau and Soc Trang (in Mekong River Delta); Khanh Hoa, Phu Yen and Binh Dinh (in the South Central); Ha Tinh, Nghe An and Thanh Hoa (in the North Central)	117,9 million USD	2012-2017
5.	Synthetic protection of coastal areas and mangroves in Mekong River Delta for climate change adaptation	Phase II: The program focuses on applying the inter sectors approaches to expand 6 areas: agriculture, fisheries, protection of coastal areas, forestry, planning and budgeting, management of water.	Provincial Committee of People in An Giang, Bac Lieu, Ca Mau, Kien Giang, Soc Trang (the fund from GIZ)	An Giang, Bac Lieu, Ca Mau, Kien Giang, Soc Trang	2,5 million Euro for the period of 2011-2014	2011-2014 and 2015-2018
6.	Integrated Coastal Management Programme	To strengthen the coast of the Mekong Delta by making it more	MARD, GiZ	Mekong delta provinces		2011-2016

⁶ Nguồn: http://www.vietnam-redd.org/Upload/Download/File/744QD_1700.pdf

⁷ Nguồn: <http://apmb.gov.vn/du-an/thong-tin/2014/11/du-an-nguon-loi-ven-bien-vi-su-phat-trien-ben-vung-crsd>

No.	Project title	Project field relevant to OP6	Managing agency	Project Site	Budget	Timeframe
		resilient against climate and environmental change.				
7.	Integrated planning method for the implementation of the strategic plan of the International Convention on Biodiversity and strengthening the resilience of ecosystems to climate change	The project aims to strengthen the resilience of the Mekong River Delta through the restoration of flood water reserve and flood regulatory functions of Dong Thap Muoi and Long Xuyen Quadrangle; to improve the capable of the natural ecosystems in coastal areas to provide the ecosystem services to support agricultural production and aquaculture in line with the saltwater	Southwestern Steering Committee and Can Tho university (The fund from IUCN in Vietnam)	Provinces in Mekong River Delta	0.6 Million Euro	2014-2018
III	In Red River and Mekong River Deltas					
1.	Strengthening resilience of the coastal communities to the impact of climate change in Vietnam	Mangrove forest – eco-system based adaptation, land desertification and desertification	Govt of Vietnam, UNDP (fund from GCF)	Coastal provinces	29 million USD	2016 to
2.	Project supports for low carbon agriculture ⁸	The project contributes to the livestock waste management, to provide credit for the biogas value chain; to transfer technology on the low carbon agricultural production.	MARD	Lao Cai, Son La, Phu Tho, Bac Giang, Nam Dinh, Ha Tinh, Binh Dinh, Tien Giang, Ben Tre and Soc Trang	84 million USD	2013-2019
3.	Improving quality and safety of agricultural products and developing biogas program ⁹	The project aims to reduce the risk from animal waste (biogas development).	MARD (The fund from ADB)	Bac Giang, Ben Tre, Binh Thuan, Da Nang, Hanoi, Hai Duong, Hai Phong, Ho Chi Minh City, Lam Dong, Ninh Thuan, Phú Thọ, Son La, Thai Nguyen, Tien	110,4 million USD	Phase I (2009-2015), Phase II: under formulation

⁸ Nguồn: <http://www.lcasp.org.vn/Gioi-thieu/Thong-tin-chung/detail-1.html>

⁹ Nguồn: <http://apmb.gov.vn/du-an/thong-tin/2015/3/du-an-nang-cao-chat-luong-an-toan-san-pham-nong-nghiep-va-phat-trien-chuong-trinh-khi-sinh-hoc>

No.	Project title	Project field relevant to OP6	Managing agency	Project Site	Budget	Timeframe
				Giang, Vinh Phuc, Yen Bai		