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UNDP in Viet Nam Development Dispatch

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Foreword from the Resident Representative

Welcome to the latest edition of UNDP's quarterly newsletter, highlighting how UNDP in Viet Nam is addressing pressing development issues.

In this edition of "*UNDP in Viet Nam Development Dispatch*", we highlight the key findings of UNDP's 2022 flagship PAPI research capturing citizen perceptions of provincial governance and public administration performance. Hundreds of data points collected from more than 16,000 citizens across all 63 provinces provide insights for improved local governance and public service delivery.

In line with this year's International Women's Day theme on "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", we took the opportunity to reflect on how technology has the potential to break down barriers and create opportunities for all.

You'll also read about how nearly half a century after the war, generations of Vietnamese, Cambodians and Lao sill live in fear that their next step could be their last. The UNDP Regional Conference on Mine Action brought together policy makers and experts to find ways to strengthen regional cooperation and offer global innovations. Unexploded ordnance contamination should be seen as a development issue. Further cooperation, sharing of new data, rolling out advances in technology are needed to accelerate the mine action progress.

We hope you'll enjoy reading these and many other stories. As always, we remain committed to working with our partners to promote sustainable development and build resilient communities.

Ramla Khalidi
UNDP Resident Representative in Viet Nam

Poverty, Economic growth, Jobs, Road quality, and Corruption top concerns of Vietnamese citizens

The latest Provincial Governance and Public Administration Performance (PAPI) with support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia and Embassy of Ireland, provides an important temperate check on government performance. PAPI 2022 results show a mixed picture of governance and public administration performance, with improvement in E-governance and Participation, stagnation in Transparency and Publicadministration procedures, and declining in Control of Corruption at local levels.

Read more

Digital solution empowers ethnic minority women

As the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women focused on the theme "*Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls*", UNDP Resident Representative Ramla Khalidi wrote to the Asia Times, sharing how digitalization and innovation could be game changers in helping some of the most marginalized communities in Viet Nam rise out of poverty.

Read the op-ed

The girl who ‘sees’ with technology

"*Foreign language helps me get scholarships for exchanges in Thailand, Korea, Japan, and Master’s Program in Australia, while the technologies compensates for my eyes*," said Dao Thu Huong, UNDP Disability Inclusion Officer. Technology can be a fantastic enabler for greater inclusion. But it must be proactively and deliberately put at the service of equalizing the playing field and removing barriers for people with disabilities. VnExpress tells how technologies have enabled our Huong to promote disability rights and inclusion.

Read the story

Partnership forum discusses digital transformation in justice sector

Digital transformation can contribute to the objectives of building a modern and professional justice system that is transparent, accountable, and accessible to everyone. Recent Legal Partnership Forum - a high-level dialogue between the Government of Viet Nam, the UN, the European Union, and other development partners, highlighted the importance of legal framework and digital ecosystem; investment in digital infrastructure, especially in remote areas; and user-centered design and implementation.

Read more

Scaling up the "Doctor for everyone" telehealth system in 10 provinces

The Korea Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH) signed memorandums of understanding with the Ministry of Health of Viet Nam and UNDP on cooperation in the implementation of telehealth applications to improve access to health services for disadvantaged groups in Viet Nam. The Korean Government through KOFIH will provide US$3.2 million in non-refundable official development assistance for this project, supporting the implementation of the "Doctor for Everyone" telehealth system in ten provinces in different regions of Viet Nam with a combined population of up to 10 million people.

Read more

Mine Action Cannot Wait - Stronger partnerships

key to end the deadly legacy of war

Nearly half a century after the war, millions of people in Cambodia, Laos, and Viet Nam remain at risk. Ms Y Quyet in Quang Binh province in Viet Nam found a mine in her back yard when she was gardening. "*The anxiety of landmines has always been with me*," she said. Ahead of the recent Regional Conference on Mine Action in Ha Noi, UNDP Resident Representative Ramla Khalidi and KOICA Country Director Cho Han-Deog offered their perspectives on how to accelerate mine action progress.

Read the op-ed

BACKGROUND REPORT
MAINSTREAMING GENDER INTO THE NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN (NAP) PROCESS

VIET NAM NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONALIZATION SUPPORT PROJECT (NAP-SUP)

Mainstreaming gender into the National Adaptation Plan process

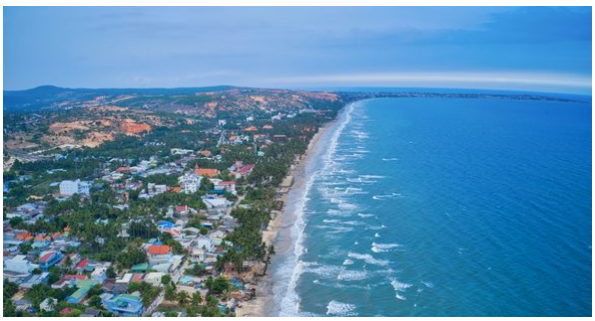
With a view to enhancing recognition of women's vulnerabilities, addressing their needs, and empowering them in leading climate action, the report analyzes the gender impacts of climate change in prioritized sectors of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP). It provides recommendations for mainstreaming gender in climate change adaptation through a roadmap, to guide ministries in

incorporating gender into their sectoral plans. The report serves as a resource for national and sectoral policy planning, budgeting, monitoring, evaluation, and the NAP development.

Read more

Winners of the Green Transport Debate competition announced

In collaboration with the Ministry of Transport and the Association of Vocational Education and Social Work of Viet Nam, UNDP organized the Final Round of the Green Transport Debate Competition to raise awareness and provide more knowledge for students about green transportation, low-carbon emissions, sustainable directions to minimize the impact of climate change in Viet Nam.
Read more



Marine spatial planning for sustainable oceans in Viet Nam

Representatives from central and local government, and international organizations gathered in Quang Binh province to discuss Master Plan on Sustainable Exploitation and Use of Coastal Resources from 2021 to 2030, with a Vision to 2045". The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and Quang Binh province, with the support from UNDP and the Norwegian Embassy in Ha Noi. Read more

Leveraging Viet Nam's Social Impact Business ecosystem

Being inspired by the 300-year-old traditional paper flower craft in Thanh Tien village, Thua Thien-Hue province, Hieu established Maypaper Flower workshop and used traditional techniques to create modern flower designs and combine them with wall décor. However, Hieu struggled to sell her products. With the support from ISEE-COVID project, Hieu re-set Maypaper Flower's market target and started to sell its products through Amazon and Etsy. ISEE-COVID initiative, co-implemented by UNDP and the Ministry of Planning and Investment with the funding from the Global Affairs Canada, has benefited more than 200 social impact businesses like Maypaper Flower.

Read the stories

We, the women - Empowering communities from farm to market in Viet Nam

Under the forest canopy of Viet Nam, women like Vi Thi Tuoi are working to redefine how medicinal herbs are cultivated and preserved. These transformative efforts to generate livelihood stability within communities are part of a Global Environment Facility's Small Grants initiative, under a broader GEF Biosphere Reserve Project. In collaboration with local counterpart and GEF team, our colleagues wrote a story on how this initiative empowered local women.

Read the story

The Unsung Heroes of Waste Management: Women Waste Workers in Viet Nam

A familiar chant echoes through the streets of Viet Nam: "Do you have aluminum, plastic, scrap for sale?" This is the call of the women waste workers, who tirelessly go door-to-door in neighborhoods every day, asking people if they have any recyclable materials to sell. They collect these materials, ranging from aluminum cans to plastic bottles and scrap metal, and sell them to earn a living. Read the inspiring stories about the unsung heroes in Viet Nam.

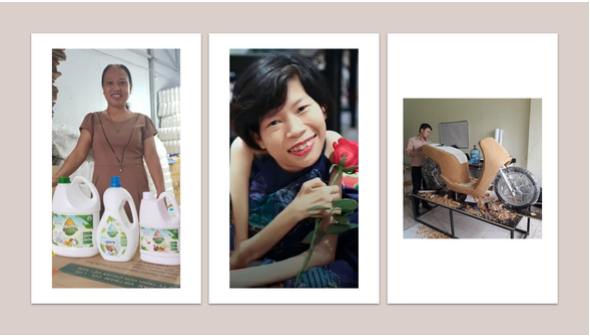
Read the story

Planting Organic Potatoes and Saving Mangroves: A Win-Win Deal for Both the Farmers and the Environment

Like many of her neighbors, Em's livelihood was dependent on the mangrove forest, where she caught shrimp, fish, and baby crabs. But the unpredictability of the weather made it difficult to earn a steady income from the forest. When it changed, so did her fortune. Alternative livelihood model has helped Em and her community to earn stable incomes while reducing the negative environmental consequences of the improper collection of forest products.

Read the story

Viet Nam's grassroots innovator featured in global award-winning documentary



Journey of giving: how grassroots innovators help people come closer to their dreams

Trinh Thi Hong in Da Nang found a way to turn food waste into cleaning products, creating jobs for more than 400 women. She was featured in the award-winning UNDP Accelerator Labs' documentary "For Tomorrow" together with other grassroots innovators around the world. Ms. Hong joined our film premiere in Ha Noi and shared her journey on developing novel solutions for her communities.

Watch the video

The most sustainable solutions are often from inside-out. It was born out of local needs, inspired by other initiatives from across the world, and through a process of experimentation, trial-and-error. From solutions mapping experience, our Accelerator Labs colleagues share stories of grassroots innovators who created unique solutions that fit their local context.

Read the blog

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