CLIMATE PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND INVESTMENT REVIEW (CPEIR) – PERIOD 2016-2020 – TRA VINH PROVINCE

1. Climate change in Tra Vinh

General introduction

Tra Vinh is a coastal province located in the southeast of the Mekong River Delta region (Mekong Delta). Tra Vinh borders the Ben Tre to the North and is separated by the Co Chien River (a tributary of the Tien River). The Southwest borders Soc Trang Province and Can Tho City across the Hau River border. The West borders Vinh Long province and the East borders the East Sea, with a coastline of 65km. Tra Vinh province has a total natural area of 239,078 ha, accounting for 5.6% of the area of the Mekong Delta. There are 09 administrative units, including: Tra Vinh city, Duyen Hai town and 7 districts: Cang Long, Chau Thanh, Cau Ke, Tieu Cau, Cau Ngang, Tra Cu, Duyen Hai. There are 106 administrative units at commune, ward and township levels.

In 2020, Tra Vinh's population was about 1,009,940 people. The total gross regional domestic product (GRDP) according to 2020 comparison reached VND 38,7890 billion (an increase of 2.87% compared to 2019). The real GRDP reached VND 63,197 billion. GRDP per capita is estimated at VND 62.58 million (US $2,684)[1].

Historically an agricultural economy with low per-capita incomes, Tra Vinh has shown great potential as a marine economic centre, sites for renewable energy projects such as wind and solar and is expanding industrial zones to focus on food processing among other activities.

Tra Vinh province has implemented several major investment projects such as: Co Chien Bridge Construction Project; upgrading National Roads 53, 54, 60, and Luong for large vessels entering Hau River (canal dig Tra Vinh); Dinh An economic zone; Duyen Hai power centre; creating conditions for Tra Vinh to overcome geographical limitations and become an important global maritime trading gateway of the Mekong Delta Long travel; creating a new driving force in local economic development.

The impact of climate change on Tra Vinh

The recurring impacts of climate change in Tra Vinh have been saline intrusion, soil erosion in coastal areas and estuaries, prolonged drought depleting fresh water reserves during dry season, cyclones, and high tides, occurring with increasing frequency.[2]

[1] Tra Vinh Statistical Yearbook 2020.

[2] According to Tra Vinh's Climate Change Office: http://bdkhtravinh.vn/site/view/255

- Saltwater intrusion on Co Chien and Hau rivers has increased dramatically, adversely affecting agricultural production. (The salt boundary is 4/per thousand at the highest salinity intrusion along two main estuaries about 50 km from the sea mouth.).
- Coastal erosion has become an increasingly serious issue. Seasonally, during September and October, winds from the north-east wind blow strongly, and high waves combined with high tide have cause serious landslides in coastal communes. In Duyen Hai district, coastal communes such as Hiep Thanh, Truong Long Hoa, and Dan Thanh have exasperated agricultural production outcomes, threatening livelihoods .
- In addition to coastal erosion, Tra Vinh has suffered from more serious riverbank landslides. The associated damage has affected livelihoods in riverside areas, considering the province has more than 19 sections. riverbank landslides are dangerous, with a total length of 13,188m. Individuals located in critical coastal areas and river islands, as well as 13 communes with 4,705 households need to be relocated due to landslides, natural disasters, and high tide by building infrastructure for resettlement and adaptive climate change response.

Activities to respond to climate change in Tra Vinh[3]

The province has mobilized domestic and foreign funding sources to implement research projects and propose solutions to respond to climate change raising public awareness, and strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacity of the most vulnerable coastal communities to climate change. Every year, the province allocates investment from the budget for natural disaster prevention and mitigation, with specific target programs such as afforestation, upgrading of dike systems, and erosion prevention.

Based on the Target Program to respond to climate change (NTPRCC) for the period 2016-2020 approved in Decision No. 1670/QD-TTg dated October 31, 2017 of the Prime Minister, Tra Vinh province has carried out 02 tasks with the support from the central budget: (1) Climate assessment of Tra Vinh province (a budget of VND 371,048,000); (2) Developing and updating the action plan to respond to climate change for the period 2021-2030, with a vision to 2050 in Tra Vinh province (funding: VND 905,946,000 VND). As a result, Tra Vinh province has issued: (1) Decision No. 3463/QD-UBND dated October 13, 2020 on approving the Climate Assessment Report of Tra Vinh Province; and (2) Decision No. 3653/QD-UBND dated November 10, 2020 on approving the Action Plan to respond to climate change for the period 2021-2030, with a vision to 2050 in Tra Vinh province.

Pursuant to Decision No. 2053/QD-TTg dated October 28, 2016 of the Prime Minister on promulgating the Plan to implement the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, Tra Vinh Provincial People's Committee has issued Plan No. 45/KH-UBND dated 24/8/2018 on the implementation of Decision No. 2053/QD-TTg dated October 28, 2016 of the Prime Minister in Tra Vinh province.

In addition, the province is also implementing the "Climate change adaptation in the Mekong Delta region in Tra Vinh - Ben Tre province" with an implementation period of 06 years (2014 - 2020). The implementation sites are 30 low-income communes of 7 districts within the province. Funding is provided by IFAD's Agricultural Climate Change Adaptation Program for smallholder farmers, the reciprocal budget, and the beneficiary's contributions. In terms of afforestation projects, there is the Project of investment, construction and sustainable development of protective forests in Tra Vinh province in the period of 2014 - 2015, aiming to build 250 hectares of new coastal protection forests. With the Support Program to Respond to Climate Change (SP-RCC Program): 02 projects on anti-erosion causing sedimentation to plant mangroves to protect Hiep Thanh sea dyke and Dan Thanh commune, Duyen Hai district to reduce waves, induce sedimentation, and plantations of Mangrove trees aim to protect 07 km of coastline of 02 communes, minimize the generation of greenhouse gas emissions, contribute to reducing the impacts of climate change. The project

[3] According to H.N.Hiền - CCCO Trà Vinh

"Investment in construction and sustainable development of protective forests in Tra Vinh province" aims to plant and grow forests in coastal communes responding to climate change and sea level rise. Finally, an embankment project to protect the critical part of the coastline in Con Egg hamlet, Truong Long Hoa commune, Duyen Hai district, Tra Vinh province took place in 2013-2015, covering the total length of the embankment (4,297m).

Challenges caused by climate change and sea level rise require Tra Vinh province to make more efforts to increase awareness and raise efforts to respond to climate change and sea level rise, in parallel with policies to develop a sustainable economy and effectively use international climate financing sources.

2. Summary of Data on Climate Change Investment in Tra Vinh

2.1 Budget sources for climate change investment

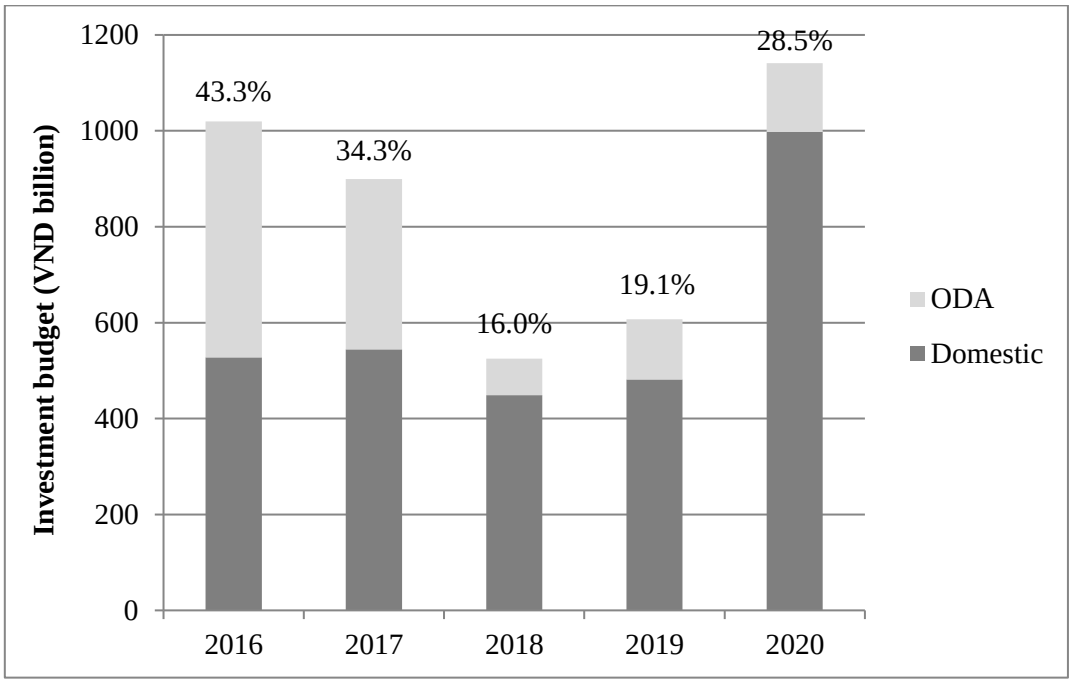


Figure 1: The total investment budget for climate change at Tra Vinh *– the percentage that the climate change budget represents of the total Provincial development investment budget is shown as a % on the top of each bar.*

Table 1: Investment for climate change in Tra Vinh by year from 2016 to 2020 and by capital source

Year	Domes. Invest. in climate change (billion VND)	Foreign investment in climate change (billion VND)	Total invest. in climate change (domes. + foreign capital) (billion VND)	Rate of domest. Invest. in climate change (%)	Rate of ODA Invest. in climate change (%)	Total public invest. of the province (billion VND)	Ratio of investment in climate change to total public investment of the province (%)
2016	527.7	491.9	1,019.6	51.8	48.2	2,355.8	43.3
2017	544.2	355.3	899.4	60.5	39.5	2,619.8	34.3
2018	449.0	75.7	524.7	85.6	14.4	3,280.8	16.0
2019	481.3	126.1	607.3	79.2	20.8	3,176.3	19.1
2020	997.6	143.4	1,140.9	87.4	12.6	4,007.1	28.5

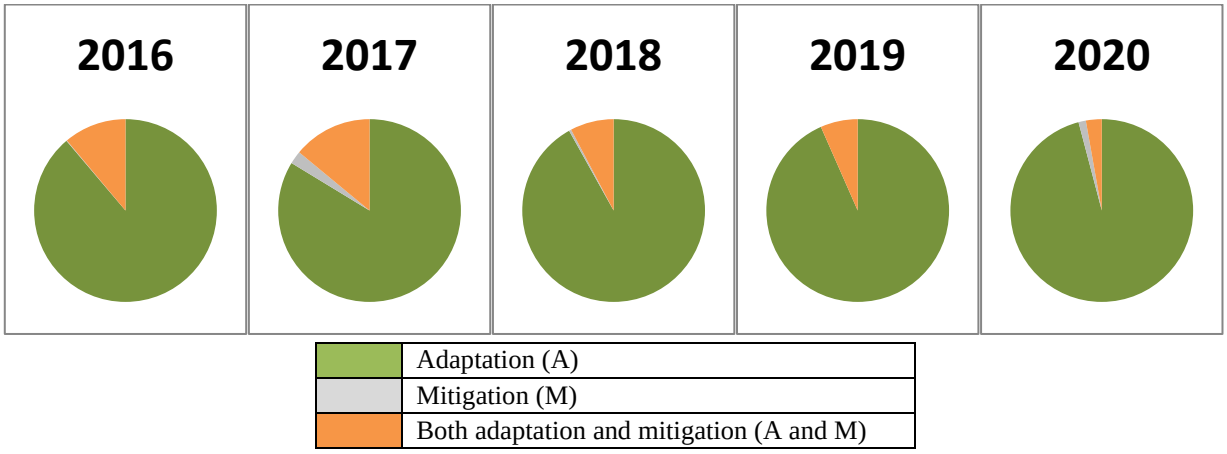
Average investment spending on climate change in the period 2016-2020 in Tra Vinh province is about VND 840 billion/year. The climate investment budget was highest in 2020 (VND 1,140 billion), while the lowest was in 2018 (VND 525 billion).

In the 2016-2020 period, the average annual domestic expenditure on climate change investment was about VND 600 billion, accounting for more than 70% of the total investment expenditure. ODA source contributed about VND 240 billion, accounting for nearly 30%. The proportion of investment from ODA has significantly varied over the years, ranging from 12.6% in 2020 to 48.2% in 2016.

Expenditure on climate change investment as a proportion of total development investment expenditure of the province ranges between 15.2% - 46.0% (average 27%).

2.2 Purpose of the investment budget for climate change

a) The "adaptation" or/and "mitigation" project type distribution:

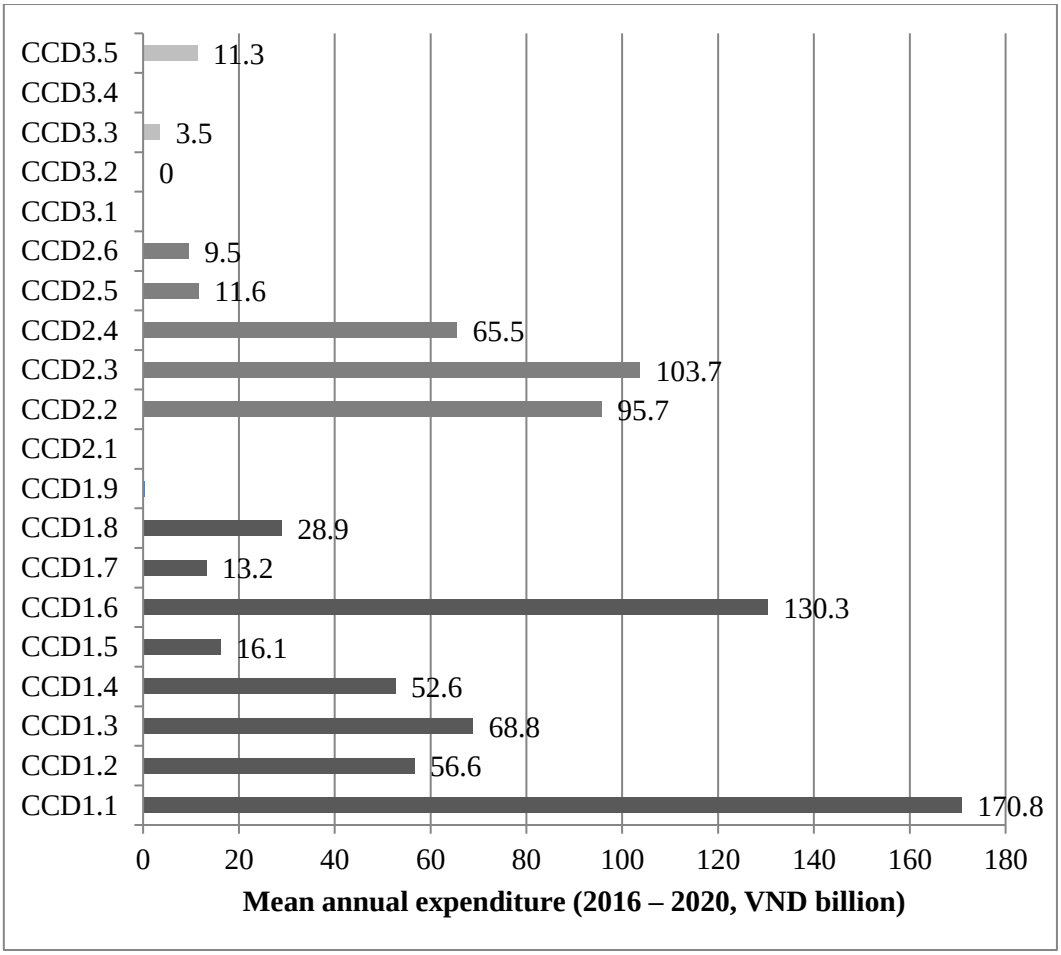


Detailed investment data for climate change adaptation and mitigation

Billion Dong	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
Adaptation (A)	906.0	88.9%	752.7	83.7%	482.0	91.8%	567.3	93.4%	1,094.3	95.9%
Mitigation (M)	0.8	0.1%	20.5	2.3%	2.1	0.5%	-	0.0%	14.9	1.3%
Both adaptation and mitigation (A and M)	112.8	11.0%	126.2	14.0%	40.7	7.7%	40.1	6.6%	31.7	2.8%

The majority of investments related to climate change are in the adaptation sector, which account for more than 90% of the climate investment budget. Several mixed projects related to both climate change adaptation and mitigation exist, focused on planting and sustainable development of protected forests and drainage and wastewater treatment, with investment capital of VND 79 billion/year on average. Mitigation projects focus on the areas of waste treatment, domestic and medical wastewater, as well as using solar energy for equipment on fishing ships. As a small minority, mitigation represents no more than 2.5% of the budget in any year.

b) Allocate investments in response to climate change (CCD) according to specific tasks (Average annual spending in the 2016-2020 period; Unit: billion dong)



The fields related to responding to climate change in Tra Vinh are quite diverse, with about 15 subject areas, five (05) fields with total investment of about 70% are:

- CCD 1.1 (Coastal protection and coastal dyke, investment about VND 171 billion/year, accounting for 20.4%),
- CCD 1.6 (Development Rural and food security, VND 130 billion/year, 15.5%),
- CCD 2.3 (Traffic, 104 VND billion/year, 12.4%),
- CCD 2.2 (Resilience of urban areas and people residential, VND 95.7 billion/year, 11.4%) and
- CCD 1.3 (Irrigation, VND 69 billion/year 8.2%).

These sizeable budgets are followed by investments in areas such as Waste management and treatment, saline intrusion, river dykes and embankments, Fishing and fisheries, Water quality and supply etc. accounting for a proportion of 0.5% to nearly 8%.

Investment sectors of the province are in line with strategic direction of Action Plans to respond to climate change (CCAP) and Green Growth (GGAP).

2.3 Budget expenditure from ODA

Here are the 05 (five) biggest ODA projects for climate change (Project name, funding source, investment period, share of total ODA investment):

1. Mekong River Delta Urban Upgrading Project - Tra Vinh City Sub-Project, Tra Vinh Province (2016-2020, 33.9%)

2. Dredging axial canal system and building regulating works on canals, Tra Vinh province for production in climate change conditions (2016-2020, 18.3%)
3. Mekong River Delta Climate Change Adaptation Project (AMD Tra Vinh) (2016-2020, 14.4%)
4. Drainage and wastewater treatment for Tra Vinh city, Tra Vinh province (2016-2020, 13.6%)
5. Embankment to protect the critical part of the coastline in Con Egg hamlet, Truong Long Hoa commune, Duyen Hai district, Tra Vinh province (repeat project) (2016-2020, 10.1%).

2.4 Policy and planning instruments

Instrument	Yes (√) or No (X)
Local NTP-RCC, report period to 2015	X
Climate Change Action Plan	√
Green Growth Action Plan	√
Plan for Implementation of Paris Agreement	X
Others: none	