



SPECIAL REPORT

YOUTH FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN VIET NAM



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Foreword

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1. YOUTH STATEMENT

For several years, Viet Nam has ranked as one of the countries most affected by climate change.¹ It is not hard to see the climate emergency's impact on this country when it comes to extreme weather events and climate disasters. In 2020, a historic series of storms and floods in the Central region of Viet Nam led to unprecedented levels of loss and damage to human lives and infrastructure. According to a report from the Department of Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, climate disasters in October 2020 alone were responsible for 232 deaths and an economic loss of 15.576 billion VND (676 million USD) for Central Viet Nam provinces.² Even though extreme weather events form a natural part of the climate cycle, science has proven that *climate change* worsens their frequency, intensity and impact. Climate change-induced sea level rise and salinity intrusion pose great threats to people across the country, especially farmers and vulnerable groups such as women and children, people with disabilities and ethnic minorities.³ Even now, some have already found it necessary to relocate due to changing environmental conditions, such as the impoverished fishermen from Ca Mau (Mekong Delta) whose livelihoods were threatened because of harsher weather and fish stock decline.⁴

Aware of these hard truths, Vietnamese youths are constantly looking for innovative ways to mitigate and adapt to climate change. With access to more information and data than ever before, we feel obligated to use knowledge and act to secure our own futures on this planet, as well as those of our families and society as a whole.

Viet Nam is a young country. According to the 2019 Population Census Report, youths 35 years old or younger make up 57 percent of Viet Nam's population of 96.5 million.⁵ If 57 percent of Viet Nam's population commits to climate action, we believe that achieving the goals laid out in our country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) is more than possible. Aware of these hard truths, Vietnamese youths are constantly looking for innovative ways to mitigate and adapt to climate change. With access to more information and data than ever before, we feel obligated to use knowledge and act to secure our own futures on this planet, as well as those of our families and society as a whole.

¹ “Biến Đổi Khí Hậu,” January 17, 2019, <https://Viet.Nam.opendevelopmentmekong.net/vi/topics/climate-change/>.

² “Cơ Cấu Tổ Chức Ban Chỉ Đạo Trung Ương Về Phòng Chống Thiên Tai” (Bộ Nông nghiệp và Phát triển nông thôn, November 2, 2020), <http://phongchongthientai.mard.gov.vn/Pages/co-cau-to-chuc-ban-chi-dao-tw-ve-pctt.aspx>.

³ “Global Warming of 1.5°C” (The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2019), <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/download/#full>.

⁴ Thị Phụng Hà Trần, “Fishery Livelihoods and Adaptation under the Threat of Ecological Uncertainties,” in *Workshop: Climate Change Adaptation and Migration in the Mekong Delta* (Can Tho University, 2012).

⁵ “Completed Results of the 2019 Viet Nam Population and Housing Census” (Ha Noi: Statistical Publishing House, 2020), pp. 211-238, <https://www.gso.gov.vn/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Ket-qua-toan-bo-Tong-dieu-tra-dan-so-va-nha-o-2019.pdf>.

Not only strong in numbers, Vietnamese youths possess great creative potential as shown through the country's high ranking on World Bank's Human Capital Index compared to others at the same income level.⁶ We regard climate change as an existential threat as well as an accelerator for innovation that brings added values to our society, environment and economy.

With creativity and dynamism, Vietnamese youths have been at the forefront of the search for solutions in climate mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR), many of which utilize nature-based methods. However, youth groups still encounter major bottlenecks when it comes to skill sets, access to technology, financial sustainability and cooperation with stakeholders that have led to a lack of systematic, comprehensive and effective projects. Additionally, Vietnamese youths face barriers in understanding regional, national and international climate policy, and have yet to realize our role in mainstreaming and reviewing Viet Nam's NDC and National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

At the time of writing, we are worried that youth's climate projects will remain unable to optimize their effectiveness and impact, with many creative ideas being not implemented due to internal and external bottlenecks. We are worried about whether youths can maintain fervor in climate action when faced with increasing economic and societal pressures. We nervously track the progress of international climate negotiations, with the hope that youth voices will be recognized by policymakers so that we have concrete tools to boost collective action for our own futures.

Yet alongside our fears, stand hope and faith in the future. Through consultation forums and other capacity-building opportunities in 2020, we are starting to see more cooperation and growth within the youth climate community in Viet Nam. We hope that the result of this process will be systematic accelerators that truly boost the effectiveness, depth and impact of youth climate groups in Viet Nam. Most importantly, since climate change will have a disproportionate impact on disadvantaged communities, we want youth's climate groups to be more inclusive in their approach, enabling young people from all regions and backgrounds to participate in their projects.

And that is why today we gather to write the Special Report "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam," the first of its kind to take stock of current youth climate projects, the bottlenecks experienced by youths and potential accelerators for the future.

First and foremost, this is a report written by Vietnamese youths for the good of our country and the world. As Report Authors, we want this publication to reach as many youth groups in Viet Nam as possible, so that they can obtain a bird's eye view of the youth climate action ecosystem currently in existence. With the publication of an English version, we also hope our report findings

⁶ "Human Capital Index (HCI) (Scale 0-1) - Viet Nam," Accessed January 27, 2021, <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/HD.HCI.OVRL?locations=VN>.

will reach a wider youth audience in the region and the world, to boost cross-border collaborations for the common goal of keeping temperature increase to below 1.5 degree.

But not stopping there, we want our report on youth climate action to be seriously considered by stakeholders in our country and beyond. We will have succeeded when our **Roadmap for Youth Climate Action**, with specific proposals to enhance youth capacity in mainstreaming the NDCs, will receive support from youths as well as the Government of Viet Nam and other relevant organizations. These are our objectives in creating the Special Report “Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam.” We commit to channeling our best efforts in realizing the proposed accelerators and long-term goals in the next five years.

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2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

General bottlenecks

Our survey showed that the four most serious bottlenecks encountered by youths in climate action are skills limitations, technological limitations, lack of support from stakeholders and financial constraints.

- **Skill limitations:** Vietnamese youths lack the skills needed to put theoretical knowledge into practice in designing and managing climate projects. These skills are not taught in school, and many youths haven't actively sought out ways to hone them via extracurricular opportunities.
- **Technological limitations:** Vietnamese youths struggle to access the technology needed for efficient implementation and innovation of climate projects.
- **Lack of support from stakeholders:** Young people have difficulty working with stakeholders to execute projects, especially local authorities, scientists and school administrators, who question youth groups' capacity in implementing effective, sustainable projects.
- **Financial constraints:** Without legal representation, many youth projects struggle to fundraise or apply for large grants. On the other hand, youths also lack experience in financial management, planning fundraisers, researching and writing grant proposals.

Additionally, **vulnerable groups** such as youths in remote areas, ethnic minorities, youths with disabilities and high school students struggle even more than other youths in accessing opportunities to hone their skills and build sustainable projects. As mentioned above, even the #Youth4Climate's consultation process, despite its best efforts, did not receive the full participation of a wide range of representatives from under-resourced groups.

General accelerators

- **Accelerator #1 - A Youth for Climate Action Network in Viet Nam:** The network can assist member groups in rallying human resources, applying for funds and working with stakeholders, as well as training programs to improve youth capacity.
- **Accelerator #2 - A Climate Learning Hub for Vietnamese youths:** Create an online climate learning hub serving youth groups and individual youths who want to learn about the latest climate solutions. The portal will feature modules on climate topics and project management skills as well as constantly update a database of youth projects.

Climate mitigation: thematic section in which youths are most active.

Of the 387 youth climate advocates surveyed, 59 percent partake in mitigation activities (in order of popularity: waste management, energy and reduction of air pollution). This is a high-potential field for boosting youth climate action in Viet Nam.

Distinct bottlenecks

- **Strong technical knowledge, lack of soft skills:** Young people working on innovative climate mitigation projects often possess technical literacy but lack experience and skills in communication, project management, and building viable business models.
- **Difficulty in mobilizing diverse target groups:** Effective mitigation projects need to communicate to a diverse set of audiences in order to raise awareness and inspire behavioral change. However, currently, young people only communicate most effectively with other young people through social media and still face difficulties in utilizing more traditional communication channels.

Prioritized accelerators:

- **Accelerator #3 - Scholarships for youths interested in innovation for mitigation:** Scholarships and internships in university labs and research centers for youths from under-resourced communities.
- **Accelerator #4 - Long-term project mentorship groups:** After launching innovation competitions and programs, organizers should commit to setting up mentorship groups to support youths from project experimentation to implementation for at least six months.

Climate adaptation & Disaster Risk Reduction: thematic section in which youths face the most challenges.

Of the 387 youths surveyed, only 27.4 percent are active in climate adaptation. Most of them participated as volunteers for larger organizations instead of youth-led projects.

Distinct bottlenecks

- **Youths in vulnerable localities lack skills and opportunities:** The effects of climate change are most evident in rural and coastal areas of Viet Nam, where local youths face even more barriers to skills-building opportunities and support networks. On the other hand, youths from urban centers who want to operate locally face geographical, cultural and bureaucratic constraints.

Prioritized Accelerators:

- **Accelerator #5 - Skills trainings for local youth:** Organizing skills trainings courses for young people in localities most affected by climate change, so they can effectively contribute to adaptation in the place they know best.
- **Accelerator #6 - Recruit local youths in existing adaptation projects:** Development organizations, CSOs and the Youth Union should boost recruitment of local youth volunteers and interns in existing adaptation projects for youths to contribute and be empowered in building their own projects later on.

Nature-based Solutions: many urban greening initiatives, nature-based projects, awareness-raising and education projects; not many nature conservation projects.

Distinct bottlenecks

- **NBS is still seen as a new concept:** Young people have difficulty persuading the community and stakeholders to support and engage in their projects because “nature-based solutions” are still seen as a new concept in many places.
- **Lack of human resources:** Unlike other project types, NBS projects require young people to experiment and implement models over a long period of time before yielding concrete results. Therefore, projects often face shortages of human resources able to commit in the long run.
- **Projects often run over budget:** NBS projects can incur additional costs during implementation due to unforeseen challenges, according to youths interviewed. This leads to many projects having to stop midway because they cannot continue raising funds.
- **Models still unrealistic; face difficulties in implementation:** In order to successfully build a nature-based project, youths need to know about and apply appropriate models. Teams embarking on project implementation before fully studying available models often face difficulties that could have been apprehended.

Prioritized Accelerators:

- **Accelerator #7 - NBS experiential tour:** Weekend tour for youths interested in NBS to experience, contribute to and learn from existing NBS models, as well as connect with potential human resources for future projects.

Climate policy: youths have not realized their role in climate policy engagement and advocacy.

Distinct bottlenecks

- **Lack of reliable, easily understandable sources of information:** 60.5 percent of 387 survey respondents believe that information resources on climate change policy in Vietnamese are difficult to understand and unreliable. This is a major barrier to policy mainstreaming among youths.
- **Lack of infrastructure for youth climate advocacy:** Understanding policy is one thing, but reviewing and contributing to policies is another matter. At present, 42.7 percent of youth respondents have never engaged in policy advocacy, mainly because they themselves believe that their voice will have no impact. In addition, there is no formal infrastructure in Viet Nam for youth climate advocacy efforts through policy dialogues, demonstrations or policy reviews.

Prioritized Accelerators:

- **Accelerator #8 - Research on youth understanding of policy:** Although our survey has roughly assessed the level of climate policy understanding among youths, we believe that conducting a larger study throughout 2021 will contribute to clarifying the level of policy literacy as well as evaluating the effectiveness of communication and capacity-building campaigns.
- **Accelerator #9 - Carry out the “Road to 1.5” climate policy campaign:** The program will be divided into three main phases: (1) synthesizing and publishing updates on climate policy through the Youth Climate Learning Hub, (2) organizing COP26 simulation events and (3) eTED Talk contest for youths to express what climate policy means to them.
- **Accelerator #10 - Youth Climate Policy Working Group:** After policy mainstreaming campaign, set up a collective of Youth Climate Working Groups based on six sections of Viet Nam’s NDC: (1) Energy, (2) Agriculture, (3) Land use, land use change and forestry, (4) Waste management, (5) Climate adaptation and (6) Cross-cutting issues (e.g. climate finance, gender inequality, vulnerable groups). Working Groups would collaborate to enhance member capacity and produce youth climate policy briefs submitted to MONRE and relevant government agencies, with the eventual goal of youth representation in building Viet Nam’s next updated NDCs in 2025.

3. METHODOLOGY

In collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, UNDP Viet Nam launched the #Youth4Climate initiative in 2020 with the aim of strengthening the capacity of existing youth representatives and networks in stepping-up their climate action to advance Viet Nam's NDC. This initiative builds on UNDP's long experience in mobilizing and working with Youth and students in Viet Nam, including the 2030 Youth Force Viet Nam and in youth social entrepreneurship.

With the support of experts from MONRE, UNDP and CSOs (Live & Learn, WildAct and Change), the #Youth4Climate initiative organized three youth consultation forums from July to October 2020 for the Northern, Central and Southern regions of Viet Nam. Here, youth leaders and youth-initiated organizations gathered to exchange, discuss and learn about climate change issues in Viet Nam. Reports from the regional consultations can be found [here](#).

The process of writing the special report "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam " officially began at the [National Writeshop](#), which took place from December 5-7, 2020 at the International Center for Science and Interdisciplinary Education. At the writeshop, 18 Report Authors from all three regions of Viet Nam discussed four areas of climate action—mitigation, adaptation, nature-based solutions and climate policy—to share experiences in the field, bottlenecks encountered as well as potential accelerators to boost youth climate action. Over the next six weeks, this group of youths, under the coordination of the Lead Reporter, collaborated to finalize the youth statement, Roadmap for Youth Action, list of recommendations for stakeholders and thematic sections seen in the report.

Through the regional consultation forums and national forums, the Report Authors have identified seven main bottlenecks that hinder youth climate action: (1) financial constraints, (2) lack of relevant knowledge, (3) skills limitations, (4) technological limitations, (5) time constraints, (6) limited human resources and (7) lack of support from stakeholders.

To accurately assess how widely each bottleneck affects youths in the four different fields of climate action, we developed a [survey](#) sent to all youths in the #Youth4Climate network as well as more than 45 additional youth climate groups on social media. The survey asked respondents to rate the seven major bottlenecks on a scale from 1 (bottleneck does not affect project) to 10 (the largest bottleneck). In total, we collected 387 survey responses from 14 to 35-year-old, of which workingage youths (23 to 35-year-olds) accounted for 49.8 percent (143/287) and school-age youths (14 to 22-year-olds) accounted for 50.2 percent (44/287) of the sample. In terms of geographical distribution, 40.6 percent of survey respondents were based in the North, 34.1 percent were based in the Central region and 25.3 percent were based in the South. This survey

helped us rank the bottlenecks according to relative severity, as well as prioritize the most-needed accelerators for the Youth Action Roadmap and Recommendations for Stakeholders.

Additionally, the Lead Reporter also specifically sought out and interviewed six outstanding youth climate advocates from under-represented groups who could not attend the consultation events. All the youths mentioned in the report have allowed us to quote their responses and share information related to their projects.

Although the Report Authors aimed to capture the most accurate and inclusive snapshot of youth climate action in Viet Nam, we faced limitations in our work including time constraints and difficulties in reaching a wide range of representatives from under-resourced groups such as ethnic minorities and youths with disabilities. We hope that this report will spark discussions within the #Youth4Climate network and beyond about which further research and assessment is needed to fully understand and support youth climate action in Viet Nam.

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4. TERMINOLOGY

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) — one of the most common and dangerous greenhouse gases which can hang around in the atmosphere for upwards of 300 years. Many scientific studies have demonstrated the relationship between CO₂ concentrations in the air and global warming.⁷

Civil Society Organizations— Non-governmental organizations (NGOs), non-profit organizations (NPOs) representing groups ranging from farmers' associations, women's associations, youth and children's associations, indigenous peoples, scientific communities, etc.⁸

Conference of the Parties (COP) — the COP is the supreme decision-making body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to review the national communications and emission inventories submitted by party countries, assess the effects of the measures taken and the progress made in achieving climate goals.⁹

Disaster-risk Reduction (DRR) — actions for preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk in order to raise disaster resilience and therefore achieve sustainable development.¹⁰

Greenhouse Gases (GHG) — gases in the atmosphere responsible for the greenhouse effect, a phenomenon in which solar radiation is absorbed into the atmosphere and transformed into heat, causing global warming. The main greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O). Other gases with low concentrations but with a high potential for causing a greenhouse effect are hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulfur hexafluoride (SF₆), and nitrogen trifluoride (NF₃).¹¹

Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union (HCYU) — the largest socio-political organization of Vietnamese youths founded, led and trained by the Communist Party of Viet Nam. The HCYU is a reserve force of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, represents youth's legal rights and is a core political force in youth movements as well as in other youth organizations of Viet Nam.¹²

⁷ “The Atmosphere: Getting a Handle on Carbon Dioxide – Climate Change: Vital Signs of the Planet,” NASA (NASA, March 3, 2020), <https://climate.nasa.gov/news/2915/the-atmosphere-getting-a-handle-on-carbon-dioxide/>.

⁸ “Tổ Chức Xã Hội Dân Sự,” Tổ chức xã hội dân sự | Quỹ Môi trường toàn cầu Việt Nam, accessed January 9, 2021, <http://www.gef.monre.gov.vn/vi/gioi-thieu/to-chuc-cua-gef/to-chuc-xa-hoi-dan-su/>.

⁹ “Conference of the Parties (COP),” unfccc.int, accessed January 9, 2021, <https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/supreme-bodies/conference-of-the-parties-cop>.

¹⁰ UNISDR, UNOFDRR. “Terminology on disaster risk reduction.” Geneva, Switzerland (2009).

¹¹ “Luật Bảo Vệ Môi Trường 2020, Luật Số 72/2020/QH14,” luậtViet Nam .vn, January 6, 2021, <https://luatViet Nam .vn/tai-nguyen/luat-bao-ve-moi-truong-2020-195564-d1.html>, Khoản 29-30 điều 3, Khoản 1 điều 91

¹² “Secretariat Members of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union of the 11th Tenure,” The Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, accessed January 29, 2021, <http://english.doanthanhvien.vn/Article-detail/Hcyu/38349/secretariat-members-of-the-ho-chi-minh-communist-youth-union-of-the-11th-tenure.htm>.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) — a Government of Viet Nam agency responsible for state management functions in areas including land use, water resources, mineral resources and climate change.¹³

Mission 1.5 — the goal of keeping global average temperature increase to below 1.5 degrees celsius, based on the “Global Warming of 1.5°C” special report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In the report, 91 of the world's leading scientists strongly recommended that achieving this goal is necessary for reducing the negative impacts of climate change, including sea level rise, species loss and extinction, as well as ocean temperature rise and acidification. Climate-related risks to health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security, and economic growth are projected to increase with global warming of 1.5°C and increase further with 2°C.¹⁴

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) — NDCs are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of long-term climate goals. Updated every five years, NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.¹⁵

Nature-based Solutions (NBS) — actions that work with and enhance nature to help address climate mitigation and adaptation, such as greening cities, preserving biodiversity, using nature-based products, etc.¹⁶

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) — a set of 17 goals developed by the United Nations in 2015 to define the world we want. They apply to all nations and mean, quite simply, to ensure that no one is left behind. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are the 2030 Agenda.¹⁷

The Paris Agreement — a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at COP 21 in Paris, on 12 December 2015 and entered into force on 4 November 2016. Its goal is to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.¹⁸

¹³ “NGHỊ ĐỊNH: Quy Định Chức Năng, Nhiệm Vụ, Quyền Hạn Và Cơ Cấu Tổ Chức Của Bộ Tài Nguyên Và Môi Trường,” Bộ Tài nguyên và Môi trường - Introduction, accessed January 9, 2021, <http://www.monre.gov.vn/pages/chuc-nang---nhiem-vu.aspx>.

¹⁴ “Global Warming of 1.5°C”

¹⁵ “Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs),” unfccc.int, accessed January 9, 2021, <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs/nationally-determined-contributions-ndcs>.

¹⁶ Stephan Pauleit et al., “Nature-Based Solutions and Climate Change – Four Shades of Green,” SpringerLink (Springer, Cham, January 1, 1970), https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-319-56091-5_3#:~:text=The%20concept%20of%20Nature%2Dbased,climate%20change%20mitigation%20and%20adaptation.

¹⁷ “What the SDGs Mean,” United Nations (United Nations), accessed January 31, 2021, <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/what-sdgs-mean>.

¹⁸ “The Paris Agreement,” unfccc.int, accessed January 9, 2021,

United Nations Development Programme in Viet Nam (UNDP Viet Nam) — On the ground in 170 countries and territories, UNDP works to eradicate poverty while protecting the planet. UNDP Viet Nam’s current Country Programme (2017-2021) contributes to three inter-related outcomes of the One UN Strategic Plan for Viet Nam, aiming to address poverty and inequalities; enhance citizen participation and protection of rights; as well as promote sustainable low- carbon development while strengthening resilience of the targeted groups.

Youth —In the framework of this report, “youth” is understood as young people from the ages of 14 to 35 in Viet Nam.

4Youth4Climate — In collaboration with MONRE, UNDP launched the #Youth4Climate initiative in 2020. The initiative aims to strengthen the capacity of existing youth representatives and youth networks in stepping-up their climate actions in different frontlines to advance Viet Nam's NDC.

Youth4Climate Network (YNET) — A climate action network founded by youths after a series of events part of the #Youth4Climate initiative, which aims to solve the key bottlenecks hindering youths in mainstreaming Viet Nam ’s NDCs.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KEY STAKEHOLDER

While young people will be responsible for initiating accelerators outlined above, we hope to receive support from all stakeholders in effectively implementing the programs. Keeping in mind the key bottlenecks and 10 prioritized accelerators, we would like to propose the following recommendations to stakeholders:

To national climate policymakers:

- Every six months, **update information about** climate policies and consultation events at the local, national and international levels to **the Youth Climate Learning Hub (Accelerator # 2)**.
- Vice versa, **update information about outstanding youth climate projects** to the Climate Change Information Portal of the Department of Climate Change - MONRE.
- Join **mentorship groups to support innovation for mitigation projects (Accelerator # 4)** that might benefit from a more thorough understanding of relevant policies and advice on how to connect with relevant authorities.
- Regularly support **capacity building opportunities** for **the Youth Climate Policy Working Groups (Accelerator #10)**, **include youth representatives** in policy dialogue and **consider their inputs** while drafting any policy that would affect Viet Nam 's climate mitigation and adaptation capacity.
- Coordinate between related agencies to **bring climate change into the classroom** as a mandatory component of public school education across the country.

To local authorities— People' Councils and People's Committees:

- Enhance **Youth for Climate Action Network- YNET (Accelerator #1)**'s outreach efforts to **young people from under-resourced communities** through local communication channels — especially in the leadup to the **Scholarships for youths in innovation for mitigation (Accelerator #3)** program.
- Support youth groups with local activities by **clarifying necessary procedures** as well as **focal points** responsible for environment/climate/youth projects. In case of personnel change, quickly update project leaders about new focal points.
- In the regions most affected by climate change /extreme weather events, support **climate adaptation/DRR trainings (Accelerator #5)** by contributing to program content with previous expertise.
- Support youths in organizing experiential **nature-based tours (Accelerator #7)** by connecting with government-run projects in their locality.
- Regularly support **capacity building opportunities** for **the Youth Climate Policy Working Groups (Accelerator #10)**, **include youth representatives** in policy dialogue

and **consider their inputs** while drafting local action plans related to climate mitigation and adaptation.

To the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union:

- Support the **Youth4Climate Action Network - YNET (Accelerator #1)** in **connecting with youths from under-resourced groups** through the network of provincial and district Youth Unions.
- Enhance the Viet Nam Youth Union's Central Committee, National Volunteer Center's role in **representing youth projects in the climate sector** that do not have legal status and are facing obstacles in applying for funds to operate and work with other stakeholders, especially local authorities.
- Enhance the Viet Nam Youth Union's Central Committee, National Volunteer Centre's role in mobilizing youth volunteers for **long-term disaster risk reduction projects**, in addition to the Centre's short-term disaster response portfolio.
- Share the Union's experiences in mobilizing youth volunteers through skills through modules on the **Climate Change Learning Hub (Accelerator #2)** as well as **local training sessions on climate adaptation and disaster response (Accelerator #5)**.
- Provide outreach support for YNET in bringing the **“Road to 1.5” media campaign (Accelerator #9)** on NDCs and other climate policies to Youth Union members in universities and schools nationwide.
- **Nominate interested and experienced members** to join the **Youth Climate Policy Working Groups (Accelerator #10)**.

To scientists in climate, environment and related fields:

- Continue to support **competitions and innovation programs**, especially in waste management, energy and air pollution—the three areas of strength for youths in climate action.
- Support opportunities for young people, especially those in under-resourced groups, to experience research and technical innovation through the **Scholarships for youths in innovation for mitigation (Accelerator #3)** program.
- Commit to at least six months as a **technical advisor for outstanding youth innovation projects from existing competitions (Accelerator #4)** throughout ideation and implementation phase.
- **Provide technical expertise** and support youths in developing and maintaining **the Climate Change Learning Hub (Accelerator #2)**, especially in the **field of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, ear and nature-based solutions** which youths are not as familiar with.

To development organizations and CSOs:

- Continue to **sponsor youth projects that do not have a legal status** and are facing obstacles in obtaining funds to operate and work with other stakeholders. Provide additional support in connecting youth groups with industry experts.
- Share organizational expertise in project management and other relevant soft skills through modules on the **Climate Change Learning Hub (Accelerator #2)** as well as **local training sessions on climate adaptation and disaster response (Accelerator #5)**.
- Enhance CSO's roles as **technical advisor for outstanding youth innovation projects from existing competitions (Accelerator #4)**, especially in the area of climate mitigation (energy, waste management, air pollution).
- Empower **local youths, especially those from under-resourced groups**, to contribute to **existing climate adaptation projects (Accelerator #6)** implemented by the organization in climate-vulnerable communities.
- Support youths in organizing experiential **nature-based tours (Accelerator #7)** by connecting with government-run projects in their locality.
- Support YNET and other interested youths in designing content for **the "Road to 1.5" media campaign (Accelerator #9)** to mainstream NDCs and climate policies.
- Regularly **support capacity-building programs for the Youth Change Policy Working Group (Accelerator #10)** through providing technical expertise on NDC, climate policies and policy advocacy. If necessary, act as an intermediary to **support the group in sending policy recommendations to relevant authorities**.

6. GENERAL BOTTLENECKS & ACCELERATORS

a. General bottlenecks

Across the country, youth climate projects are diverse in content, structure and target groups. It follows that each youth will encounter a different set of bottlenecks in their journey of creating or participating in a climate action project. However, after gathering input from more than 400 youths via consultation forums as well as surveys and interviews, we have identified the four largest bottlenecks that most young people face in climate action. In order of prevalence, they are: (1) financial constraints (2) lack of support from stakeholders, (3) skills limitations and (4) technological limitations.

Four main bottlenecks faced by Vietnamese youths in climate action

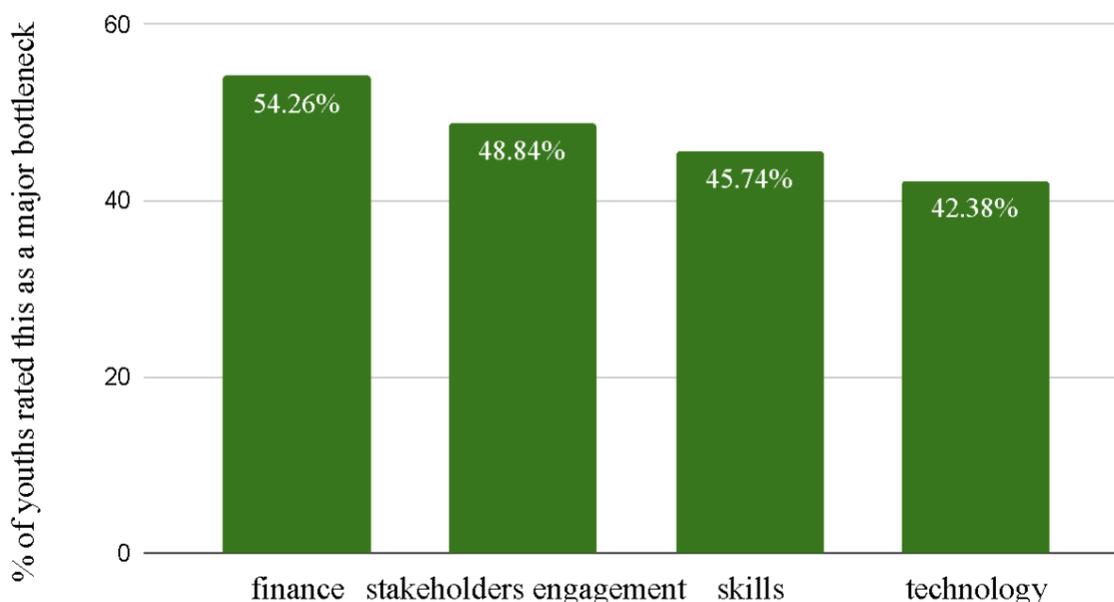


Figure 1 - % of youths surveyed who rated this area as a major bottleneck (8 or higher) [on a scale of 1 (bottleneck does not impede project) to 10 (the largest bottleneck in implementing the project)]

Financial constraints

Financial bottlenecks are the ones that Vietnamese youths encounter the most when working for climate projects, at least according to their own evaluation: 54.3 percent of the 387 surveyed youths rated this bottleneck an 8 or higher in terms of severity, indicating that it is the most significant obstacle. This is not surprising as most youth-led climate projects do not generate

enough revenue to sustain a mid-to-long-term operational budget, forcing them to rely heavily on external funds and donations for each activity and campaign.

This situation remains partly due to external factors, one of which is the difficulty youths face in obtaining legal status for their groups, resulting in most youth groups operating without one. This has greatly hindered their ability to fundraise and obtain sponsorship from major partners. The second challenge comes from the youth's side—a lack of confidence and skills in finding suitable funding partners for their project. Finally, even groups with financial resources face challenges in managing their funds, accentuated by factors such as frequent personnel changes coupled with lack of organizational knowledge retention.

Stakeholder engagement

Nearly 49 percent of the 387 youths surveyed for this report say they are experiencing significant difficulties working with project stakeholders, defined as local government, scientists, CSOs and community members, where the project is implemented.

One important factor leading to this bottleneck lies outside of young people: in some localities, access to stakeholders may be quite difficult due to a lack of representatives or lack of willingness and familiarity with youth projects. Other factors, however, are internal, coming from youths' inexperience with building trust in their projects, planning out stakeholder engagement strategies (via community mapping, for example), and lack of creativity in using their own existing networks. Due to ineffective stakeholder engagement, some groups have had to suspend or relocate their projects, as elaborated upon in the thematic sections (number and page) below.

Skills limitations

The third most prevalent bottleneck faced by youth climate advocates in Viet Nam is a lack of relevant skills, with 45.7 percent of respondents sharing that they don't feel confident in their project management, public speaking, writing or other needed skills in their work. On one hand, it is true that these skills are not frequently taught in the classroom, so Vietnamese youths have little access to skills-building opportunities in a school environment. In addition, existing skills building programs are not specifically aimed at youths in the climate change field and do not satisfy many of their needs. On a more subjective level, however, youths may not be proactive enough in setting aside time to improve their skills through online capacity-building opportunities.

Access to technology

Finally, inadequate access to technology and technological solutions affects 42.4 percent of youths surveyed, forming a particularly large bottleneck for adaptation and nature-based projects.

b. Under-resourced groups

If Vietnamese youths in general face many bottlenecks in climate action, youths from under-resourced communities face even more serious challenges that have led to many potentially valuable projects stopping at the ideation stage. Even though the Report Authors were not able to obtain quantitative data on all under-resourced youth groups, we did find a number of trends as follows:

Youths in remote regions

Youths in remote regions in general and youths from Central Viet Nam in particular face significant barriers to starting and maintaining climate projects, many of which are tied to the unique socio-economic situation of these regions. An often-mentioned reality is how local governments in these provinces, unlike those in more cosmopolitan areas, are unfamiliar with civil society projects, especially those led by youths. Youth climate advocate Ms. Lê Thị Việt Anh from Quảng Trị province in Central Viet Nam said, “Because we are still students, it is so hard to create confidence in community members in remote areas like mine who have never worked with youth-led groups.”

Finding suitable partners to implement technology-based projects is even more challenging for youths in remote regions. Ms. Tran Phuong Quynh Trang, who leads a project in waste management, shared her group’s experience—“My team is based in Central Viet Nam, but the waste processing factories that we’re trying to work with are often too far away as the local ones do not have enough capacity. This has incurred extra transportation expenses.”

In addition, youths state that there are currently no climate-focused CSOs working in the Central region with specific programs to support youths—a major challenge for those wishing to find legal representation or other support to legitimize their operations. At the #Youth4Climate Central Viet Nam Forum, youth representatives also shared that there is also a significant **language and knowledge barrier**, as Central Viet Nam communities use a significantly different dialect from other regions.

Ethnic minority youths

Vietnam is an ethnically diverse country, with 54 distinct ethnic groups who have their own languages and cultural practices. However, the majority Kinh ethnic group alone accounts for more

than 85 percent of the total population, dominating the country's socio-political system.¹⁹ Low school enrollment and high dropout rates remain major challenges for ethnic minority youths.²⁰

Unsurprisingly then, language and knowledge barriers are two major challenges that youths from ethnic minority groups, especially those who want to implement climate projects in their own communities, often face. In addition to living in remote regions across the country, ethnic minority communities have a higher percentage of residents who cannot read and write the national Kinh language. Young ethnic minority women, in particular, face many barriers in accessing education opportunities and participating in social activities.²¹ The Report Authors, despite our best efforts in spreading our survey to under-resourced communities, were unable to collect enough quantitative data to draw general conclusions about ethnic minority youths. Female-identifying ethnic minority youths were also not present in our survey sample and consultation process. However, we do have two ethnic minority representatives, Mr. Y Sacien Kbuor from Dak Lak and Mr. Danh Bo from Bac Lieu, who participated in the regional and national consultation forums, contributing their experience and ideas to this report.

Sacien grew up in an ethnic minority community in Dak Lak solely reliant on agriculture, especially coffee planting. But in recent years, coffee plants have withered because of depleted water resources, erratic weather patterns and frequent droughts. Therefore, Sacien wants to launch a climate adaptation initiative that focuses on the water needs of the Ede people in Dak Lak province. According to Sacien, the major barriers his community faces when approaching the topic of climate change are knowledge and awareness. "Access to information [among the Ede] is still hindered because awareness-raising campaigns have not specifically targeted these communities," he said. Sacien himself credits his university education in the foreign languages department as a major factor which increased his confidence, empowered him to step out of his comfort zone and found CHANGE in Ho Chi Minh city, the CSO that acquainted him with the climate change field.

Meanwhile, in the southwestern region of Bac Lieu, the young Khmer farmer Danh Bo also said that lack of knowledge is a major obstacle for those in his community unfamiliar with the concepts of sustainable agriculture, environmental protection and greenhouse gas reduction. "Even those aware of sustainable agriculture find it hard to make the switch, as we only have access to agrochemical engineers hired by companies and corporations only promote their products and sell

¹⁹ "UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators," October 30, 2013, https://en.unesco.org/creativity/sites/creativity/files/cdis/cdis_technical_report_viet_nam_1_1.pdf; Trung tâm Quyền của người dân tộc thiểu số và miền núi (HRC), "Số người dân tộc thiểu số theo địa phương", Truy cập tháng 10/2018

²⁰ "Education," UNICEF Viet Nam, accessed February 17, 2021, <https://www.unicef.org/vietnam/education>.

²¹ Tien Dat 2015, "Education and Training in Ethnic Minority Areas, Some Achievements and Issues", Accessed October 2018; "Number and Proportion of Ethnic Minorities 15 Years and Older Who Can Read and Write by Ethnicity, As of August 1, 2015." Viet Nam, August 1, 2015. http://files.ubdt.gov.vn/ContentFolder/ubdt/source_files/2016/09/20/16031829_Bieu%2040%20-%20So%20luong%20nguoi%20DTTS%20tu%2015%20tuoi%20biet%20doc,%20viet_16-09-20.p df.

chemical fertilizers,” Bo shared. There is a real lack of environmental engineers and sustainability-minded agriculture engineers to support the community in this transition.

High school students

Even though within the #Youth4Climate initiative, we define “youth” as those from 14 to 35 years old, the average age of youths joining our forums and responding to our survey is 22 years old. Younger youths, especially those still in high school (14-18 years old), have shared in the survey that they find it challenging to engage with climate projects long-term due to **time constraints**.

Ms. Y. Ngoc, a high school student from Ho Chi Minh City, shared the challenges her team faced while implementing [Tofu Tree](#), a project that raises awareness about the benefits of a plant-based diet. “Since we are still students, and the Vietnamese education system is very heavy in terms of academic requirements and grades, taking part in community activities is always a secondary priority. We don’t have a lot of time and receive little support from teachers and parents while working on our project,” Ngoc said. Students fear that taking time off extra classes, homework or even school can result in long-term consequences in an unsympathetic education system. Similarly, Mr. Khang Hung, founder of [Clean n' Green](#) project in Hanoi, shared, “Currently, my group members and I are in 9th grade, so we are quite busy studying and have not been as active as we hoped.” However, despite these structural challenges, Hung admits that there’s a subjective element as well—Vietnamese school-age youths need to develop better time management skills and make a conscious decision to prioritize climate action in their daily schedule.

c. Key Accelerators

#1 Establish a youth network for climate action - YNET

First, to address the biggest bottlenecks outlined above, we recently built a youth climate action network called “#Youth4Climate Network” (YNET) with a rotating Steering Committee and core team consisting of youths who have experience in various fields of climate action. The network engages with youths and their projects across Viet Nam with three key objectives: (1) to connect them with one another, (2) to boost their capacity and (3) to enhance their ability to engage relevant stakeholders.

This accelerator is our first and foremost priority, as it can address challenges related to financial constraints, lack of access to stakeholders and inadequate skills — three of the four largest bottlenecks hindering youth climate action. In addition, the YNET network will also prioritize outreach to under-resourced youth groups and address the specific barriers that they face.

We aimed to deploy the network nationwide starting in January 2021 according to the timeline below:

- 1st quarter: Set up a strong Steering Committee and core team, plans for the year, budget and other resources; induct 50 youth climate groups across the country as network members
- 2nd quarter: Implement capacity-building and networking programs according to the Roadmap;
- 3rd quarter: Continue implementing programs and start evaluation process;
- 4th quarter: Focus on evaluation and network expansion.

Currently a similar model has been implemented by a number of organizations and individuals in Viet Nam such as the Green Belli network (see “Mitigation” section 7.b. for more information). However, the current networks do not specifically and holistically address climate action topics and are mostly regional. With the advantage of having reached youth climate advocates throughout Viet Nam via the #Youth4Climate program in 2020, we believe that YNET can implement this model on a new scale and scope, reaching diverse youth projects with a common objective.

#2 Build a Climate Change Learning Hub for Youths

Next, with the support of UNDP Viet Nam, we will create a Climate Change Learning Hub specifically designed for young people, to act as a central hub where youths across the country can easily find information on climate topics related to their projects or fields of interest. In addition, the portal can also act as a digital space to connect young people with scientists and policy-makers, where questions can be asked and answered for the benefit of all.

With the above objectives, the portal should have at least four main functions as follows:

- **Climate science:** Summaries of scientific articles and other knowledge modules related to climate change and climate solutions, with lively communication methods suitable for youths. (See: New Zealand government's “Science Learning Hub” as an example - <https://www.sciencelearn.org.nz/>)
- **Climate change policy:** Regularly update policies related to climate action at local, national and international levels (See the European Union’s “Climate Policy Info Hub” page - <https://climatepolicyinfohub.eu/global-rise-emissions-trading>).
- **Skills-building modules:** Create project development skills capacity-building modules for youths.
- **Updates on Youth Projects:** Synthesize information on youth climate initiatives, from those that have been implemented to those still in ideation stage (See “Youth Innovation Bank” from the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union - <http://www2.ytuongsangtao.net/>).

This Learning Hub can address barriers related to technological access, skills capacity and knowledge barriers that young people passionate about climate change are still facing.

DRAFT

7. THEMATIC SECTION: Climate mitigation

a. Introduction

When it comes to climate change, the two main areas of action most often mentioned are mitigation and adaptation. Efforts to reduce GHG emissions and enhance GHG-absorbing sinks are referred to as “climate mitigation”.²² Although Viet Nam remains a lower middle-income country, its greenhouse gas emissions rank in the top 30 globally, making mitigation an important pillar of climate action for this country.

Fortunately, mitigation is also the branch of climate action that has attracted the largest number of Vietnamese youths, with 59 percent of the 387 youths surveyed saying that they have engaged in projects that promote emissions reduction. Nonetheless, Vietnamese youths still face formidable challenges in this field. Successful mitigation projects require technical innovation as well as effective community outreach; most youth groups only have experience in either of these fields and lack the necessary skills to do well at both. This has led to projects not being able to expand in scale and scope despite having great potential.

Through this report, therefore, we want to highlight the unique strengths and weaknesses that youths face in climate mitigation, so that stakeholders can better support them in a field where they have already achieved concrete results on their own.

b. Stocktake of outstanding youth projects

Among 15 types of climate projects across the four themes listed in our survey, waste management is the one that most youth projects focus on, achieving significant results especially with campaigns to reduce the use of disposable plastics. In fact, more than half of the survey respondents (52.2%) are currently or have been members of waste management projects; meanwhile, 28.2 percent of respondents have experience in energy efficiency projects. Not counting nature-based measures to enhance carbon sinks (afforestation, forest conservation—covered in “Nature-based solution” section 9.b.), the two aforementioned project types are the most popular among Vietnamese youths. In addition, solutions for air pollution monitoring and reduction is also a relatively attractive project focus, especially for those in the North.

²² “Introduction to Mitigation,” unfccc.int, accessed January 29, 2021, <https://unfccc.int/topics/mitigation/the-big-picture/introduction-to-mitigation>.

Three types of climate action projects most popular with Vietnamese youths

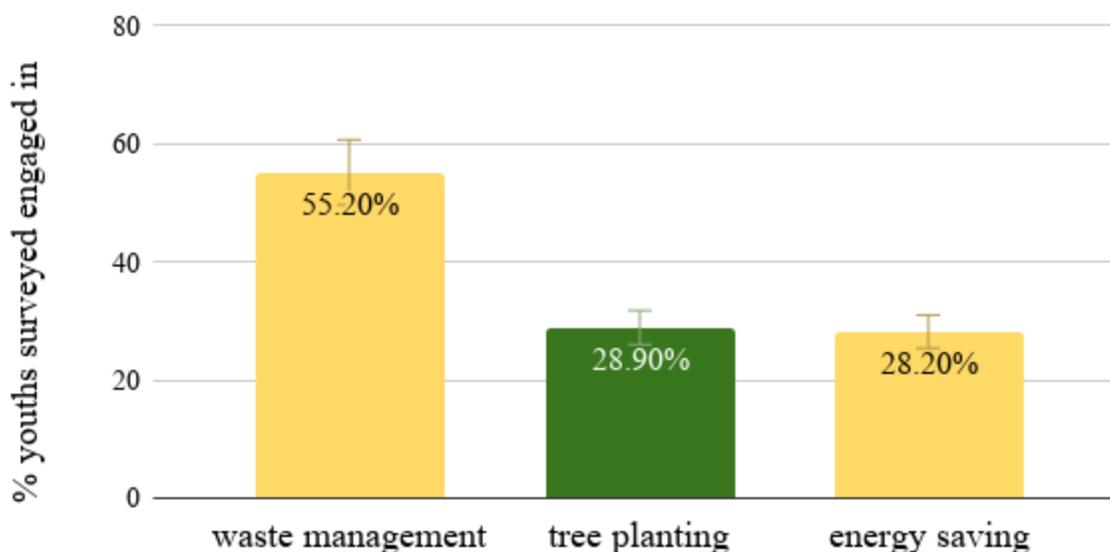


Figure 2. Two out of three activities with most youth participation fall under the climate mitigation category.

It is worth mentioning that not only are activities in the mitigation field attracting the participation of young people, these activities especially attract young people's technological innovation and creativity. Out of 387 survey respondents, only 82 youths in total considered scientific and technical innovation to be at the core of their climate projects. However, among those 82 responding, a large proportion (79.3%) have projects in climate mitigation, most notably energy saving and waste management. Similarly, of the total 387 respondents, only 60 consider their projects to be start-ups, but 44 of these (73.3%) fall under the mitigation category.

Below are listed some of the most impressive youth projects in the fields of waste management, energy and air pollution:

Waste management

Northern Region

- [Vert Xanh](#) is a project founded by three young high school students in Hanoi with the aim of building a green and modern learning space as well as changing the perceptions of a young generation about protecting the environment. In 2019, the group implemented small projects at Nghia Tan Secondary School such as collecting old batteries, making eco-friendly bricks, raising awareness about environmental issues via social campaigns, etc. At the end of 2019, the cafeteria at Nghia Tan Secondary School has replaced all disposable plastic cups and bowls per the recommendation of Vert Xanh. In 2020, Vert Xanh deployed

Vert Tour—a series of events to install a waste collection and sorting model at source in secondary and high schools across Hanoi. Main events include Vert Tour - Storm Bird has mobilized 1800 students from junior high schools and high schools such as Nghia Tan Secondary School, Chu Van An Highschool, ... Operated by a group of youths, the project also faces many difficulties in fundraising for events, connecting with environmental experts and working with schools. One way the project tried to overcome these barriers in 2020 was by first specifically targeting one school, Nghia Tan, which agreed to pilot the project. The project also obtained legal representation, technical and professional advice from Live and Learn.

Central Region

- [Green Beli](#) is a plastic waste reduction project in Viet Nam with 15 young members, mainly students. The group's activities include post-storm ocean debris removal, over 300m of coastline clearance; nearly one ton of rubbish on Son Tra beach, Da Nang collected and processed, mainly fishing nets and nylon bags. In addition, the group has run a series of plastic communication photo contents that received great attention from Facebook users. The posts have reached nearly 80,000 hits, 13,500 interactions, 900 likes, 250 comments, and 700 shares, and the numbers are still growing. Youths at Green Beli have created the [Green Beli application](#), a map with more than 1,000 green locations in the country, supported by the Department of Science and Technology of Danang. However, like any project run by a group of young people, Green Beli also faces many difficulties, of which the biggest one is the lack of funding for events.
- [Reform Plastic Viet Nam](#) : the goal of the project is to solve plastic waste challenges in Viet Nam through a scalable social franchising model by collecting low-grade plastic and processing it directly into valuable and usable commercial products.

Southern Region

- [Green River](#) is a project initiated by seven Vietnamese youths aged 18-30. The project aims to solve the problem of plastic waste in Viet Nam's rivers, especially those in the Mekong Delta, by establishing a smart trash system on tourist boats, cargo boats and passenger ferries. This system uses robots to collect floating plastic waste on the river and raise community awareness, contributing to building a green lifestyle for small businesses and households living on or along the river. The project came into operation in January 2020 at Cai Rang floating market, Can Tho city; from then till now, it has organized a trash collection activity, a test run of the collecting system, an offline event and a series of online communication campaigns, with 150,000 reach and 15,000 engagement. The project recently just won first prize at [UNESCO's "Youth Innovative Ideas for an Ocean without Plastic Programme"](#) competition and is expanding its area of operation to Cu Lao Cham, Quang Nam. operation, the group faced many challenges such as: translation of COVID delays progress, local authorities have support but have difficulty in licensing (the parties

are not linked together, there is no clear process for licensing), collectors The existing garbage is not working so the team has to build a new machine by themselves More information about the project:

Energy

Northern Region

- **Tắt đèn - Bật ý tưởng (BOOVironment)**: Since participating in the first Earth Hour Campaign in 2009, Viet Nam has successfully organized ten others, mobilizing youths from all across the country. The number of members participating in the campaign has increased rapidly year by year. To celebrate Earth Hour, Turn off the lights - Turn on ideas campaign by BOOVironment spread widely, mobilizing youth groups to raise community awareness about climate change and spread environmental messages to young people nationwide. After 10 years, the campaign has attracted more than 5,000,000 youth volunteers, 800 news articles, 20 provinces and cities with accompanying programs and more than 50 groups / organizations. It also called for 18,000 trees to be planted in Hue's mangrove forests. In 2018, the campaign's chosen theme of Plastic contributed to creating a wave of awareness about the damage of plastic in general and micro plastics in particular, mobilizing 100 stores / restaurants to reduce their plastic consumption practices.
- **SG Solutions** is a project that provides new energy monitoring solutions designed by IoTeam VN, leading to more transparency in monitoring power consumption and lowered electricity costs. In 2020, the project installed ten sets of energy monitoring systems in households in Hanoi to help people quickly assess the direct benefits of energy-saving practices (such as choosing LED bulbs instead of traditional bulbs, choosing a reasonable air-conditioning level, using sunshades when possible...). The SG Solutions energy monitoring kit comes from scientific research by the IoTeamVN technical team and has been accepted and highly praised by the Ministry of Construction. The project is supported by the "Clean Air – Green Cities" Fund implemented by Live and Learn. The project is also promoted through the Viet Nam ENERGY ACCELERATOR PROGRAM organized by [New Energy Nexus](#).

Southern Region

- **New Energy Nexus Viet Nam** is a non-profit organization run by three Vietnamese youths aged 22 to 35 years old. Funded by ADB Venture, the organization aims to support the development of clean energy startups through funding, capacity building and networking. In 2020, New Energy Nexus Viet Nam and New Energy Nexus Southeast Asia will implement the BUILDING ENERGY CHALLENGE 2020 project, which aims to pilot energy saving projects in buildings and raise awareness about energy efficiency in Southeast Asia. The project ran from March to July 2020, connecting ten corporations and 1,800 startups in energy saving. In the final round in Viet Nam, the project successfully

connected Viettel with a foreign startup. Currently this collaboration is in the pilot stage, although some challenges have already appeared including foreign startups not being able to come to Viet Nam leading to multiple postponements. Some other challenges include language barrier (corporate engineers do not speak English well, it is difficult to explain energy issues and startup ideas to them); electricity prices in Viet Nam are low, so the demand for energy saving is not high; the level of social awareness of Vietnamese corporations is still low (most corporations participating in the challenge for advertising purposes rather than to save energy and reduce emissions ...); the quality of solutions proposed by Vietnamese startups is not high. More information about the project can be found here

Air pollution

Northern Region

- [**AirSENSE Technical Design Competition**](#) is organized by a group of five members from Hanoi University of Technology. The contest was launched in October 2019 with the aim of raising awareness of students through product design activities in air pollution and health protection sectors. After three months of launching, the project received applications from 63 groups representing 271 contestants. On June 6, the final round was held at Hanoi University of Science and Technology, with a panel of ten professional judges and 568 community evaluators. 16 prizes were awarded to 11 outstanding groups. The Final event also attracted 176 attendees and representatives of the US Embassy in Viet Nam, CSOs, companies, journalists and students. The products of the teams are classified into two categories: air sensors and air pollution solutions. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the final of the contest was delayed three times, which turned out to be an opportunity for groups to learn and perfect the product and for organizers and judges to better prepare. Other difficulties faced by the group included lack of financial management experience, leading to unanticipated expenses such as that incurred to support competing groups from out of town to travel to the designated location. Besides, the planning committee is mainly composed of youths in engineering and other technical fields, so communications and outreach for the event were not their area of expertise and could have been pushed for greater impact.

c. Distinct bottlenecks

Unlike those in the other three thematic groups, mitigation projects do not face many technical challenges or lack of access to technology, at least according to the subjective assessment of the youths involved in the survey. After the youth consultation forums as well as the bottleneck survey, we compiled three main bottlenecks commonly seen in mitigation projects: **(1) financial constraints**, **(2) skills constraints** and **(3) lack of enthusiasm from stakeholders**). Because

financial constraints are common to all types of youth climate projects, in this section we will focus on discussing the skills constraints and stakeholder engagement challenges faced by mitigation groups.

Skills constraints: "People who want to focus on science"

The high level of technological savviness mentioned above partly comes from the fact that many outstanding mitigation projects are led by youths with a strong background in science—only 39 percent of surveyed youths in this field believe access to technology to be a significant bottleneck, and only 32.8 percent of them say the same for access to knowledge. However, frequently mentioned is a lack of other skills necessary for implementing an effective project, such as **public outreach, project management and product marketing.**

Ms. Lê Gia Thanh Trúc, a member of the energy monitoring group SG Solutions, shared that the largest bottleneck her group encountered had to do with their communication skills. Trúc said, “Because everyone in our team specializes in engineering, it is difficult for us to devise an effective communication plan—something we’re trying to improve in.” Although saving electricity brings economic benefits to users as well as aid in GHG reduction, Trúc realizes that not many households in Viet Nam are concerned about these two issues. Her group is still figuring out how to convey this message more effectively.

In addition, as a startup project using new techniques, the group has also encountered many difficulties in building a suitable business model for its products. For a long time, SG Solutions struggled to market their products for small household consumers. However, thanks to the support of the New Energy Nexus program in 2020, SGSolution members learned more about building business models and decided to switch their product’s marketing strategy, targeting restaurants, coffee shops and other businesses that might have a larger incentive to save electricity costs at their store.

Similarly, Ms. Tran Thi Hong Hien, who has experience leading projects in air pollution and waste reduction including AirSENSE, also shared about the **difficulty of gathering a group diverse in background and skill set** who are interested in climate-conscious innovation. Unable to find qualified human resources, Hien has taken on the role of environmental engineer, electric engineer, teaching assistant and program officer in her work with air pollution projects. Even after targeted campaigns to recruit team-members with a more diverse skill set, Hien’s group still ended up primarily composed of “people who want to focus on science” rather than other aspects of running a project.

Another youth working in the field, Ms. Nguyen Chau Giang, experienced a similar situation with her group, further citing this lack of project management skills as a reason that the group has struggled financially even with a high-value product. “I don't think money [in and of itself] is an important factor,” they said. “I think that obstacles come from more fundamental challenges, such as youths not knowing how to market their innovation ideas and raise funds.”

Stakeholder engagement: projects unable to reach a diverse audience

Although lack of stakeholder engagement is a common challenge that all youth projects face, in GHG reduction, this is a particularly major one, as broad community engagement is quintessential for large-scale behavioral changes. Although youth groups often have great success in communicating with other youths, what they often struggle with is how to get “adults” to listen to them as well.

A former member of the Lake Project in Northern Viet Nam reiterated the need for youths’ climate mitigation projects to reach broader audiences. “Hanoi youths are not the only ones who need to be “informed” [about climate change], but the elder in Northern highlands, the fishermen, the corporate leaders as well... This may sound difficult, but the bottleneck is tied to all others [that youth mitigation projects face] such as budget and skills constraints.” Similarly, Mr. Nguyen Hoang Son, leader of the Green River project, also shared that one of the bottlenecks his team has not yet overcome was making the project more widely accessible, to introduce recycled and non-plastic products more popular with diverse communities.

More often than not, media campaigns of youth groups will focus on social media channels mainly used by youths. When connecting with more mainstream channels such as state media and public schools, young people have a hard time building confidence in their project. Ms. Tran Thi Diem Phuc, co-founder of [Green Fingers Viet Nam](#), shared, “We want to organize education programs on waste management for primary school students, but it is difficult to find a school to host us because the paperwork is very complicated.”

d. Prioritized Accelerators

#3 Expand climate innovation and research opportunities to more youth groups through scholarship programs

Proving youths’ ability to conduct large-scale research and innovation projects is one of the key ways to build trust in youth potential among scientists, policymakers and local authorities, and should be prioritized in designing accelerators. We can see that youths do not lack creative ideas, especially in the three areas of waste management, energy efficiency and reduction of air pollution. However, the youth groups who have implemented the most impressive projects lack diversity in background and skill sets.

This is tied to the fact that not all youths have the opportunity to experience a methodical, creative research environment, except for those currently studying engineering in urban schools with good funding and facilities. In order to bring climate mitigation research to a wider range of youths of ages and backgrounds, we propose that universities and research centers create **climate innovation**

and research scholarship programs aimed at youths who demonstrate an interest in reducing GHG emissions.

The program can “pair” youth interns with laboratories and projects currently carried out by professors and advanced degree students, so that they can experience and observe the scientific process. This opportunity should **prioritize youths from remote provinces, young girls and youths from other under-resourced groups** who haven’t had much exposure to research environments.

In order to implement this program, **much support is needed from stakeholders, primarily universities and centers that have research programs** in energy, waste management, air pollution and other climate mitigation fields. Youth climate networks can play a role in conceptualizing the program, liaising with stakeholders and recruiting applicants.

#4 “Mentorship” groups to support implementation of innovation projects

Once youths have come up with innovative ideas, the key here is to hone their project management skills so that they can effectively turn the idea into a long-term project, CSO or social enterprise. We believe in the field of climate mitigation, which is best done through long-term **mentorship groups consisting of scientists, experts, CSOs and successful startups willing to work closely with youth climate mitigation projects.**

Looking at the year ahead, we aim to test this mentorship program in June/ August 2021 to support the best creative projects from UNDP’s Youth for Climate Innovation Award. To find the right mentors for each project, we propose a “project-mentor matching” function on the Youth Climate Change Learning Hub to act as a platform for teams to post information about their products/projects and connect with suitable mentors. Then, this mentorship group will run for at least six months, supporting groups from product trial hopefully to launch stage.

There have been successful competitions and programs that support youth teams in coming up with creative ideas such as AirSENSE and New Energy Nexus Viet Nam. We hope the “mentorship” model will continue to support teams from such programs for a longer time period, to truly understand and help them solve problems during the implementation stage.

Of course, the biggest challenge in running these mentorship groups would be finding dedicated mentors to support projects not only in one or two days of completion judging but over a long period of time. However, we believe that with a project-mentor matching platform and the intrinsic potential of youth innovation ideas, we can find the right mentors willing to support them.

8. THEMATIC SECTION: Climate Adaptation

a. Introduction

It is impossible to mention climate action in Viet Nam without mentioning adaptation, which must take place in parallel with mitigation. For the country, climate change is not just a future threat, it is already happening; its influence has been felt in all parts of Viet Nam, especially for under-resourced communities who lack climate resilience. According to Viet Nam’s Law on Environmental Protection and international conventions, adaptation consists of all activities that increase the resilience of natural and social systems, mitigate the negative impacts of climate change, and take advantage of opportunities brought about by climate change.²³

Youth adaptation projects thus far have focused on assisting local communities in changing cultivation and animal husbandry practices to suit changing climatic conditions. Some of these apply nature-based measures, and will be listed in the NBS thematic section 9.b. below. In addition, many youths have volunteered for disaster relief campaigns spearheaded by the Youth Union, local authorities and CSOs.

Currently, however, very few independent youth groups have successfully developed and implemented on their own a large-scale DRR or disaster relief project — a major shortcoming as DRR is a particularly important issue for Viet Nam. A particular challenge is that many youths in regions most strongly affected by extreme weather events belong to under-resourced communities, making it particularly challenging for them to access support opportunities and take on leadership roles. Knowledge is required to play a leadership role in project implementation. Projects that seek to ensure the safety of the community, schools and housing in case of natural disasters attract the lowest level of participation among youths surveyed (only 11.7% of 387 youths).

b. Stocktake of outstanding youth projects

Most adaptation projects featured in our regional and national youths consultations were still at the ideation stage and have not yet reached implementation. Only the following youth projects have achieved concrete results:

Northern Region

- [Rễ Project \(The Root Project\) - Song Ma Youth Volunteers Team](#) started bringing Vetiver grass to La Pan Tan commune, Mu Cang Chai in June 2018 to deal with the extremely serious landslide situation there. By planting Vetiver grass, the project aims to

²³ “Luật Bảo Vệ Môi Trường 2020, Luật Số 72/2020/QH14,” Khoản 1 điều 90.

provide an economical, sustainable and easy-to-implement solution for landslides caused by floods and rains in mountainous regions mostly occupied by ethnic minorities. At the same time, Vetiver will be the first step in improving forest land, contributing to raising awareness of forest protection and sustainable farming for locals. As of present, the group has brought 33,000 Vetiver cloves to La Pan Tan, in addition to implementing other projects such as community education, awareness-raising, building a Vetiver nursery and developing landslide maps at La Pan Tan. The group currently includes 10 members who are young professionals and students in their final years of university in Hanoi.

Central Region

- **Provincial Youth Union of [Quang Tri](#), [Quang Binh](#), [Quang Ngai](#)** (Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union) established a total of 210 volunteer teams to respond to floods in these three provinces in October 2020. According to information from The Youth Union Central Committee quoted by *Thanh Nien* daily, youth volunteer groups have assisted locals in overcoming the consequences of natural disasters by clearing roads, moving furniture, rebuilding houses, caring for farm animals, ... A total of more than 3,400 youth union members in the three provinces participated in this relief campaign. In addition, many groups in other provinces who are members of the National Volunteer Network of the National Volunteer Center - Youth Union Central Committee also participated in the relief efforts.²⁴

Southern Region

- **[BRIMOFOT](#)** (Bring more than food to the table) was initiated by a group of students and lecturers from three universities of [Kien Giang](#), [An Giang](#) and the [Royal University of Phnom Penh](#). The project aims to promote gender equality and the participation of disadvantaged groups in wetland policymaking and management, to ensure sustainable development and climate adaptation in the Lower Mekong River region. The project will be implemented in Tinh Bien district, An Giang province, and Ta Keo district in Cambodia. The project will be implemented over 18 months (postponed due to COVID). The main works of the project include researching the current situation, developing solutions, training local staff and communicating to the community, evaluating progress and proposing recommendations to stakeholders such as local authorities, women groups, ethnic minorities, etc. The project is currently in phase one with inception workshop activities, field assessment and data collection. The project team consists of 20 people, with ages ranging from 26 to 50 years old. The project is operating using a grant of about \$100,000 from [SUMERNET](#). Common difficulties faced by project teams are

²⁴ Vu Tho, "Establishing 210 Youth Volunteer Teams to Respond to Floods" (Thanh Nien Newspaper, October 14, 2020), <https://thanhnien.vn/gioi-tre/thanh-lap-210-doi-nien-n-dragon-pho-pho-to-lu-lut-1291664.html>.

language barriers, lack of experience in working with foreign partners, and public speaking skills. More information about the project:

c. Distinct bottlenecks

Youths in most vulnerable regions lack knowledge and skills

Currently in Viet Nam, the regions most affected by climate change and extreme weather events are the mountainous areas, the Mekong River Delta and the coastal Central regions.²⁵ However, as mentioned in the general bottleneck, compared to city youth, young people in remote areas face many barriers, both objectively and subjectively. Many groups have not even positioned themselves as long-term projects working in the field of climate adaptation, due to a lack of knowledge about what adaptation and DRR mean.

According to Mr. Duong Be Thanh, one of the young lecturers at Kien Giang University who initiated the BRIMOFOT project, regarding subjective difficulties, **most students in the Mekong Delta are not confident enough in their communication, unlike youths in the city.** This made it difficult for the student group to go on field trips, talk with local farmers and officials to collect data for the project.

“When I do group interviews in a commune, I sometimes get confused and do not know what questions to ask the interviewees, leading to them getting distracted and talking among themselves,” Thanh said. “I am very afraid that when training local officials later on, I won’t be able to communicate confidently as well because they are older, experienced and have a higher status.”

In addition, adaptation projects often require technical assistance and resources from specialists, some of whom may be foreigners. Thus, **the language barrier is a major factor contributing to the lack of access to technology**, for groups in the Mekong Delta like BRIMOFOT. “When our project Advisor from SUMMERNET, a [British] PhD presented and facilitated discussions, we could not fully understand their point... Undergrad students especially struggle because their English is very poor.”

Still, the BRIMOFOT project was relatively more successful than others as the team found a department head at Kien Giang University who had experience and connections to support youths wanting to launch adaptation projects. For many other groups, the large barriers to accessing funding and technology, coupled with subjective challenges in skills and language use, **have caused youth projects to be stuck in the ideation phase.** Y Sacien Kbuor, the ethnic minority

²⁵ “Ảnh Hưởng Của Biến Đổi Khí Hậu Đối Với Nước Ta: Thực Trạng, Những Vấn Đề Mới Đặt Ra Và Giải Pháp,” Trang thông tin điện tử - Hội đồng lý luận TW, accessed January 9, 2021,

youth with the idea of a water supply system for the Ede community in Dak Lak, shared that he “always feels uneasy for not having launched the project,” but doesn’t know where to start.

Lack of support from local authorities

On the other hand, there are highly-skilled youth groups from urban centers that have successfully developed climate adaptation projects in highly affected areas. However, geographical distance is a bottleneck for these groups. For the group of young volunteers implementing the Root project in La Pan Tan, the members can only move from Hanoi to La Pan Tan at most eight times per year to plant and survey the Vetiver grass, each trip lasting at most ten days. Even though they tried to enlist local authorities to support them in monitoring work in their absence, they did not succeed. Therefore, the process of monitoring Vetiver growth in many project sites were disrupted, leading to their cancellation.

In general, youth adaptation projects **often face difficulties working with local authorities, who are not used to working with youths or CSOs in general**. A youth from the South with experience in DRR said, “The process of seeking approval for projects from the local government takes too long,” a major bottleneck for his group. Similarly, a member of the Root project’s Steering Committee also said that the group encountered difficulty when the government’s personnel changed continuously with no organizational knowledge retention relating to the group’s work. “One time, we have not yet finished briefing the new commune chairman [of La Pan Tan] when he was replaced by someone new,” this member shared. New leaders do not understand the value this project brings, so every time the group needs to re-convince local authorities all over again.

Even for the [National Volunteer Network of Central Viet Nam](#), which is under the Youth Union Central Committee’s National Volunteer Center - [Youth Union](#), collaborating with local authorities is not always smooth. According to Mr. Hoang Trung Duc, former Regional Coordinator of the [National Volunteer Network in Central Viet Nam](#) and Chairman of the [Green Pen Volunteer Club](#), besides challenges relating to geography, knowledge constraints and lack of resources, “the lack of support from local authorities is an important factor hindering the volunteer movement in the central region.” In addition, Duc shared that at present, when thinking about volunteering in disaster-related activities, most youths only think about relief when the incident is over rather than addressing the issue at its root through DRR. Meanwhile, through his seven years of volunteering, Duc has seen clearly how the flooding gets more complicated and difficult to manage from year to year. “The problem [that youths and stakeholders] need to focus on is addressing the roots of the issue, by planting forests instead of exploiting forests, planning effectively, building floating houses for local people as well as devising more effective DRR strategies and long-term sustainable economic approaches,” Duc shared.

d. Prioritized Accelerators

#5 Skills training for local youths

The effects of climate change and natural disasters in each region of the country manifest themselves in different ways. Therefore, each high-risk region needs specific **training programs** to provide knowledge and skills that youths lack in order to develop appropriate adaptation projects. In addition, the training sessions also aim to increase the confidence level of local youth, so that they realize their own abilities and responsibilities in taking action for their own futures.

Training sessions should be held regularly in June - July every year, before the start of the disaster season in the regions. **The form of training can be changed to suit young people's conditions in each region**, keeping in mind their economic and social situation. No matter the form, **the training content will revolve around two main topics: (1) technical skills and (2) soft skills**. The technical skill sections will focus on topics such as how climate change is linked to an increase in natural disaster frequency and severity, models for school and community protection during floods and landslides, etc., slightly adapted to fit each region's needs. The soft skills section should prioritize skills such as public speaking, project planning, stakeholder engagement skills (community mapping). The training program should prioritize youths who have had experience volunteering with the Youth Union and other organizations to assist them in building their own longer-term projects, contributing to DRR in the community.

The training session will definitely need the participation of local authorities, the Youth Union, CSOs, local relief organizations and, most importantly, locals with experience in DRR, disaster relief and climate adaptation.

#6 Recruit youths to local adaptation projects

After local youth undergo skill training sessions, they need more opportunities to access and contribute to long-term, large-scale climate adaptation and DRR projects before setting up their own. Therefore, development organizations, CSOs, and even youth groups need to **increase the recruitment of local volunteers and collaborators in localities affected by climate change**. Our survey, consultation event, interviews and literature studies show that youths are eager to find more long-term volunteer or internship activities in this field; however, the number of projects explicitly recruiting local youth is still limited at present. With the support of the project management organizations, the #Youth4Climate Network can act as a bridge to bring these projects and local youths together.

9. THEMATIC SECTION: Nature-based Solutions

a. Introduction

In ancient times, people used to rely on a nature to survive and build communities. However, for a long time, modern society has been structured around not respecting the value of nature, as we always strive for further economic, societal and technological advancement. The same philosophy applies to humans' approach towards climate change mitigation and adaptation; the first solutions that youths as well as policymakers come up with always revolve around applying manmade inventions to solving problems caused by men themselves. Although nature-based models are readily available, they were not applied on a large scale or included in national climate policies for a long time.

It was not until the late 2000s that the concept of “nature-based solutions” (NBS) was truly considered an intrinsic part of climate mitigation, climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction. Since then, ten years of research and implementation have shown organizations around the world that NBS can be a cost-effective way to mitigate and adapt to climate change as well as develop sustainably.²⁶

In Viet Nam, NBS projects have also become more popular in recent years. Noticeably, more and more youths are deciding to build a career in their hometown using NBS models in agriculture, forestry, fishery and the service industries.²⁷ However, they encounter many difficulties in conceptualizing and implementing their projects, as well as pressure from the community who might not always be supportive.

Through this report, we want to thoroughly highlight NBS projects that have achieved certain levels of success in all three regions, as well as remaining bottlenecks and potential accelerators. Even though NBS plays a central role in both mitigation and adaptation, the Report Authors believe the topic deserves its own section due to the unique challenges that youths face in this field.

b. Stocktake of outstanding youth projects

Youth-led NBS projects in Viet Nam currently fall into three main groups: urban greening, natural ecosystems conservation and developing nature-based products (mainly agriculture). Among these three, tree planting and urban greening received the most enthusiastic participation, with 28.9 percent of the 387 youths surveyed (84 youths) in all three regions participating in this activity. Next are green agricultural projects, with 82 youth participants found. Biodiversity

²⁶ Stephan Pauleit et al., “Nature-Based Solutions and Climate Change – Four Shades of Green”

²⁷ Hằng Mai, “Giới Trẻ Và Chọn Lựa Lối Sống Mới: Từ Phố Về Quê,” TUOI TRE ONLINE, February 9, 2020, <https://tuoitre.vn/gioi-tre-va-chon-lua-loi-song-moi-tu-pho-ve-que-20200207220641329.htm>.

conservation projects are somewhat more selective, with 73 youth participants mostly from Northern and Central regions. Only one project stands out for applying a nature-based solution to disaster risk reduction in the northern mountainous regions (see “Rễ” project in section 8.b)

The following is a list of outstanding NBS youth projects from the three regions:

Urban greening

Northern Region

- [**Xanh Hà Nội \(Green Ha Noi\)**](#) was established by four youths in August 2017 with the goal of planting 1,000,000 new trees in Hanoi. From 2017 to now, the group has planted more than 3,000 trees in the city with some outstanding projects in Vinh Quynh Street, Thanh Tri; The College of Technology and Commerce; Xuan Loi ward, Dong Anh; and Hoang Dieu ward, Chuong My. Currently, the coreteam of Xanh Hà Nội consists of 11 members, while the number of volunteers participating in its events has reached more than 100. Xanh Hà Nội operates mainly based on individual contributions, but after going into operation, the group has received technical support from relevant stakeholders and financial support from the [Southeast Asia Leaders Initiative Fund \(YSEALI\)](#).

Biodiversity Conservation/Afforestation

Northern Region

- [**Green for Future Club**](#) is a club at Viet Nam National Forestry University founded in 2013 by third-year students with the aim of disseminating knowledge about nature, the environment, and biodiversity protection to students at the university and elsewhere. In 2020, the group launched Cây Miền Ngược – Nước Miền Xuôi, a five-month project with the goal of greening Thung Mai village, Hang Kia commune, Mai Chau, Hoa Binh. The project is implemented by 36 youth volunteers who successfully collaborated with Thung Mai village, Hang Kia commune. 48 households in Thung Mai village and the nature reserve of Hang Kia - Pa Co supported the design of the seedlings planting and transportation model. The project is funded by the Center for Sustainable Development and Irish Aid.

Central Region

- [**Sasa Marine Rescue Team**](#) was established in July 2018 after a dolphin named Sasa washed ashore on the coast of Danang in late June. Currently, the project consists of more than 20 volunteers equipped with knowledge, skills and equipment to spend 4-5 days / week diving along the beach of Son Tra peninsula to remind visitors not to damage coral reefs, cut ghost nets, collect trash and restore damaged reefs. In addition, SST also carries out marine life rescue of species including sea turtles, dolphins, ... The biggest difficulty SST faces is securing enough funding to maintain their regular volunteer activities. The group is also trying to increase the efficiency of their diving trips.

Nature-based products and services

Northern Region

- [Vietherb - Thuốc nam của người Việt](#) (Vietnamese Herbal Medicine) focuses on promoting natural healing methods by using medicinal plants for products such as shampoo, shower gel, mouthwash, etc. Vietherb prioritizes naturally-grown medicinal plants rather than those farmed using chemicals or tissue culture technologies. In addition, Vietherb seeks to connect traditional healers from both the mountains and the plains, to build community around preserving the values of Vietnamese traditional plant-based medicine. Currently, VietHerb has developed nearly 100 products, and commits to using at least 51 percent of its profits to preserving and fostering the growth of medicinal plants.

Central Region

- [An Nhiên Farm](#): A farm built on three hectares of land in the middle of barren hills and valleys. After being renovated, An Nchien Farm now includes a composting workshop, a self-sufficient vegetable garden, a lodging house and a furniture processing workshop. All products at An Nchien farm, from tables and chairs to decorations, are made using nature-based methods. Currently, An Nchien farm has developed into a sustainable ecotourism complex considered as the lungs of Da Nang city. In addition to creating a green space, An Nchien farm generates job opportunities for local youths.

Southern Region

- [Vải thân thiện](#) (Friendly cloth), a sustainable clothing initiative founded by H'mong youth Ms. Giang Thi Minh (1996). The project was created to contribute to limiting industrial fashion waste and inspire the use of products from green, safe and environment-friendly materials such as handmade woven linen and natural dyes. Started in April 2020 in Tan Phu, Ho Chi Minh City, the project has so far connected with handicraft artisans in the Northwest to obtain a friendly source of fabric, then creatively designed products such as bags, gloves, costumes ... However, the project is still new so it has not received much support or seed funding and is still facing many difficulties. because he has not yet connected with individuals who love and want to use environmentally friendly fabric products.

c. Distinct bottlenecks

For youths working on NBS projects, survey results show that the four largest bottlenecks they face are **(1) financial constraints, (2) lack of stakeholder support, (3) lack of human resources** and **(4) skills limitations**. Out of these four, the most noticeable is **(3) lack of human resources**, as **NBS is the only field of climate action where youth projects think that human resource difficulty is one of the three largest bottlenecks** affecting project results. According to our

survey, 40 percent of youths working in NBS think that lack of personnel is the most significant or a relatively significant challenge (rated 8/10 or greater).

NBS still seen as a new concept

Engaging with community stakeholders is a barrier for youth NBS projects as many reports that their community still thinks of NBS as “a fairly new concept that they do not want to accept,” in the words of Ms. Nguyen Ngoc Tam Nhu from Phan Thiet. This has made it more difficult for youths to convince stakeholders such as community members, local authorities or even family members to support their projects.

This comes in a field of work that requires much coordination between youth groups and stakeholders to implement. For example, when planting trees in urban areas, Xanh Ha Noi members need to work hard to connect with local authorities, schools and hospitals where they wish to plant trees. However, problems still arise with greening plants conflicting with the city’s development plans, resulting in a loss of soil for plants to grow.

On the topic of persuading one’s local community to join in NBS projects, Ms. Tran Do Bao Nghi, chairman of Cộng Đồng Xanh – Một Sức Khỏe ([Green Community - One Health](#)) club in Hanoi, shared the challenges she experienced while trying to spread the “urban garden” model in the neighborhood. Together with her teammates, Nghi has developed a model to compost household-generated organic waste and use it to grow vegetables on the balcony. However, although Nghi has many friends at the club who support the initiative, persuading residents in her neighborhood is the most difficult stage. At present, Nghi has only been able to convince three neighbors, because the rest of them still have not seen the health and environmental benefits of applying this model.

If convincing the community is difficult, Mr. Danh Bo in Bac Lieu faced an even greater challenge while building a sustainable NBS shrimp farming model: convincing his own family. Mr. Danh Bo’s family does not support him in developing the model on family, due to concerns about productivity and income loss associated with testing a new model. This greatly discouraged Danh Bo, for whom family opinion matters a lot in his own decision-making. There were even times his pilot models did not succeed and Danh Bo had to hide it from his family to be able to continue. Bo is not alone in this regard, for many farming households in the Mekong Delta have not participated in or even opposed the switch to more nature-based farming models due to concerns about income and profit. According to Mr. Hoai Phong, a former member of the [Forests and Deltas program](#) and the [Support for Sustainable Livestock Development program](#), farmers often do not want to take risks by boldly switching to new models “because if the crop [or new farming model] fails, it will affect the lives of family members.”

Lack of human resources

Not only do youths struggle to secure long-term engagement from stakeholders, but finding other youths to commit to NBS projects is also no easy task. In fact, NBS is the only field in which youths significantly struggle to mobilize enough human resources for their projects. Youths at consultation events shared that this might be due to the nature of NBS projects; **tree planting, biodiversity conservation, sustainable agricultural and tourism projects cannot happen overnight**, but require the patience of project leaders and members alike over a long period of time to produce concrete results. All over the country, **few youth groups have been lucky enough to find such long-term companions.**

Mr. Nguyen Hoang Nam from Hanoi, member of the [The Forest Viet Nam](#), shared “... no one wants to be a three-headed and six-legged monster. We all depend on the community.” However, from his own experience as well as surrounding youths, Nam has learned that the **most important factor when implementing the project — strong human resources — is sometimes the biggest bottleneck.** “There are people who do not share the same purpose, so it is difficult to do projects together when a friend constantly objects to decisions or, worst of all, disappears,” Nam said. “It felt like the fire had gone out after the first meeting.”

Similar to Nam, Mr. Truong Nguyen Luan is a young person whose experience involves not being able to find a suitable teammate for an ecotourism development project in Can Gio. During the process of conceptualizing and implementing projects with support from [GenU, a UNICEF program](#), the biggest problem that Luan encounters is the “disagreement and lack of passion” amongst team members. According to Luan, because **students in Viet Nam ’s school system are under intense pressure to compete for grades and exams**, it is challenging for them to follow a long-term volunteering or youth action process.

In the Central region, Ms. Phạm Khai, who’s developing an eco-garden model at a restaurant in Hoi An, has also had difficulty in mobilizing restaurant staff members to join her. Although Khai has launched her project and achieved concrete results, she still feels that economic burdens and time constraints have turned away people who might otherwise have engaged in her project. To overcome this situation, Khai tried to inspire others and share information about her eco-garden model via small talks and workshops. Gradually, her colleagues' interest in the project increased — a driving force for Khai to continue striving.

Projects often run over budget

Finance is an issue that youths active in all climate fields consider to be a major bottleneck. However, for NBS projects in particular, youths interviewed share that coping with extra expenses that arise in project implementation is even more challenging than raising funds in the first place.

Mr. Nguyen Van Loi is a youth from Nghe An and former coordinator of [Let's Do It! Nghean](#). He is also passionate about sustainable farming models. However, Loi was unable to continue experimenting with microalgae as a natural feed for chicken and tilapia, because **insufficient funding for his project after the three-month experimental phase did not achieve desired results**. Without prior experience, Loi packed his chickens too densely during the experiment. The strong individuals competed with weaker ones, eating up their feed and preventing their growth, leading to a net loss of both algae and chickens. Next, when Loi experimented with raising tilapia, one heavy rainfall washed all the fish away, causing him heavy capital loss. Before that, in order to get the algae for the model, Loi had struck a deal with an algae farming company. After failing to make profits, however, the company stopped supporting Loi, causing his project to discontinue.

Facing somewhat similar financial problems, Ms. Tran Ngoc Bich did **not accurately foresee the technical costs** she would incur when implementing self-sufficient garden models in households without using chemical fertilizers. The additional costs, along with a lack of support from her community and inexperience on her side, also led Bich to discontinue her project.

Models still unrealistic; youths face difficulties in implementation

But beyond the bottlenecks above lies the fact that youths themselves do not have adequate personal or institutional experience in applying nature-based solutions. For example, Mr. Nguyen Van Loi, whose algae feed pilot halted midway, believes that he lacks skills in farming, planning and managing such models that would've made the process more efficient. Not only Loi, Bich also struggled with lack of skills in building and spreading her self-sufficient garden model. In general, successful nature-based models require a lengthy process of experimentation and experience by trial-and-error. Therefore, youths who want to build NBS models need all the advice they can get in order to fine-tune their models' technical and operation details before launching.

Due to the complexity of NBS and the above-mentioned bottlenecks in building and implementing models, **nearly half of the surveyed youths in this group (80/162) only have experience with education and awareness-raising** rather than technological innovation.

d. Prioritized solution

#7 Experiential tours of successful NBS models

It is not easy to solve all the above bottlenecks. However, in the near future one feasible solution is organizing **experiential tours of successful NBS models** (from other youth groups, CSOs, the Youth Union, etc.) so that youths can learn from them. This would also be an opportunity for NBS projects to promote their model to a team of potential volunteers. Because NBS models need to be experienced first-hand rather than read about, the Report Authors believe that the experiential tour would be more effective than simple information exchange forums; however, prior to the tour,

youths will also be provided with adequate background knowledge about the wide range of possible applications of NBS in climate action, so the tours can be a fully educational experience.

Currently, there are already youth-led NBS models that have achieved some degree of success, as shown in the stocktake above. However, **publicly available information about these models is still limited**, and interested youths cannot easily access it without the right connections. For example, not all youths who want to build a sustainable agricultural model know about An Nhien farm in Hoi An, and not all youths who want to grow trees in urban areas know about Hanoi Green. Even when these groups' names are known through media or social networks, it is not easy to actually experience them.

That is why we hope to receive support from project managers to organize an NBS experiential tour. We hope the program can take place for the first time in April 2021, the month of Earth Day 2021 with the theme "Restore Our Earth" as the premise for youth climate action. Enthusiastic youths can then take on a longer-term volunteer role at these projects if they want to in the summer of 2021, and then apply their newly-acquired knowledge to developing unique projects in their hometown.²⁸

In addition to **witnessing and participating in the daily activities** at their projects of choice, youths on the NBS tour will gain **a more bird's eye view of available NBS models, expenses they incur and stakeholders they engage with**. It is a win-win situation, as visited models will gain more human resources as well as promotion of their projects. A major advantage to this approach is that it can be deployed in the near future through mobilizing resources from existing networks instead of creating something new.

If successfully launched, we hope the experiential NBS tour will become an **annual event** to foster an educated and nature-based youth community, and gradually be incorporated as an official educational extracurricular activity for youths, perhaps through the local Youth Union branches.

²⁸ "Building on the Growth and Resilience of the Environmental Movement Worldwide Earth Day Network Launches 'Restore Our Earth' as 2021 Theme," Earth Day, May 15, 2020, <https://www.earthday.org/press-release/building-on-the-growth-and-resilience-of-the-environmental-movement-worldwide-earth-day-network-launches-restore-our-earth-as-2021-theme/>.

10. THEMATIC SECTION: Climate Policy

a. Introduction

The Paris Agreement was signed by 197 countries in 2015, signaling a new global era of commitment towards climate-conscious policy making to achieve the common goal of GHG reduction. The Agreement requires that countries update their Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) towards climate mitigation and adaptation every 5 years.²⁹ According to the updated NDC in 2020, Viet Nam is committed to reducing GHG emissions by 9 percent by 2030 compared to business-as-usual, as well as implementing strategic climate change adaptation and sustainable development measures.³⁰ An understanding of these policy commitments at the international, national and local levels will undoubtedly help Vietnamese youths in mobilizing more effective and systematic climate action.

However, although climate policy is not a new topic, it is still an unfamiliar one for many Vietnamese youths—even those with long-term experience working in the environmental and climate change field. There is still a widespread belief that policymaking is solely the responsibility of the state; youths have not grasped the concept of active citizenship in implementing and contributing to climate policies. As a result, Vietnamese youths have not been involved in the consultation process for NDC updates as well as other climate-related policies. Simultaneously, they face problems while implementing mitigation, adaptation and NBS projects due to a lack of understanding of related policies and laws.

To improve this situation, we would like to highlight the degree of youth policy awareness in Viet Nam, the difficulties youths face in learning about policy, as well as possible accelerators to be incorporated in the Roadmap for Youth Climate Action in the next four years.

b. Policy awareness among Vietnamese youths

To understand youths' policy awareness and the bottlenecks that limit it, we surveyed 387 youths on policy concepts such as **the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Agreement, NDCs, Viet Nam's National Climate Change Strategy and Law on Environmental Protection.**

²⁹ “Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)”

³⁰ “UPDATED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION (NDC)” (The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, July 2020), https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Viet%20Nam%20First/Viet%20Nam_NDC_2020_Eng.pdf; “Hoàn Thành Cập Nhật Đóng Góp Do Quốc Gia Tự Quyết Định (NDC): Nâng Mức Đóng Góp Của Việt Nam Cho Ứng Phó Với BĐKH Toàn Cầu,” (Cục Biến đổi khí hậu - Bộ Tài nguyên và Môi trường, July 25, 2020), [http://dcc.gov.vn/tin-tuc/3653/Hoan-thanh-cap-nhat-dong-gop-do-quoc-gia-tu-quyet-dinh-\(NDC\):-Nang-muc-dong-gop-cua-Viet-Nam-cho-ung-pho-voi-BDKH-toan-cau.html](http://dcc.gov.vn/tin-tuc/3653/Hoan-thanh-cap-nhat-dong-gop-do-quoc-gia-tu-quyet-dinh-(NDC):-Nang-muc-dong-gop-cua-Viet-Nam-cho-ung-pho-voi-BDKH-toan-cau.html).

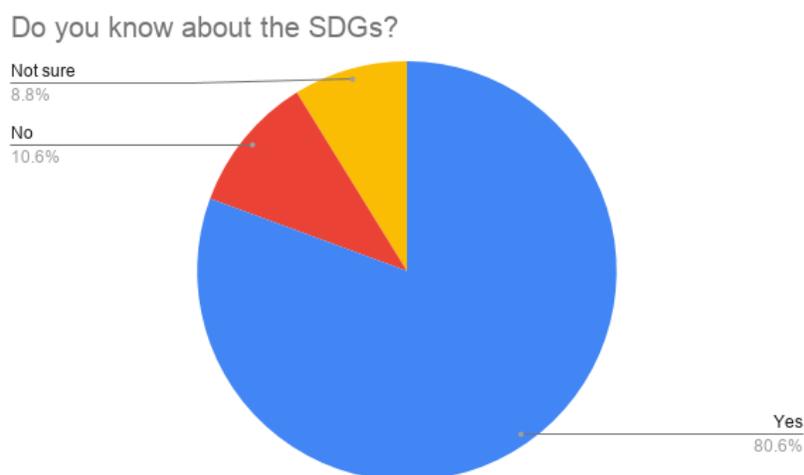


Figure 3. Awareness about the 17 SDGs among Vietnamese youths

Regarding international policy frameworks, the majority (80.6%) of 387 youth survey respondents are aware of the United Nations' 17 **SDGs**; relatively few are unsure about (8.8%) or have never heard of the SDGs (10.6%). Furthermore, of the 31 youths (10.6%) surveyed who responded “no,” up to 30 *have never* been a long-term member of climate projects, only having volunteer experience or interest in the topic. Thus, the majority of youths who have been members of climate projects have a certain level of understanding regarding the 17 SDGs, which include SDG 13, climate action.³¹

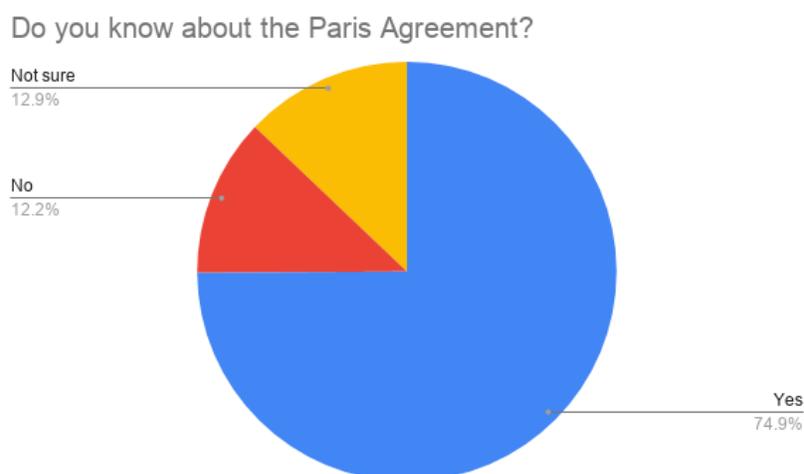


Figure 4. Awareness about the Paris Agreement among Vietnamese youths

³¹ “Climate Action – United Nations Sustainable Development,” accessed January 10, 2021, <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/climate-action/#:~:text=Goal%2013%20calls%20for%20urgent,well%20below%202%20degrees%20Celsius.>

Similarly, the majority of survey respondents said they know about the **Paris Agreement** (74.9%); 12.9 percent are not sure and 12.1 percent completely have not heard of the historic Agreement.

Do you know about the NDCs?

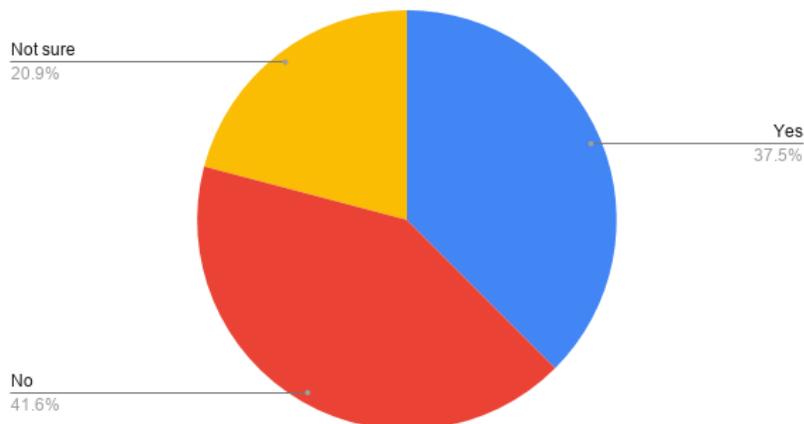


Figure 5. Awareness about the NDCs among Vietnamese youths

More alarming however, is the low level of awareness about the **NDCs**, the very framework through which the Paris Agreement is realized. Only 37.5 percent of youths surveyed know about NDCs; meanwhile, 41.6 percent are completely ignorant of the concept. This, in short, shows that the proportion of youth climate advocates who do not know about the NDCs is still high—one of the reasons why they have not been involved in consultations prior to the NDC updates. It can be further inferred that since the NDCs form an essential part of the Paris Agreement, most Vietnamese Youths only hear the name of this agreement but do not truly understand how it is translated into member countries' policies.

Do you know about the National Climate Change Strategy

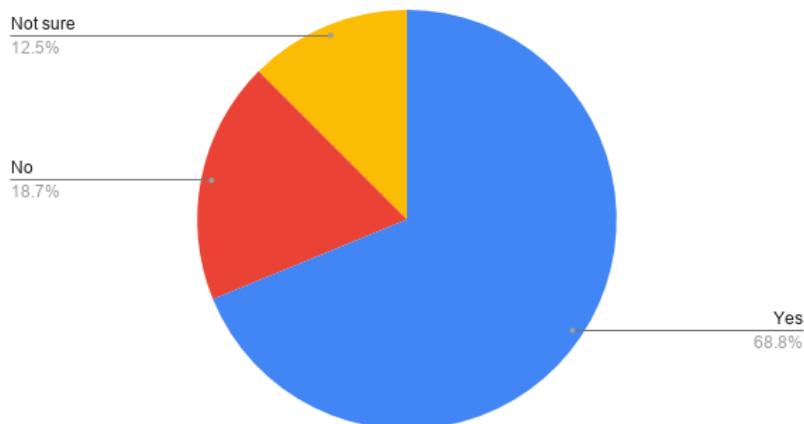


Figure 6. Awareness about the National Climate Change Strategy among Vietnamese youths

Regarding national policy issues, only 68.8 percent of Vietnamese youths are aware of **the National Climate Change Strategy**, while 12.5 percent are unsure about the strategy and 18.7 percent know nothing about it. Thus, in general, Vietnamese youths have a certain understanding of the National Climate Change Strategy, but considering the importance of this policy document in shaping the country's climate response, this level of awareness among climate youths is still not high enough.

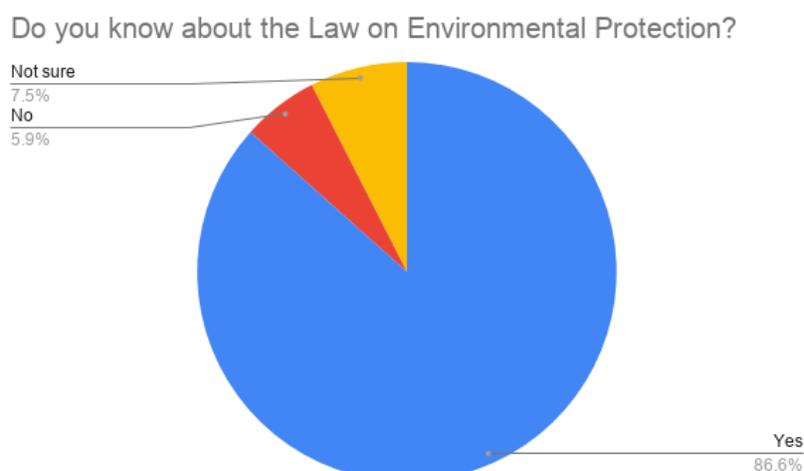


Figure 7. Awareness about the Law on Environmental Protection

Finally, **the Law on Environmental Protection** is the most well-known among Vietnamese youths, with 86.6 percent of survey respondents aware of this law, last updated in 2020.

In addition, our survey also asked if youths were aware of other policies, policy frameworks or laws related to their specific field of climate action or geopolitical region. Out of 387 survey respondents, only 54 gave answers to this question. However, 18 of these responses mentioned awareness-raising campaigns and other programs not directly linked to policy (e.g., Earth Hour); This shows that many Vietnamese youths still do not understand the basic definition of what constitutes a climate policy, policy framework or law. In addition, no responses mentioned policy programs at the local level.

c. Distinct bottlenecks

Through our surveys, we identified two main bottlenecks preventing youth engagement with climate policy in Viet Nam: lack of reliable, easily understandable sources of information and lack of infrastructure for youth climate advocacy.

Information about the policy is difficult to grasp and unclear

Most survey respondents (60.5%) highlighted that **“sources of information on policies are still difficult to grasp,”** citing this as a major barrier to greater policy understanding. Given the convoluted writing style of policy and legal documents, only the experienced can discern the main parts from the auxiliary and know what to focus on for analyses—something most youths are not trained to do. In addition, the academic content and specialized words of these documents are easily confused or misinterpreted.

What are the challenges that you usually encounter while trying to research climate policy?

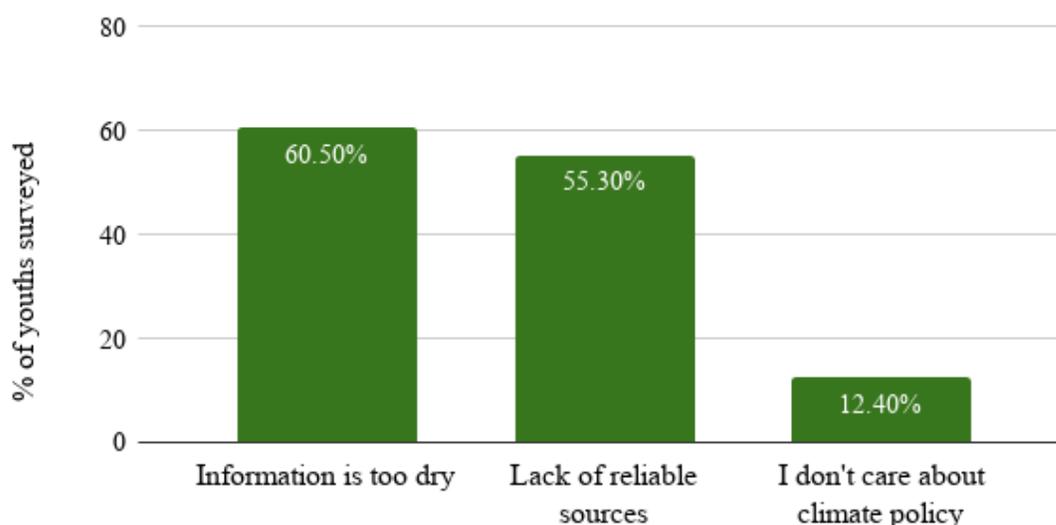


Figure 8. Barriers to access to climate policy for Vietnamese youths

Mr. Hoai Phong, a former youth member of the [Forests and Deltas program](#) and the [Support for Sustainable Livestock Development program](#), shared a concrete example related to green agricultural policies. “...green agriculture strategies and climate policies have been integrated into front-line workshops or technical training for young farmers. But they still do not fully understand [these new policies and concepts], and it is hard for them to see how agricultural activities generate GHG emissions.”

Creative, audience-conscious updates on climate policy are essential to undoing youths' perception that policy is a dry, abstract topic with relevance to everyday life. Ms. Quàng Thanh Thu, founder of [Vert Xanh](#) and youth representative at the #Youth4Climate consultation events, shared, "When I think about the NDCs, I feel it is terribly big and grand for [a youth like] me... However, when I finally got the chance to hear policymakers from [the Department of Climate Change] explain these concepts [at the consultation events], I realized that they were really important and not quite so hard to understand." As not all youths currently have the ability to have direct contact with policymakers like Thu, CSOs and youth groups need to coordinate with national and local authorities to summarize, systematize and communicate climate policy updates more effectively.

On the other hand, some youths shared that not only did they struggle to understand the language of policy documents, they did not know how to find reliable information sources in the first place. Many online sources are not regularly updated, some quoting misleading speculation from non-official sources which makes the reader even more confused. Overall, more than half of youth survey respondents believe that reliable sources of information on climate policy are lacking.

Ms. Nguyen Thi Kieu Linh, a youth from the south, described the difficulties she faced while researching climate policy. "No reliable individual or organization has regularly updated and actively disseminated knowledge [about climate change policies] through media channels." Similar to Linh, Ms. Tran Thi Diem Phuc from [Green Fingers Viet Nam](#) feels that "Information on Viet Nam 's climate-related policies are often fragmented, not gathered into a specific PDF file or website for youths to browse." Ms. Cao Ngọc Quỳnh Uyên, meanwhile, raised the issue of "non-official information sources" making her confused and scared while doing policy research.

Lack of infrastructure for youth climate advocacy

Although more than 95 percent of youths are aware of at least one policy or law related to climate change at the national or international level, our survey shows that more than 40 percent have never actively engaged in policy advocacy. The biggest reasons for this lack of engagement may seem subjective: 36.7 percent of youths surveyed report that they "don't think youths' voices have an impact" on policy and "never thought of ways to engage with policy." However, these sentiments reflect a societal lack of infrastructure for youth policy advocacy in Viet Nam.

What are the barriers you face when trying to engage in climate policy advocacy?

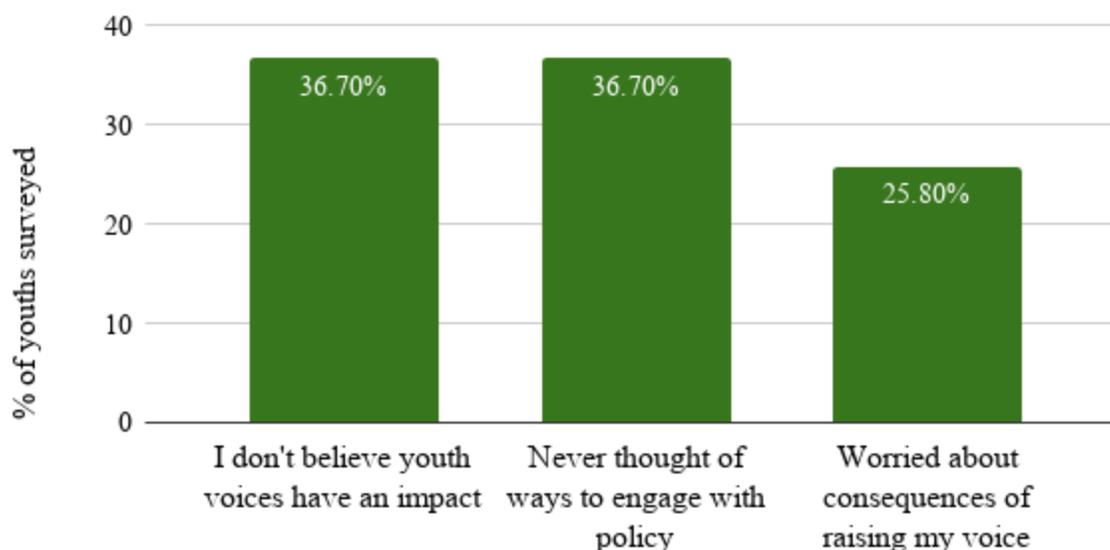


Figure 9. Barriers youths face in climate policy advocacy

Youth representatives have not been informed about Viet Nam's timeline for NDC updates, the revised Law on Environmental Protection, and the upcoming Power Development Master Plan VIII (PDP 8). We hope that in the near future, after youths have boosted policy awareness and research skills in our own community, stakeholders will support us in resolving this bottleneck: lack of infrastructure for youth policy advocacy.

On a more positive note, more than half of youths surveyed have participated in one of the following activities: policy research, awareness-raising, talking with policymakers, online petition-signing, and writing policy op-eds. The most popular among these is signing online petitions (32% of respondents), then policy research (29% of respondents). An example of an online petition that has resonated with many youths is the [the Save Son Doong](#) petition, which asks the government to stop supporting any cable car construction in the world's largest cave located in Central Viet Nam. However, the fact that there are more youths signing petitions than spending time researching policies shows that a small number of youths surveyed do not fully understand the existing policies before engaging in advocacy. The most popular petitions mostly concern short-term changes to a certain project — for example, the Son Doong cable car project — rather than long-term policies and regulations, according to youths at our consultation forums.

d. Prioritized Accelerators

To erase the barriers that have prevented youths from engaging with climate policies, we would like to propose a three-pronged approach as follows: research, awareness-raising and capacity-building.

#8 Continuous research on policy mainstreaming

Currently, there is a gap between youths and climate policymakers that needs to be more clearly defined. Although during the development of the Special Report, the Report Authors have identified the greatest barriers to youth policy engagement, there are still many questions remaining. A survey carried out in just one month on many different climate action topics cannot focus specifically on evaluating youths' understanding of climate policies as well as knowledge gaps that need to be overcome.

Therefore, we propose that the youth climate action network collaborates with universities to design and conduct a sociological survey study to better understand youth perceptions of climate policies. This study will *run in parallel* with the network's communication and capacity-building activities, also as a way to evaluate the effectiveness of these programs in improving youth's policy understanding.

The research will be divided into two phases: data collection and research interpretation and evaluation.

Phase 1 – Data collection: March 2021 - June 2021

During this period, a youth research team can develop and run a six-month-study with a target group of 1,000+ youths working in various climate action fields across the country to collect data on how they interact with and understand policy concepts in order to come up with tailored recommendations for awareness-raising campaigns.

Phase 2 – Research interpretation and evaluation: July 2021 - August 2021

The youth group synthesizes data and writes a report on the research results to be published in the latter half of 2021. Through this report, the #Youth4Climate Network Steering Committee will make necessary modifications to the policy mainstreaming action plan **“Road to 1.5”** (see below). The study will also be continued as climate mainstreaming campaigns begin, to evaluate the campaigns' effectiveness in raising youths' level of understanding.

#9 Climate policy media campaign: “Road to 1.5”

Today, technological developments have created many platforms for youths to connect with each other and spread awareness about critical issues and policies. For example, during the COVID pandemic, youths played a key role in disseminating good prevention practices in collaboration

with the Ministry of Health via Tiktok and other social media. There is no reason why, with the right support, Vietnamese youths can't achieve the same level of success with spreading awareness about key climate policies.

#Youth4Climate consultations and surveys have both shown that the role of young people in Viet Nam's climate policymaking and mainstreaming process has still not been fully realized. But before they can make impactful contributions, youths need to truly understand the relevant policies at the international, national and local levels — something that is not so easy at present. An objective bottleneck is the lack of youth-friendly, well-updated communication channels about climate policy in Viet Nam, as frequently highlighted by youth survey respondents. However, there are subjective barriers on the youths' side as well, which have to do with lack of confidence and interest in the subject of policy. With the support of stakeholders and the Youth Union, we hope to rectify both issues with the following campaign—**"Road To 1.5"**:

Phase 1—Policy portal in Youth Climate Learning Hub - "Road to 1,5": January 2021 – March /2021

To address the largest barrier youths face in understanding climate policy—lack of reliable, engaging information sources—we first want to set up a portal as part of the Youth Climate Learning Hub in order to systematize, summarize and communicate information on climate change policy at the international, national and local level for youths. This portal must meet both criteria: providing accurate information and conveying content in a youth-friendly way. The portal may be designed and managed by youths, but will need support from experts, policymakers and other stakeholders in providing the most accurate and up-to-date information.

The portal will be launched by the end of March 2020; however much of the updating and content creation would need to be done afterwards by a few passionate and experienced youths with the technical support and guidance of UNDP Viet Nam. Thus, we propose that the portal be administered by a youth representative in the first three months after its launch, before being handed to the Youth Climate Policy Working Group in July 2021 (see Phase 3).

Phase 2— "Youth Climate Policy Express": March 2021 – August/2021

When mainstreaming climate policy — a relatively abstract and vague topic — it is necessary to implement events, campaigns and other targeted communication strategies to motivate youths to care. Therefore, after posting policy-related information on the portal, we want to organize two activities as follows with the aim of making policy concepts more digestible and preparing youths to think critically about their role in the policymaking process.

Time	Activity	Principal(s)	Objectives
March-June 2021	COP simulation in three regions of Viet Nam - Using an established negotiation simulation model to disseminate climate solutions and related policies to Vietnamese youths (potentially: En-Roads Climate Action Workshop model). Selected participants are youths interested in climate policy with experience in climate action projects.	Steering Committee of YNET	- Attract 250 youths to join - Each COP simulation will produce a report on youth policy recommendations. - Select 25 best delegates from the simulation events.
May /2021	eTED VN (electronic Teen's Environmental Talk Viet Nam) Inspired by the TED Talk program, eTED VN campaign will motivate youths to create a 3 to 7-minute video of themselves sharing about what a specific climate policy means to them.	Steering Committee of YNET Videomakers: youths from 14-35 years old working on climate projects with different backgrounds	At least 50 videos from youths in 10 different provinces of Viet Nam. Five best videos chosen from the campaign.

The ultimate aim is for these two activities to motivate youths to realize that climate policy concerns them on a personal level and is not just an abstract topic for policymakers and experts.

#10 Establish a Youth Climate Policy Working Group

From the two COP simulation sessions and the eTED VN contest, 30 outstanding youths will be selected to form the Youth Climate Policy Working Groups in **July 2020**. The six different Working Groups will cover six policy themes based on Viet Nam 's NDCs as well as areas of strong youth engagement - (1) Energy, (2) Agriculture, (3) Land use, land use change and forestry, (4) Waste management, (5) Adaptation to climate change and (6) Cross-cutting issues (e.g. climate finance, gender equality, under-resourced groups). Each of the Working Group will have a coordinator who is a core member of the YNET interested in the subject of policy.

The working group aims to increase members' capacity as well as compile policy recommendations, with three main activities every year:

1st branch of action – Capacity building for members

The first branch of activity for the Working Groups—capacity building—will play a key role in the first few months but continue afterwards as a core mandate of the Working Groups as well. Every two months, each individual Working Group will have at least one offline training session, alongside various online capacity-building opportunities. The range of capacity building activities for each group will revolve around two main areas: (1) technical training and (2) skills training. Each Working Group Coordinator and general coordinator are responsible for reaching out to relevant experts for the training sessions.

2nd branch of action – Negotiations tracking

The next branch of activity for the Working Groups is tracking climate negotiations from a youth perspective. We propose that starting from COP26, at least one Working Group representative will join Viet Nam's delegation with the aim of monitoring the negotiations and representing youth's demands to negotiators. This representative will also need to remotely consult with all the Working Group members to update them on the negotiation progress, taking note of their questions and demands. During negotiation events, the Working Group is also responsible for creating communication products about the negotiation process, including summaries, infographics, explainer videos, etc. to be disseminated via the Youth Climate Learning Hub.

3rd branch of action – Develop policy recommendations from a youth perspective

In drafting important policies related to climate change in Viet Nam (e.g. NAP, NDCs), policymakers need to engage youth representatives from the Youth Climate Policy Working Groups, the Youth Union and others in a formal consultation process. Before each consultation event, the Working Groups will be responsible for **drafting a list of recommendations from youth to submit to relevant agencies**, as the basis for youths' contributions to the formal policy consultation session.

Even more so than proposed accelerators in other sections, climate policy accelerators especially require the cooperation of stakeholders in enabling and empowering youths. Throughout all three phases—research, policy mainstreaming, and Youth Working Group launch—youths need support from those familiar with key climate policies on a local, national and international level. The goodwill of policymakers at all levels in particular would be a big source of motivation for youths to truly engage in the policy implementation and advocacy process without fear.

11. ROADMAP FOR YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION

Having considered the bottlenecks as well as prioritized accelerators across all four fields of climate action, the Report Authors have compiled a recommended Roadmap for Youth Climate Action for 2021 and Long-term Goals for 2022-2025 as follows:

For 2021 (*Vietnamese design, English translation currently left as notes*)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1QJtYkMMV-PHZfyEk36udlGO058H5DrZx/view?usp=sharing>

For 2022-2025 (*Vietnamese design, English translation currently left as notes*)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vGLupRh4uspt5n_w49gqleGEB0FMZtfM/view?usp=sharing

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