

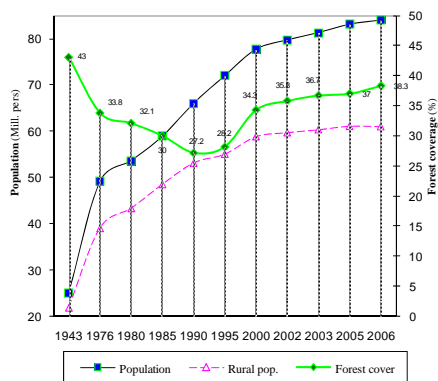


1.1 Brief introduction on forests in Vietnam

- **Total country area:** 330.000 sq. km (33 million Ha);
- **Forests and forestland:** 16.2 million ha (49%) were covered by various forest ecosystems with high biodiversity: tropical rain forest, sub-tropical forest, mangrove forest, Melaleuca forests;
 - Production forest: 8.34 mill. ha
 - Protection forest: 5.68 mill. ha
 - Special-use forest: 2.16 mill. Ha
- Forests contribute significantly to environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, socio-economic development and poverty alleviation in rural forested areas;

1.1 Brief introduction on forests in Vietnam

- In 2008, forest area: 13.1 mill. Ha (38.7%) of which:
 - Natural forests: 10.3 mill. Ha
 - Forest plantation: 2.8 mill. Ha
- Forest cover decreased from 43% (1943) to 28% (1995) BUT increased to 38.7% (2008);
- Forest quality is continuously degraded;



1.2 Points of View

- Vietnam is identified as one of 5 most severe affected by Climate change;
- Not only adaptation but also appropriate mitigation actions will be taken;
- National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change (NTP-RCC) was approved in Dec 2008. Estimated costs for the period from 2009-2015: \$1,2 Bill;
- MARD's Action Plan Framework (APF) to respond to CC;

1.2 Point of view

- REDD is one of the activities in the NTP-RCC and MARD's APF to respond to CC;
- REDD is one of key sub-programs of the Sustainable Forest Management Program of the NFDS;
- REDD implementation contributes to achievement of the objectives of current environment and socio-economic development strategies, policies;
- Therefore, National REDD Strategy should be designed to be consistent with and to support to archive the Goals of the NTP-RCC, APF, NFDS and other ongoing progs;

1.2 Point of view

- Based on voluntary basis and national circumstances;
- Country-led, national-based (programmatic) approach to avoid in-country leakage BUT also accepts project-based option (learning by doing);
- Requires active participation of various stakeholders;
- Takes long time and requires substantial investment of the GoV and support from donor community;
- A combination of market-based and traditional mechanisms;

1.2 Point of view

- REDD implementation should be well-organized in collaborative, coordinated, transparent and effective fashion;
- Maximal utilization of the comparative advantages of the International Development Agencies and experts;
- Promotes a close cooperation with countries in the Lower Mekong Basin and ASEAN.

II. Vietnam's experience in the REDD implementation

2.1 Relevant policies & Programs

- GoV of Vietnam has paid great attention on responding to negative impacts of climate change;
- REDD is one of the key important components of National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change and National Forest Development Strategy;
- PES - The implementation of REDD + PES is expected to **create an innovative and sustainable financing mechanism** for SFM, biodiversity conservation and socio-economic development in rural areas;
- Based on **voluntary basis** , national circumstances and **country ownership**;
- REDD implementation should be well-organized in collaborative, coordinated, transparent and effective fashion;

2.2 Participation in the REDD Initiatives

- REDD is one of the key important components of National Target Program to Respond to Climate Change and National Forest Development Strategy;
- Vietnam has actively participated in several international REDD Initiatives: FCPF (July 2008) and UN-REDD (March 2009);
- The UN-REDD Prog in Vietnam was officially launched on 16/8/2009;



Government Investment

- Program on re-planning and zoning forest categories in 2006-2007: VND 76 bill (USD4.5 mill.)
- Cadastral mapping for forested areas: USD 20 million;
- Forest allocation and leasing 2007-2010: USD45 mill.;
- Five Million Hectares Reforestation Program (the 661 Prog): VND 4515 Bill. (USD 252.6 mill or USD50.5 mill/year);
- Rehabilitation and development of mangrove forests 2008-2015: USD125 million;
- Policy on promotion of the fixed and stable agricultural cultivation in sloping land 2008-2012: USD17 mill + 310,500 tons of rice;
- Established the National Environmental Monitoring, of which a ground satellite receiving station was installed (Euro 20 million)

National Forest Monitoring and Assessment Program

- As mandated by the Law, the NFMA is conducted every 5 year since 1991 (about USD 10 million for each Cycle);
- Methods: a combination of RS & field surveys:
 - **Remote sensing:** for wall-to-wall forest cover mapping. 1991-95: Landsat TM; 96-00: SPOT; 2001-05: Landsat ETM; 2006-2010: SPOT5 ;
 - **Field surveys:** 4200 vs 2100, systematically distributed over forestland
- National Forest Monitoring and Information System (FOMIS): USD 5 million

Institutional arrangement and policy formulation

- **National REDD Network** chaired by the MARD and co-chaired by a donor; and REDD Technical Working Group;
- Establishment of SC of the UN-REDD Prog in Vietnam chaired by MARD Vice Minister and UN Res. Coordinator;
- Donors coordination: **Institutional donors' mapping** to mobilize the support from potential partners and to avoid overlap and conflicts;
- Study on benefit-sharing systems for REDD;

Technical Capacity Building

- Organized numerous national and regional technical training workshops;
- **GoV**: scientific research on forest carbon measurements;
- **UN-REDD**: capacity building for relevant stakeholders at national and local levels;
- **FAO**: Strengthening the National Forest Inventory, Monitoring and Assessment Program (since 1991) in CC context;
- **JICA**: Screening potential lands for A/R CDM and REDD;
- **GoV of Finland**: Forest Monitoring and Information System (FOMIS) and forest fire prevention and information system;
- **GTZ, SNV, AusAID, USAID**: forest carbon measurements;

III. Prospect and Challenges

3.1 Prospect

- Political attention and support;
- Alignment of the interests of multiple constituencies, ongoing programs and strategies: i.e. NTP-RCC, NFDS, PRS, PES;
- Supplementary to current national PES policy: REDD= carbon sequestration = one of Envi services of the forests;
- Brings co-benefits: emissions reductions + Improved biodiversity conservation + Improved local livelihoods;

3.2 Constraints & Challenges in Vietnam

- REDD requires new level of forest governance – A need to revise and complete the institutional arrangement and policies;
- Cooperation among government agencies and integration with on-going programs/projects (TA vs IP);
- A lack of technical capacity: in collecting, analyzing, synthesizing and reporting information on forest C, especially at local levels;
- A lack of adequate and predictable financial resources: costs for REDD-readiness ranging from USD 13.7 million – USD 92.0 million for 5 years;
- High opportunity costs and insufficient volume of finance to shift drivers of deforestation and degradation;

Key activities for 2010 for REDD Network

- Strengthen REDD Network: wider participation (esp. local stakeholders), coordination and capacity
- Establishment of some major sub-working groups
- Participate in/support for activities of group members
- Facilitation of information and experience sharing through various means, e.g., emails, website, workshops and meetings
- Participation in regional and international REDD-related Network
- National REDD Strategy

**Thank you very much
for your attention!**

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