

NPRS-PRF

Partners in Poverty Reduction

Messages from NPRS and PRF Poverty Funds Initiatives

Policies & Strategies: Experiences from Viet Nam

Presentation by

Ngo Huong

Center for Development and Integration, Viet Nam

Forum on
Inclusive Growth and Poverty
Reduction in the New Asia and Pacific
4-9 October 2007 • ADB, Manila, Philippines



Vietnam's Policy Context

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- The new Socio-Economic Development Plan (SEDP) 2006-2010 articulates the vision, reflecting the transition towards strategic planning for a market economy “Emerging from massive poverty less than two decades ago, the vision now is to attain middle-income status by 2010”
- The challenge: rapid growth but spatial poverty/regional inequalities remain
- The Government need support for new planning methodologies for growth and poverty reduction from ADB and other donors

Changes: Linking development activities with local level realities

- Making better service delivery by people-oriented policies
- Capacity changes: Training and re-orienting public officials to serve people and businesses
- Policy changes: Making Targeted programs (Program 135) better for the poorest!
- Institutional changes: Building strong momentum at grass root level. Increase people's participation in planning, monitoring and evaluation of decentralized public services

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Experiences as ADB poverty specialist

- Support in strategic planning: capacity building for officials regarding the CPRGS and SEDP
- Support in Policy analysis and policy formulation: the regional studies (Central Regions and Northern Mountainous Area)
- Technical support to localities: Quang Tri, Hue and Dak Nong provinces
- Participatory consultation (demonstration and pilot of PPAs in provinces)
- Policy dialogues for poverty reduction and policy lending (the PRSC 1-5 for CPRGS and continued for SEPD06-10)

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What next?

- Stronger knowledge generation and capacity building opportunities to the country is even more in demand in the future in the context that reforms associated with attaining middle-income status are more complex than those needed to move away from central planning.
- Engagement from NPRS-PRF is seen as essential to lay the foundations of a modern and inclusive market economy, supporting policy reforms.

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