



TRONG SỐ NÀY

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SWEDEN - VIETNAM TO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Sweden's Ministry of Agriculture and Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development agreed to continue their cooperation on a basis of equality and reciprocal support and mutual interest.

The commitment was made in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) co-signed on 02 June 2010 in Hanoi by Swedish Ambassador to Vietnam Rolf Bergman, on behalf of Swedish Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Cao Duc Phat.

MoU affirmed that both sides will continue further exchange of information, knowledge and experience in priority areas related to agriculture and rural development. They include cooperation between government agencies working in aquaculture, irrigation and rural development, food hygiene and safety, animal health, development of new varieties, forestry management and research.

Addressing his speech at the signing



ceremony, ambassador Rolf Bergman emphasised that the MoU is an important step towards the new cooperation among partners from Sweden and Vietnam. He said: *“It is my honour to participate in the MoU signing ceremony and this will contribute to elevate the long lasting relationship of the two countries to a new form of cooperation. We are shifting relationships among donors and recipients of bilateral grants into a new relationship between equal partners”*

For further information, please contact Press and Communication Officer of the Embassy.

ISSUES OF NEW RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT

Ho Xuan Hung (Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development)



On 5 August 2008, the Resolution No. 26-NQ/TW of the 7th Conference of the 10th Central Committee on Agriculture, Farmers, Rural Development was issued. After 20 years of renovation, this is the first time the Communist Party has a comprehensive resolution of Agriculture, Farmers, Rural Development in the context of market economy and integration.

Results over a year of implementation of the Resolution No. 26-NQ/TW of the Government were seriously evaluated in Government Conference in October 2009 (Resolution No. 54/NQ-CP on 11 November 2009). In

this article, I will not go through these conclusions, but focus only to clarify some issues surrounding the concept, content and implementation of measures and new rural area construction - a they national programme to 2020, vision 2030

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Proper Understanding New Rural Areas

First of all, it is necessary to agree about awareness of content and functions of a new rural area of the socialist republic of Vietnam. So what is new rural area? In the Resolution No. 26-NQ/TW gives the target:

“Building new rural areas where there are modern socio-economic infrastructure, proper economic structures and forms of organization and production, link of agriculture and the rapid development of industry, services, previously planned urbanites; stable rural society, rich culture features and ethnic identity; enhanced people’s knowledge, ecological environment protection; strengthened political system in the rural areas under the leadership of the Communist Party;

So, primarily, a new rural area should be rural without urban townships, towns or cities and different from other traditionally current rural areas. It is in general summarized by following five principle contents: Firstly, there are villages which are civilized, clean, accommodated with modern infrastructure; Secondly, production must be of sustainable development in the direction of economic goods; Thirdly, material and spiritual life of rural farmers are increasingly improved; fourthly, the nation’s cultural identity is preserved and developed; fifthly, the rural society is well secured and is democratically managed.

The fact from current situation during the process of implementation of new rural areas in 11 pilot communes, the country is facing three biggest problems: the first challenge is the rapid growth and sustainable income for farmers, with an objective to increase by 2.5 times of the current income. The next difficulty is to build modern rural infrastructure, in real situation of backward infrastructure in the rural areas, particularly in mountainous areas and the Mekong region while capital investments by the Government is limited. Finally, problems of labor restructuring in rural areas, so that by 2020, agricultural workers will account for 30% of social workers (currently 60%).

What are the functions of new rural areas? Firstly, rural areas are places where produce agricultural products, create high yield and good quality varieties in the direction of commodity production. Besides, new rural areas must take its role to preserve cultural traditions. Vietnam’s rural villages area much different as compared to other countries nearby, even inside Vietnam, villages of different ethnic groups, for example Hmong, Thai groups differ Ede, Bana, Kinh... If the process of building new rural areas to disrupt these functions, it is contrary to the populace and erodes the cultural traditions of the Vietnamese. Finally, new rural areas should sustain a harmonised ecological environment. I supposed that it is time we should take the ecological function to measure the perfect model of a new rural area model in Vietnam.

Measures for implementation

In the proposed National Programme on new rural areas, the government decided for six major measures to implement 11 contents in the Programme to achieve specific objectives from now to 2015: 20 % of communes are qualified to meet standards of new rural areas; and to 2020: 50% of communes are qualified to meet standards of new rural areas (according to criteria of new rural areas where the Government had issued). Here, I mentioned a few points to note when implementing measures to build new rural areas.

In arrangements of social movements to build new rural areas, it must be aware of the possible position of farmers (including the political and economic status). This is the most crowded group in our country today but it is currently difficult in economic-cultural-and spiritual life and the awareness is generally

low. Accordingly, rural areas are most extensive, diverse in population, diverse in cultural traditions (including backward practices) ... outdated infrastructure, and where the ecological environment is severely damaged. Therefore, there is a need to appropriately organise and mobilise.

Selection decisions in a scientific way, with closer association with each content in each locality should be the first priority. In particular, patient planning, additional re-planning criteria for rural areas based on new rural areas criteria must be done ahead. From master planning, functional zones to detailed planning, it is necessary to respect for the process of long accumulated planning of villages in Vietnam. Disruption and higher costs during the planning process should be minimized. The investment needed for infrastructure in the new rural areas construction is only done when planning approval is complete.

It should be persistent, long-term to provide farmers with science - technology, to introduce scientific advances into agriculture and rural areas. Farmers and their children had too many disadvantaged receiving new science and technologies. Not enough resources (including finance and qualifications) to the application of science - technology, it is necessary to go from low bases to higher ones, to bring new technical applications to be practical. Extension is a very effective solution in our country and international experience. With the limited budget for rural investment, it must be mobilized from different sources. In infrastructure and public welfare projects (now the Government decided seven “hard” works), the Government provides 100% investment, to change the face of the rural areas. But in the long run it is the policy of attracting investment for rural enterprises.

The main agricultural products are improving the national status on the international forum in the economic perspective. However, few businesses in rural, lack of risk reduction policy for farmers in the production of agriculture, forestry and aquaculture, less effective and unstable businesses in this field often cause risks to producers.

During construction of new rural areas, we are encountering two major contradictions: Firstly, the conflict between small scale producers and large markets; secondly, the conflict between low efficiency and high risk. These should be addressed in order to attract businesses to rural areas, it is the best way to mobilize resources and bridge Farmers - Businesses - Markets. If the production development of rural people is associated with businesses in rural areas via purchase orders of businesses is the best way not only to mobilize resources, but also how to “lead farmers to market “model to overcome the rural market -” floating farmers in the market mechanism”.

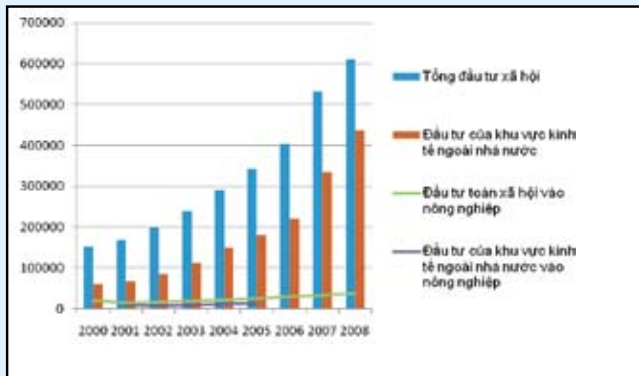
Building successful new rural programmes nationwide is the strategic objective of our Communist Party. By 2020, the target set was that 50% of communes reached standards of new rural areas. So how many years would Vietnam have 70-80 - 90 and 100% of new rural communes? That question must be answered. It is also long-term tasks not only a vision to 2030. The later communes striving for new rural standards, the more they are in terms of geographical areas and other social situation. But even up to 2015, it is still a big challenge to have 20% communes of new rural standards. The Communist Party and the Government should have suitable mechanisms and policies to mobilize the participation of the political system, so that people understand and make themselves on a voluntary basis.

SITUATION AND POLICIES FOR INVESTMENT STIMULATION IN AGRICULTURAL AND NEW RURAL PROGRAMME

By Dang Kim Son, PhD - Director of the Institute of Policy and Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Development

Vietnam's economy has been growing with a rapid increase of the total investment capital of the entire society and the more important and leading role of the non-state sector investments. However, investments in agriculture made a slow growth and the total investment in 2008 was as high as only 6% (investments in agriculture were 39 trillion VND/ total investment of 600 trillion VND) as compared with 14% in 2000.

Figure 1: Investment capital made in current price (billion VND).

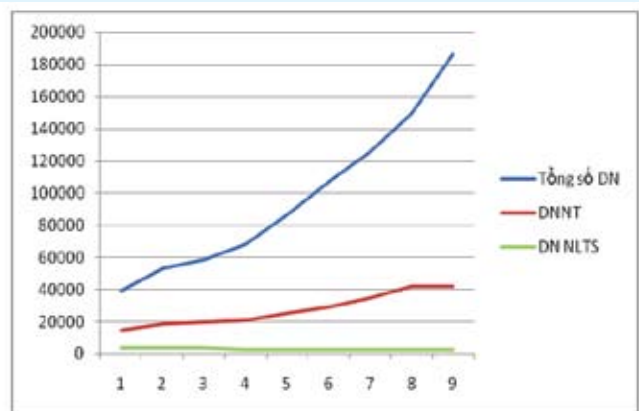


Nguồn: Niên giám Thống kê hàng năm, TCTK

On average in the period 2000-2008, the total investments in agriculture slowly increased at 3% per year while the total investment capital increased by 20%.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in agriculture also increased slowly (1.3 times). By 2007, there were only 4,000 billion VND, equivalent to 0.8% of the total investment whereas FDI investments in industry in 2007 reached over 100 trillion VND, equaling 19.5% of the total investment.

Figure 2: Number of agriculture related businesses (agriculture, forestry and fishery) against the total businesses of the country in 2000-2008.



Source: Business investigation in 2001-2009 by GSO.

The number of businesses in rural areas increased very slowly and the number of businesses in agriculture-forestry-fishery was in contrary decreasing. By 31 Dec 2008, there were about 40 thousand rural enterprises, accounting for approximately 1/5 of the total number of businesses in the country with over 2 thousand enterprises in agriculture-forestry-fishery. Reasons for the slow development of businesses in rural development may

include following factors:

- Infrastructure and technical services in rural areas remain weaker than they are in urban areas, particularly on transport, electrical power for production activities and clean water.
- Legislative systems and policies as well as regulations also limit attraction of investments into rural development, including land and production sites.
- Although labour is much available from rural areas, skilled and qualified workers in management and technical expertise are insufficient.
- Small-scale production scale is small and scattered at farmers' level so that it is difficult to set up focal areas of supplying agricultural products.
- Macroscopic policies have not actually created a favourable environment for development and prioritized development for enterprises in agriculture and rural development

Investments in rural development were largely made by private businesses while foreign invested enterprises made little increase and domestic businesses were on the decrease. Statistics from enterprise investigation in 2001-2009 by GSO are indicated below (Figure 3):

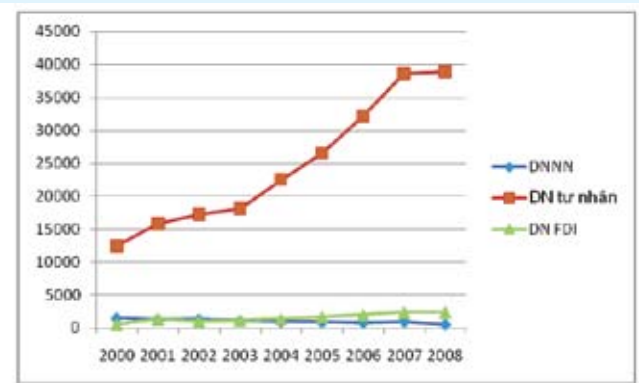
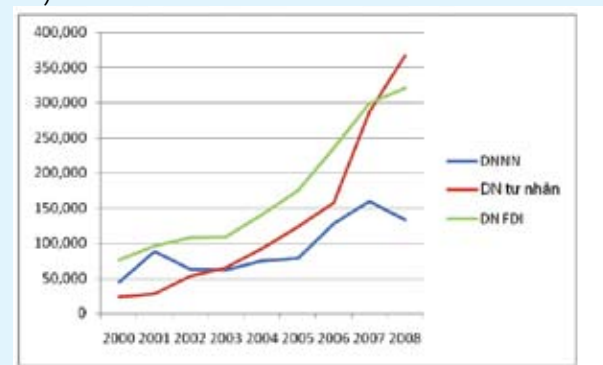


Figure 4: Total enterprises' capital by economic sectors (billion VND)



Source: Business investigation in 2001-2009 by GSO

In the period 2000-2009, drastic increase of the total investment from private businesses into rural areas was seen. The development was resulted from rapidly increase number of private enterprises even though the investment scale was very small (equivalent to 4% and 7% of state and FDI enterprises in rural areas). By 31 Dec 2008, the total investments of private enterprises and FDI were known to have more than 300 trillion VND while state enterprises made less than 50%.

INVESTMENT ATTRACTION POLICY

In order to attract more investments into agriculture and rural development, the Government has promulgated new policies as follows:

1. Policy for beneficiaries who receive preferential investments in agriculture and rural development according to (i) area, type of business; (ii) area/site invested is difficult and very difficult (based on the Decree No. 108/2006/ND-CP); and (iii) investments in hi-tech and economic zones.

2. Preferential and incentive policies to stimulate investments in agriculture

2.1. Tax incentives: including corporate income tax; import tax; value added tax

2.2. Credit incentives: According to the Decree No. 151/2006/ND-CP dated 20/12/2006 on investment credits and export credits issued by the Government and the Decree No. 106/2008/ND-CP dated 19/9/2008 (revised and modified). Recently, the Government has issued the Decree No. 41/2010/ND-CP dated 12/4/2010 on credit policy for agricultural and rural development. The Decree specifies 08 areas of credits/loans for agricultural and rural development including: production cost, craftsmanship development, infrastructural development, processing,

consumption, business, services, based on government's economic development programmes and for consumers in order to improve lives of local people in rural areas;

2.3. Incentive on land use and leasing: based on the Decree No. 142/2005/ND-CP dated 14/11/2005 on rental rate for leasing land and water-surface;

2.4. Other incentives and supports: In addition to above mentioned legal documents, the general policy related to agricultural and rural development also give favourable conditions to stimulating investment activities. Policies on agricultural, forestry and fishery extension have helped millions of farmers be accessible to new technologies, particularly biological technologies... The market policy by the Decision No. số 80/2002/QĐ-TTg on investment stimulating policy for contract based agricultural product marketing has a positive effect on agricultural production in association with processing and consumption, has involved a wide range of business enterprises and farmers, and has strengthened relationships between enterprises and producers;

2.5. Policy to support development of small and medium scale enterprises: On 30/6/2009, the Government issued

the Decree No. 56/2009/ND-CP on the support for development of small and medium scale enterprises in terms of: finance; production sites; renovation, capacity building for technologies, technical expertise; promotion for market enlargement; provision of favourable conditions to enterprises involved in plans for procurements, supplies of public services; information and

2.6. Policy to stimulate enterprises' investments in agriculture and rural development: On 04/06/2010, the Government issued the Decree No. 61/2010/ND-CP on policy to stimulate enterprises' investments in agriculture and rural development. According to the decree, investors who have agriculture invested projects with special priorities and investment preference, or investment stimulating projects in agriculture will receive incentives on land and investment supports (support for vocational training cost, enterprise advertising cost, and costs for consultancies and research as well as production experiment ...) as stipulated. (full document in Vietnamese language can be accessible at: http://www.agroviet.gov.vn/Lists/bonongnghiep_News/Attachments/11389/ND41CP.pdf)

PROSPECT FOR ATTRACTION OF INTERNATIONAL INVESTORS

After a period of pretty rapid growth through the exploitation of labour, mobilizing resources and supplies, Vietnam's agriculture is facing a turning point. Vietnam's agriculture will not be growing without expanding exports and improving domestic markets. Contrary to the trend of rapidly increasing foreign investments in other economies, foreign investments in the agricultural sector and rural areas is almost negligible.

At the World Economic Forum on East Asia 2010 which was held the first time in Vietnam in June 2010, with a special session to discuss on "a new vision for agriculture" in the context of recent years the world has experienced unexpected price increases of many agricultural products, especially food when the global climate change, the

process of industrialization, urbanization significantly reduce soil, water, labour and financial and other resources of agricultural production.

Several meetings took place with the discussion of the enterprises, transnational corporations and business investments in the agricultural sector with representatives of researchers and policymakers of some countries in the region. Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Government of Vietnam, Dr. Cao Duc Phat, participated in these meetings as the co-chair.

The key message is an attitude determined for joint actions among the international businesses and policy makers.

One proposal which was welcomed with many comments supporting the establishment of a mechanism for policy

dialogue and information exchange to develop appropriate policy framework to create motivation for all economic sectors to participate in the development process. On that basis, it is also to encourage experiments of innovative investment and business in order to link a large number of farmers with markets, to establish consistency in value chains of goods, to reduce transaction costs, to improve added values of agricultural products and offer income-generating employment for rural people. Minister Cao Duc Phat has discussed with investors and business partners of the consumer goods industry to form a working group to further discuss and implement specific activities. This will be the practical steps to contribute to the initiative "New Vision for Agriculture" by the World Economic Forum.

AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROJECT – INITIAL EFFECTIVENESS FROM A NEW IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

Ths. Nguyễn Thế Hình
Giám đốc dự án KHCNN



In order to strengthen the system of agriculture science and technology and to contribute to the economic growth and poverty reduction in rural areas, the project “Agricultural Science and Technology” will help strengthen human and material resources for basic research and training under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and improve weak linkages between research, extension and training.

The project is implemented in 10 agricultural research institutes; 10 colleges and secondary technical and vocational training under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and the five central provinces of Vietnam. The total investment of \$40 million, of which ODA was \$30 million (ADB loans), carried out from 14/06/2007 to 31/12/2011.

Over the last three years, the project has implemented many activities from (i) Domestic and international training of researchers, (ii) Upgrading facilities for research and teaching; (iii) Development of training programmes and improved curricula, (iv) Provincial agricultural extension services towards the poor and (v) Research programme towards customers.

We want to discuss here about the selection of scientific research by extensive competitive bidding under the

criterion of “research towards customers, in accordance with reality and are able to apply immediately”. Through two rounds of selection, the project offered 125 projects under way service contracts for market oriented scientific research.

By this time, although the impact on the project is unclear but it is found that some pilot activities of the project can have a tremendous impact for the sector:

(i) The experiment of bidding offer and implementation of research projects towards customers, switching from research by the approved estimates to scientific services contract in the market mechanism. The testing of this model, if successful, will pay the way to the management of scientific projects, help research institutions focus more on the effectiveness of the study, reducing the cumbersome and financially complicated procedures frustrating scientists and researchers;

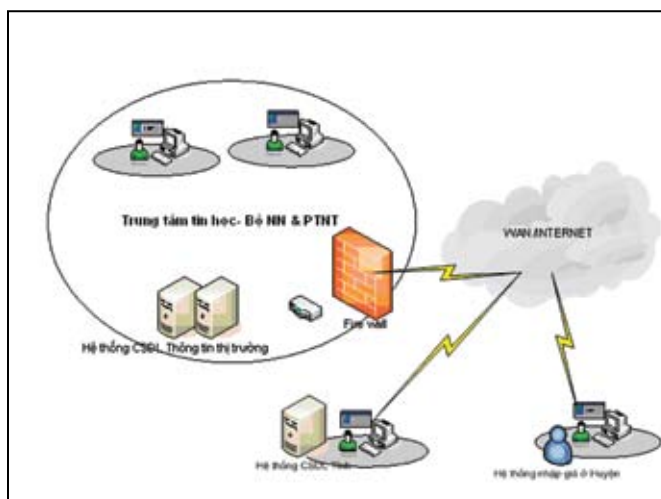
(ii) Experimental activities for bidding on the extension model have initially brought a significant effect. Extension services providers do not have to execute extension contracts with approved estimates. Instead, they may promote innovation, improve techniques to save money in a way “accept profit and loss” - more tax from higher profit will be paid to the state budget for reinvestment,

bonus to individuals for their initiatives, technical improvements and profitability. This is a good premise to encourage development of the extension services providing system, including the state and individuals. Provincial PMUs do not have to spend too much time and manpower to review the more detailed documents, instead, technical departments should focus on testing quality and efficiency of implementation. This will allow a provincial PMU to offer bidding and manage hundreds of extension contract each year rather than just a few extension contracts a year with overloaded work. If this experimental model is successful, it will pay the way for extension service providers in the province, including the attraction of research institutes, universities and colleges / vocational training foundations to take part in extension service provisions and directly transfer of scientific and technical advances of production to farmers, to form linkages between the research unit at the central level and the extension system at grassroot levels.

If the new method is successful, the project will have contributions to policy advocacy to finalise financial mechanisms to business of scientific services, which is in line with directions of scientific enterprise development as in the Decree No. 115 of the Government.

Capacity building of local communication officers from the Project “Extension and Market Information System”

Trần Lâm Đường - Giám đốc dự án



The Decree No. 56/2005/ND-CP, dated 26 April 2005 of the Government on the agricultural and aquaculture extension mentioned to enhance scientific and technological information, market information, prices of all agricultural products. Then, on 03 June 2005, the Prime Minister signed the Document No. 688/TTg-QHQT, approving the list of ADB-loans projects under the Agriculture Sector Development Programme (ASDP), including the sub-project “Strengthening the agricultural extension and information market in 20 provinces and 100 districts”, is considered a prerequisite for the implementation of this programme;

Thus, this is the first time that the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development asked for the building of two-way information system which focuses on two areas: *information of agriculture and agricultural products market* based on research, information technology applications in collecting, processing and providing information to farmers, managers, researchers and other objects of interest in rural areas, the state management agencies and scientific research.

Initial implementation of the *two-way* communication system within 100 districts of 20 provinces selected characteristics, with the coordination and technical support of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development which is presented by Center for Informatics and Statistics (CIS) has had stable operation since 2007. Results of the system was highly appreciated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development and other target groups in terms of information support, particularly the information on agricultural products needed for farmers, businesses and managers, scientific researchers in the context the agriculture sector is gradually shifting to the market oriented mechanism and producers are active in producing on a basis of market demands and in marketing their products.

In addition to the above assessment, the results are highly

appreciated by local authorities for improved capacity of communication officers. Through training classes and support of technical groups from CIS, software assisted information updating all from districts has been operating smoothly and carried out by a skilled extension personnel or information points.

The application of information technology is mainly to use the new technology and Internet environment through communication services like high-speed bandwidth asymmetric (ADSL). Description of model system connection:

The entire system can operate with aid of a software programme for updating shared information, search, repair and make reports and prepare tables for the general market information collected from local sites (district and provincial level) to national level (CIS). The software programme also allows automatic exchange of information between databases and central provinces to ensure demand for exploring, sharing of information resources of each province

So far, the system is updated from more than 230 of information collecting points from 20 provinces, in 100 districts from wholesale markets, wholesale / retail, corporate, agency, purchase of farm barns and other farm products. Information systems are published on the website of the system and database of the agricultural product market under the CIS.

The application of information technology in agriculture in the context that rural areas are always difficult and challenging. Initial successes of the project “*Extension and Market Information System*” have confirmed the role of information technology for agricultural development. The information system of agricultural production is connected with the consumer market, linking the agents to achieve higher efficiency.

Tran Lam Duong
Project Director

Vụ Hợp tác Quốc tế, Bộ Nông nghiệp và PTNT đã hoàn thiện và giới thiệu tài liệu: Sổ tay hướng dẫn đầu tư nước ngoài trực tiếp (FDI) vào lĩnh vực Nông nghiệp, lâm nghiệp và Thủy sản ở Việt Nam năm 2010

Tài liệu này giới thiệu và hướng dẫn nhà đầu tư nước ngoài các quy trình và chính sách đối với các Dự án đầu tư, giới thiệu tiềm năng đầu tư vào lĩnh vực Nông lâm thủy sản tại các địa phương.

Toàn văn tài liệu xem: <http://www.isgmard.org.vn/Information%20Service/news/news.asp>

PILOT DEVELOPMENT OF NEW RURAL AREAS RESULTS OF FIRST 6 MONTHS AND PLAN FOR LAST 6 MONTHS IN 2010

Standing official from the Central Steering Committee, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Ho Xuan Hung has announced the results of the first 6 months in 2010 the pilot construction of new rural areas in 11 communes at a conference reviewing implementation of the first 6 months and decided the workplan for 6 months of the pilot programme to set up models of new rural areas in Hanoi on 28 June 2010.



The typical feature of a breakthrough in building new rural areas is to mobilize the scientific and technical agencies, businesses directly involved in production development. Capital resources to implement the pilot programme was even diversified but as of June 2010, the amount of capital implemented was nearly 500 billion VND, which accounts for 66% of capital budget, contributing 22% of the remaining approximately 12% for businesses. Regarding funding issues, the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development Cao Duc Phat said the construction of new rural areas in the future should overcome the situation of "many government, few people".

The question, after the funding status, is the issue of rural planning. Minister Cao Duc Phat stressed the need to avoid the situation of "more commune, less rural", to focus on infrastructure development at the centres, while less attention is given

to projects in villages, hamlets, villages and households. The Central Steering Committee also draw lessons that 6 months of experience of implementation is to show characteristics associated with the planning, development plans and characteristics of each locality. Tasks of last 6 months in 2010, the Central Steering Committee proposed 6 tasks as follows:

- Complete detailed planning with guiding instructions for planning management
- Strive to end in 2010 is 2/3 of the essential infrastructure works basically completed and put into use
- Focus on high for developing production and increasing income. Construction of

- new production relations.
 - Improve quality of socio-economic and environmental activities.
 - Continue to consolidate and improve capacity of the political system.
 - Promote roles and responsibilities of the steering committees at all levels.
- By 6 May 2011, when new rural area model building is over, ministries / sectors, should review and classify to allocate funds for key communes. Promote the role of master of the people, the local focus of efforts to implement the programme content of new rural areas.
(Source: ISG, collected from NNVN, Vneconomy).

Second Northern Mountains Poverty Reduction Project (NMPRP-2)



With directions of priorities and supports to the poorest ethnic minorities in Vietnam, the **Second Northern Mountainous Poverty Reduction Project** builds on the successes of the first project to further improve living standard

for the poor in the project area of 2,366 villages, 230 communes and 27 districts of six provinces of Lao Cai, Yen Bai, Son La, Hoa Binh, Dien Bien and Lai Chau.

The project will implement this objective through supporting the improvement and diversification of livelihood opportunities of the poor, helping them better access opportunities through improved production infrastructure, business idea creativity, improved agricultural productivity and creating more job opportunities in place. The project also assists with capacity building for local governments and communities to plan, manage and implement activities to improve local livelihoods. The total funding for this project is \$165 million, of which \$150 million loan from IDA, and the remainder from the Government of Vietnam.

The signing ceremony of Agreement was held on May 25, 2010. As planned, the project will go into effect for implementation from August 2010. The project lifetime is for five years

*For further information, please contact Vo Thanh Son
Rural Development Board -WB Vietnam*

LIST OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH ARD SECTOR

April 2010

Government

1. Decree No. 41/2010/ND-CP of 12 April 2010 of the Government on credit policies for agricultural and rural development

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

1. Circular No. 22/2010/TT-BNNPTNT of 26 April 2010 on promulgation of "additional list of cropping plants permitted for production and trade in Vietnam"

2. Circular No. 23/2010/TT-BNNPTNT of 7 April 2010 on recognition of biotechnology's technical advances in agriculture and rural development sector

3. Circular No. 25/2010/TT-BNNPTNT of 07 April 2010 guiding the food hygiene and safety inspection of imports of animal origin

4. Circular No. 26/2010/TT-BNNPTNT of 27 April 2010 promulgating national technical standards for plant quarantine and plant protection

May 2010

1. Ministry of Planning and Investment – Ministry of Finance: Joint Circular No. 12/2010/TTLT-BKHDT-BTC dated 28 May 2010 specifying details and guiding implementation of regulations for international specialists working in ODA programmes, projects accompanying the Decision No. 119/2009/QD-TTg dated 01 October 2009 of the Prime Minister

2. Decision No. 734/QD-TTg dated 25 May 2010 of the Prime Minister approving the Plan to implement Decision No. 34/2009/QH12 dated 19 June 2009 of the 12th National Assembly on promoting implementation of policies and legislation on management of quality, hygiene and safety of foodstuff.

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

1. Decision No. 1288/QD-BNN-KHCN dated 14 May 2010 on promulgation of guideline to strategic environment assessment of fishery sector.

2. Circular No. 29/2010/TT-BNNPTNT dated 6 May 2010 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on promulgation of "List of norms and limits of foodstuff hygiene and safety of imports of animal origins, of production and circulation in domestic markets within the management of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development"

3. Circular No. 30/2010/TT-BNNPTNT dated 11 May 2010 of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on promulgation of "Additional list of cropping plants permitted for production and circulation in Vietnam"

4. Circular No. 31/2010/TT-BNNPTNT dated 24 May 2010 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on issuance of the National Standards in the Animal Health.

June 2010

Government

1. Decree No. 61/2010/ND-CP dated 04 June 2010 of the Government on policy to stimulate enterprises' investments in agriculture and rural development

2. Decree No. 65/2010/ND-CP dated 11 June 2010 of the Government specifying details and guiding implementation some articles in the Biosecurity Law

3. Decree No. 69/2010/ND-CP dated 21 June 2010 of the Government on biosecurity for genetically modified organisms, genetic specimens and products from genetically modified organisms.

Prime Minister

1. Decision No. 775/QD-TTg dated 02 June 2010 on the approval of detailed planning for development and application of radiation in agriculture until 2020.

2. Decision No. 43/2010/QD-TTg dated 02 June 2010 on promulgation of the national criteria for statistics.

3. Decision No. 800/QD-TTg dated 04 June 2010 of the Prime Minister approving the National programme for new rural development in the period of 2010-2020

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The Ministry of Information and Culture

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Comments are welcome at ISG Secretariat - No. 10 Nguyen Cong Hoan, Ba Dinh, Ha Noi

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