

- Summarized from single advices made by MARD Departments (and donors if relevant)
- In service of MARD leaders and sharing with international donors

Draft

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Policy Theme:

Streamlining CPRGS into MARD rural development strategy

Policy Issue	Expected status	Recommended Activities	Relevant activities to be done by Department as planned	Available Resources	Needed Resources	Name of Dep'ts
Issue group 1: DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE						
1. Full utilization of the role of community, transfer management and exploitation of hydraulic works to people	Improved efficiency of management and exploitation of hydraulic works in service of poverty reduction	To formulate strategic framework for Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM); To develop policies, guidelines for implementation of PIM approach; To develop pilot models, to draw lessons learnt and to multiply PIM.	Formulate strategic framework for Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM); Develop policies, guidelines for implementation of PIM approach.	Qualified staff.	Financial support; Cooperation with national and international organizations.	Water Resources Department
2. Increase of investment for rural infrastructure projects (clean water and sanitation, hydraulics works, reforestation, structuring in agriculture)	Increased livelihoods for people, increased community awareness with an aim to poverty reduction.	To focus capital investment for projects of high socio-economic profits.	Perform state management functions over capital investment projects, ensuring harmonization of GOV regulations vs. donors' policies.	Funds allocated from State Budget.	Needs for technical trainings and finance.	Construction Management Department
3. Lands policy; policy regarding investment for infrastructures; credit policy; policy regarding trainings and transferring knowledge, and job creation;	Adequate lands for the poor households to cultivate; provided power and irrigation services for production; expanded credit types and reduced interest rates;	To increase investment to rural infrastructure; to reduce interest rates of loans from 5.4%/year down to 2.6%/year; to diversify production To carry out survey, and allocate lands	Formulate policies and solutions for development of economy in the areas of special and protection forests; Put forward poverty reduction solutions to the communes classified 135. Carry out survey in some	Collaboration with ethnic institutes to study solutions for poverty reduction; Number of people involved: 12	Needs for support	Vietnam's Institute of Forestry Sciences

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Lands not yet utilized Development of infrastructures (investment)	developed off-farm activities Allocated lands to farmers	To carry out survey, to formulate development project To investigate households' needs for funds	communes			
Issue group 2:						
DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONS AND TYPES OF ENTERPRISES OF VARIOUS PRODUCTION CONDITIONS						
1. Production development and poverty reduction in mountainous areas , particularly in the ethnic minorities; 2. Policy in support of farm economy, small and medium enterprise.	Created types of production development in mountainous areas: sustainable and effective. Made specific policies and solutions applied to farm economy, SMEs.	To investigate the current status of farm economy, SMEs: constraints to development. To study seedling-breed models appropriate to different mountainous areas.	Carry out an investigation on rural development; Develop production models with linkage to consumption; Investigate the current status of SMEs in rural areas.	Programme 135, Poverty reduction and job creation Programme; Budget for basic investigation provided y MARD.		Co-operative and Rural Development Department
3. Allocation of resources and population faces a lot of difficulties; the poor residing in remote and mountainous areas receive little investment, and investment of low effectiveness.	To develop concentrated rural, mountainous, and remote regions so as to focus investment to have better effectiveness.	To strengthen projection/planning and development of concentrated population regions in rural, mountainous and remote areas.	Responsible for projections, planning for development of concentrated agriculture regions.	Experienced staff in planning and projection; funds allocated from state budget periodically.	Needs for support: a projection and planning Programme to pilot concentrated regions for poor people in mountainous and remote areas that usually face many risks caused by disasters.	Planning Department
4. Agro-extension policy for the poor in mountainous areas is different in poverty reduction and national extension programmes	Consistent financial mechanism formulated.	To transfer production technology for the poor in mountainous areas.	Provide extension services for the poor in mountainous areas.	Relatively adequate budget		National Agro-Extension Center

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of MARD, even in some foreign funded projects.						
Issue group 3:						
PRODUCTION CAPACITY AND RURAL SERVICES						
<p>1. Application of presentation models on technology and techniques for plants protection into production, creating effectiveness to farmers production just like the IPM program, models of 3 decreases and 3 increases, 2 decreases and 3 increase, models for production of safe vegetables.</p> <p>2. Establishment of local plant protection network.</p> <p>3. Planning and development of the regions to produce and process agro-products.</p> <p>4. Dealing with the issues relating to the import-export agro-products such as: satisfying quarantine requirements of importing countries, implementing the SPS Agreement of the WTO, quickly and</p>	<p>Farmers are involved and benefit from the said policy.</p> <p>Ensure safety and security to domestic agricultural production.</p> <p>Industrialized agriculture and creation of jobs for farmers.</p> <p>Increased competitiveness of Vietnamese agro-products.</p> <p>Expanded agro-products export markets.</p>	<p>Provide financial support to formulate presentation model and network development.</p> <p>To report periodically the situation of diseases and insects on mass media per10 days.</p> <p>To carry out survey, to invest technology and seedling, and establish a appropriate management mechanism.</p> <p>To carry out comprehensive diseases survey on some plants of export potentials, to control diseases, harvest methods, preservation conditions.</p> <p>To provide technical support in satisfying quarantine requirements of importing countries.</p> <p>To strengthen capacity, invest equipment in service of uncovering and control diseases.</p>	<p>Update adequate data regarding diseases and insects per 7 days.</p> <p>Develop many presentation models but meet some constraints upon production application.</p> <p>Some localities have established their completed plant protection networks.</p> <p>Focus studies on finding out solutions to deal with quarantine related issues to some fresh vegetables.</p> <p>Prioritize dealing with quarantine issues regarding products exported to some large markets such as the United States, EU, and Japan.</p> <p>Update and complete the database on plants quarantine in service of imports and exports.</p>	<p>Funds allocated from state budget but still limited.</p>	<p>Needs for technical n financial support from donors to invest in equipment, studies and staff trainings.</p>	<p>Plants Protection Department</p>

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effectively address dangerous insects available on import-export goods.						
5. Technical support to seedling tasks . 6. Support poor households with funds to do business in the areas of agro-forestry products processing, rural industries and the salt industry. 7. Credit support with low interest rates to develop production, equip new technology, Support to vocational trainings ; and develop infrastructures for industrial villages.	Agricultural products in general, including salts, with high productivity and quality, and low prices; poverty reduced. Increased income and strengthened livelihoods for farmers. Formulation of GoV Decree on encouragement policies.	To carry out a survey on the current situation of off-farm industries. To collect, synthesize and evaluate related international and national policies. To train new occupations.	Design the rural industries development project until 2010. Projection and planning for rural industries development.	Funds for design the project is 200 million VND allocated from the state budget;	Collaboration with other agencies and technical support from international donors (person/day) and support financial assistance.	Agro - forestry Products Processing and Salt Production Department
8. Policy to facilitate and recognize types of collective organizations to provide agriculture services in order for the poor to benefit from the services	Formulation of concrete policies to recognize the legal status and policy to facilitate through extension and training the organizations of the farmers that provide agricultural services. These organizations are to make it convenient for the poor to access to the production services.	To study and expand types of farmers' organizations available in the Red river Delta that provide inputs and output services for agro-products. To focus on market issues to ensure convenient conditions and equity for the poor. To design programmes and training systems for farmers' organizations in Nam Sach Centre, under the department of agriculture system studies of the Vietnam's Agriculture Sciences and	For ten years now, the Institute has studied the said issue based on the international cooperation funds, due to the fact that budget from MARD not allocated to the issue.	The department of agriculture system studies currently has 18 permanent officers working in the said area, including 2 Doctors, 13 Masters trained in France, Canada and Vietnam, and receiving salary from state budget. No funds from MARD for studies. Funds from Ministry of Science and Technology are about 800 million VDN/.year.	Needs for financial support from donors as well as support of expertise to the mention issue.	Vietnam's Institute of Agro-sciences and engineering

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		Engineering. To contribute to formulation of policies regarding agriculture services facilitation.		Cooperation with FAO, ADB and WB on the said issue. Collaboration with the Department of Cooperatives and Rural Development , National Extension Centre and international donors such as WB, ADB, FAO, UNDP, AFD and other organizations with interest in the issue.		
9. – Policy to support seedling, fertilizer, breeding food, pesticides, animal health and trainings of techniques for the poor. - Establishment of a “rotating” Fund for production development for rural poor people.	Poor farmers are supported with good seedling, and materials for increasing the productivity of plants, increased animals, increased income for the poor. Established “rotating” Fund providing loans for production.	To select a certain number of poor farmers, providing them with necessary materials for production; to hold trainings for poor farmers and create pilot production model with high quality and productivity, giving poor farmers chances to learn. Government to support funds to group of poor farmers; to provide loans to some households for production, and at the end of the period, they refund the group so other households can borrow on a rotating basis. Finance for the rotating Fund should be from agriculture extension Programme for the poor, not credit loans.	Implementation of seedling Programme.	The Department has professional divisions in charge of issues relating to plantation/cultivation, poultry, fertilizers.. seedling.		Agriculture Department

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		Good seedling and materials should be provided by a professional agency.				
Issue group 4:						
NATURAL DISASTER CONTROL						
1. Implementation of the national Strategy and Action plan on Natural Disaster Reduction; 2. Strengthening national capacity in disaster mitigation to poverty reduction and rural development	Application of study results in making and deciding agriculture policies		Evaluate impacts of natural disasters on society, economy in disadvantaged and poor areas; Evaluate disaster reduction activities, and recommend and propose policies	Resources available from the collaboration with agencies, in and out of the sector		Dyke Management and Flood Control Department
Issue group 5:						
PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT						
1. Implementation of mechanism “the profitable professional agencies” in accordance with Decree 10/2002/ND-CP and Decision 192/2001/QĐ-TTg dated 17/12/2001 of the Prime Minister	Administrative and professional agencies are given the active role in terms of financial management in order for increased operation effectiveness and income.	Professional agencies are given the active role in terms of financial management; To implement contract mechanism (give a certain number of permanent staff/officers to administrative agencies.	100% professional agencies have been given the active role in terms of financial management; To pilot giving full rights to administrative agencies in terms of management of permanent personnel (with number of officers decided by GoV).	Funds allocated from State budget annually	Needs for international support	Finance Department
Issue group 6:						
RURAL INFORMATION						
1. Formulation of a comprehensive strategy on information for rural areas	A synchronized direction for programmes, projects on rural information	To review the related programmes, projects, to draft strategic framework of general directions,	Carrying out the market information project funded by ADB, and MARD information project.	Funds for specific projects, programmes are already identified. No funds and		Informatics Center

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	development	identifying implementation steps and according policies		resources for strategy study		
Issue group 7:						
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROGRAMMES/PROJECTS						
1. Formulation of concrete policy, specifying that foreign funded programmes, projects should have components directly linked to the national comprehensive strategy on growth and poverty reduction , at the same time kinked to institutional development issues .	Proportion of poverty reduction related components are identified appropriately in terms of each area: agriculture-Forestry, -irrigation	To check/review programmes, projects, both ended and ongoing ones, to identify the real proportion of poverty reduction of these programmes, projects	ICD/ISG established a database on ODA projects. This database should be updated regularly. Based on the database, to carry out analysis, evaluation and identification of the appropriate proportion of poverty reduction components of the programmes, projects in the areas of agriculture, forestry and irrigation.	ICD has enough human resources (via ISG) to join the policy formulation process.	Needs for funds for implementation such activities as: check/review, study, analyze and identify the appropriate proportion of poverty reduction components of the foreign funded programmes, projects Funds for maintaining and updating the database regularly.	International Cooperation Department
2. UNICEF funded projects: (i) Technical guidelines and amount of in-cash support in accordance with the scale of constructions (ii) Focus support on priority regions within some disadvantaged provinces .	MARD and donors are expected to discuss those issues to reach consensus and to submit to the Government the issues that are beyond the mandate of MARD. Established National Fund for RWSS from State budget, donors, loans ...	UNICEF funded projects: (i) Currently, RWSS projects implemented in provinces are approved by local authorities. UNICEF should provide Technical guidelines and amount of in-cash support in accordance with the scale of constructions instead of reviewing the design of each construction and provision of materials as at	Credit policy for implementation of the National Strategy on RWSS (already issued by the Government). Legal status for water user groups (cooperative groups). Government Decree on Socialization of the RWSS Programme. Estimate water prices.	Funds allocated from Sate budget. Funds from the subcomponent 1.2 "Support to implementation of the Strategy funded by Danida. Funds from UNICEF and JICA	Needs for further funds. Allocate counterpart funds to the operation of UNICEF funded project management board in accordance with current procedures. JICA is requested	Center for rural water supply and sanitation
3. JICA funded						

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<p>projects: (i) taxes, fees, charges ...which are exempted, (ii) bidding in Japan funded projects.</p> <p>4. Danida funded projects: (i) Policy on loans and assistance (ii) legal status of stakeholders involved in the Rural Water supply and sanitation.</p>		<p>present. UNICEF and central project management board should strengthen their monitoring and evaluation to have better effectiveness and convenience. (ii) support should be focused on priority regions within some disadvantaged provinces. The “soft” activities of projects such as communication, trainings could be expanded to provinces.</p> <p>JICA funded projects: (i) Exchange Notes should clarify the taxes, fees, or charges which are exempted, creating convenience for applying those procedures to grant projects. (ii) Allow contractors from Vietnam and other countries, in addition to Japanese ones, to join bidding for implementation of projects funded by Japan.</p> <p>Danida funded projects: the issues that need considering include (i) policies regarding loans and assistance to poor households, families of policy, other stakeholders in RWSS. (ii) legal status of private sector, cooperative groups,</p>			<p>to supplement resources to soft activities such as capacity building communication, ... in addition to the concrete funds available for specific constructions. To increase human resources for capacity building activities, and technology transfer. To support allowance to officers involved in projects implementation (including salary support for cadres and contracted staff).</p>	

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		cooperatives... to get involved in RWSS Programme. There should be involvement of MPI, MoF in planning, policy development, coordination of foreign funded sources... Regular exchange of information and lessons learnt should be done through various means.				
Issue group 8:						
FORMULATION OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS						
1. Increase the quality and ensure the progress of formulation of legal documents.	A legal system for agriculture and rural development sector set up.	To ensure adequate budget for the formulation. To increase capacity for staff involved in legislation.	Formulate a draft law on forest protection and development, and law on dykes. Develop a regulation on drafting, appraising and issuance of legal documents and some other documents.	Qualified legislation and policy officers (17 persons)	Needs for international support to staff trainings	Legislation Department

Appendices:

- Appendix 1: Feedback from MARD departments.
- Appendix 2: Proposed policy themes for next round of dialogue
- Appendix 3: Briefing Note by the ISG Steering Board – Core Donor Group (ADB, UNDP, Embassies of Australia, the Netherlands, Denmark, and WB) - May 11, 2004.
- Appendix 4: Questionnaire to get inputs for the Advisory Briefings