

SPECIAL REPORT

YOUTH FOR CLIMATE ACTION IN VIET NAM 2022



November 2022

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FOREWORD

During the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh declared: *"Climate change has truly become the greatest challenge to humankind. [...] As this is a global issue, a global approach is required. As this issue affects every person, an inclusive approach is necessary."* We believe that the Prime Minister's inclusive approach needs to be implemented by listening to the voices of the young generation so that our youth can be pioneers in responding to climate change through concrete action.

Climate extreme events have occurred extensively over the past decade. It becomes more challenging for Vietnam's young generation to take full advantage of their opportunities to ensure a safe and stable future in such a context. Throughout the past decades, we have nevertheless been witnessing a growing trend of passionate youth initiatives that are contributing to reversing the negative impacts of climate change and disasters.

With this in mind, in 2020 the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Viet Nam entered into a new partnership with the Department of Climate Change (DCC) under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union (HCYU) to establish the **Youth4Climate Initiative**.

Youth4Climate aims to increase youth understanding of climate change and support existing youth representatives and networks to take stronger steps for climate action, and it has already resulted in major positive achievements. Building on the foundations laid by the first Special Report published in 2021, and the Youth-led Roadmap for Climate Action for 2021-2025, a group of Vietnamese youth have curated their own Youth4Climate Learning Hub (with support from UNDP and the DCC) and set up an independent Youth for Climate Network, YNet, with 15 member organisations. The initiative has also mobilized more than 400 youth-led innovations from 54 provinces and cities for mitigating and/or adapting to the local impacts of climate change through an innovation contest rolled out by UNDP and the HCYU.

It has now been two years since Youth4Climate was founded, and the context we find ourselves in has since seen some encouraging progress. At COP26, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh pledged that Viet Nam would reach net zero emissions by 2050; Viet Nam's newly approved National Climate Change Strategy to 2050 has also promoted the role of youth as an important priority task.

In this new Special Report on Youth4Climate Action 2022, 24 young co-authors have reflected this changing policy landscape, articulated concrete youth-led actions to contribute to Viet Nam's net-zero goals by 2050, and recorded more than 130 youth-led initiatives and projects that are outstanding good practices of meaningful climate action. They have also identified a number of priority accelerators moving forward, such as the establishment of a Youth Climate Policy Working Group, education and capacity building programmes on climate change, and financial and technical support for youth-led projects. The Youth Statement is the product of the combined efforts of thousands of young people across the country to unite their voices and articulate the common vision of youth in Viet Nam on climate issues to contribute to the Global Youth Statement at COP27. We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the youth representatives who have contributed their time and effort to produce this meaningful second Special Report on Youth4Climate Action. We are proud of the contributions that Vietnamese youth have made over the last three years to empower, guide, and facilitate youth access to climate action.

We would also like to convey our gratitude to the donors of UNDP's Climate Promise programme for their unfailing and thoughtful support of this meaningful work, and especially to the Governments of Italy, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and Egypt and their representatives in Viet Nam.

To all Vietnamese youth: we pledge to support you, ensure that your concerns and your ideas are heard, and continue working side by side with you in upholding your creativity, motivation, and power to fast-track climate action. It is not only our interest but also our obligation to ensure that Vietnamese youth and future generations will be able to live in a decent world.

During his official visit to Hanoi in October 2022 marking the 45th anniversary of Viet Nam joining the United Nations, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres reminded us all of the power of standing together. Speaking at a youth dialogue organized in his honour, his message to all young people worldwide is: "Don't give up hope. You can count on me to amplify your ideas and support your efforts to build a better, fairer, more sustainable world for all." We stand with you in solidarity, and unified we will tackle this greatest challenge to the future of our planet.

Together, let's embark on the Race to Zero.

um

Dr. Tang The Cuong Director General Department of Climate Change Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

Ms. Ramla Al Khalidi Resident Representative UNDP Viet Nam



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Special Report **"Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2022"** was prepared by Nguyen Van Bao, the lead author responsible for the overall compilation and development of the report for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Viet Nam, and the co-authors participating in the 2022 National Writeshop who contributed significant substance to various parts of the report through their text, stories, and ideas. The reporting team includes Nguyen Van Bao, Phan Van Long, Dao Manh Tri, Nguyen Thai Son, Nguyen Hoang Nam, Pham Ngoc Anh, Nguyen Thi Hong Phuc, Nguyen Van Thien, Nguyen Thi Thuong Thuong, Tran Thanh Bao, Luong Ngoc Chung, Tran Ngoc Han, Huynh Ngoc Thai Anh, Vu Hoang Thuy Duong, Pham Thi Thanh Mai, Ngo Thi Thuy Vy, Tran Do Bao Nghi, Nguyen Ngoc Tam Nhu, Le Minh Quan, Dinh Vu Thuy Anh, Nguyen Thi Thuy Ngan, Nguyen Thi Kim Nhuong, Pham Huong Linh, and Danh Bo.

We would like to thank Prof. Dr. Tran Thuc, Dr. Tang The Cuong, Pham Van Tan, Dr. Chu Thanh Huong, Tran Do Bao Trung, Nguyen Thanh Cong, Bui Viet Hien, Morgane Rivoal, Vu Thi Thu Hang, Khong Tuan Anh, Do Ngoc Thao, Le Huynh Trang, and Duong Anh Quang for their valuable advice and comments on the outline and the drafts of the report.

We would like to express our appreciation to UNDP Viet Nam and the Department of Climate Change (DCC) at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE) for organizing the National Writeshop for the Special Report "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2022" in August 2022. Special thanks go to the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union (HCYU) Central Committee for always supporting us throughout the development of the Getting through this report required more than technical support, and we have many, many young people to thank for helping us over the last few months. We are extremely grateful to the National Writeshop facilitators (Ngo Thi Phuong Thao, Vu Hoang Thuy Duong, and Phan Van Long), report writing facilitators (Nguyen Hoang Nam, Dao Manh Tri, Tran Thanh Bao, Phan Van Long, Nguyen Thai Son, Luong Ngoc Chung, Nguyen Thi Hong Phuc, Nguyen Thi Thuong, and Huynh Ngoc Thai Anh), and report translators (Nguyen Van Thien, Luong Ngoc Chung, Pham Ngoc Anh, Phan Van Long, Le Minh Quan, and Tran Ngoc Han). In addition, we would like to express our sincerest gratitude to members of the Sketchnote team (Le Thi Chung, Vo Thi My Hong, and Tran Cong Danh) who made the report livelier and more accessible. We also would like to thank the young delegates from the Local Conference of Youth on Climate Change (LCOY Viet Nam) and young people across the country for their constructive contributions to draft the Youth Statement. Many thanks to Do Minh Thao and Nguyen Thi Ha (UNDP Viet Nam) for taking the time and energy to facilitate all the activities and update valuable information. The Special Report was translated by Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy and edited by Merran Eby (UNDP Viet Nam).

This product was developed under UNDP's Climate Promise, with generous funding from the governments of Germany, Sweden, Spain, Italy, and the European Union, among other donors.

Disclaimer: This Special Report **"Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2022"** was prepared by Nguyen Van Bao and the co-authors. The findings, interpretations, and conclusions from this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNDP Viet Nam, DCC-MONRE, and HCYU.

VIET NAM YOUTH STATEMENT ON CLIMATE ACTION



We, Vietnamese youth,

<u>Aware</u> that climate change is increasingly prominent in Viet Nam and is directly affecting the sustainability of our development and the daily lives of our people, particularly of minorities and marginalized groups (including people from ethnic minority communities, mountainous areas, remote and isolated areas, people with difficult circumstances, people with disabilities, and the LGBTQ+ community);

<u>Recognizing</u> the importance of having a Vietnamese youth statement on the contribution of Vietnamese youth to climate change response and environmental protection activities;

<u>Affirming</u> that responding to climate change is not the responsibility of an individual or an organization, but the common responsibility of the whole of society and of all countries in the world;

<u>Call for</u> immediate action to limit global warming to well below 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels, as well as to achieve the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

TO MOVE FORWARD WITH COMPREHENSIVE CLIMATE ACTION, VIETNAMESE YOUTH DECLARE:

On net zero emissions:

We call on the Government to stop investing in and opening new fossil fuel power plants from now to 2030; to restrict financial institutions from investing in projects with high emission ratios; to minimize the use of single-use plastic products; and to aim to eliminate these products completely by 2030.

<u>We recommend</u> the Government, businesses, and financial institutions to have strong policies and action plans to transform the economy towards circularity and low emissions; to enable favourable conditions for green financial development; and to shift investments towards low-emission technology, climate resilience, and nature-based solutions.

On education and training:

We demand the Government to integrate climate change knowledge and contents into the national education curriculum, with locally adapted contents in both Vietnamese and ethnic languages, at all levels of education from now to 2030.

<u>We suggest</u> local governments and stakeholders to implement activities and campaigns to raise public awareness on climate change and promote "green" lifestyles and climate action.

Photo: www.freepik.com



Photo: Co-authors and facilitators of the Special Report 2022

On support to youth:

We urge the Government, businesses, and social organizations to provide funds with a simple and transparent disbursement mechanism to financially support youth-led initiatives on climate change response and environmental protection.

We recommend the Government, businesses, and social organizations to continue to develop capacity building programmes for youth; to enhance access to information for young people in all regions of the country; and to empower local youth to deploy their indigenous knowledge, connect with experts, participate, and share practical experience at national and international dialogues and forums.



On youth participation in policy and decision-making processes:

<u>We recommend</u> that young people be given more spaces and opportunities to share their voices and opinions, as well as to participate in all planning and policy-making processes locally and nationally, and particularly in the key processes of the Nationally Determined Contribution, the National Strategy on Climate Change, the National Adaptation Plan, and laws and policies on climate change and the environment.

<u>We urge</u> the Government to create an enabling legal framework and basis to support individuals, initiators, movements, and youth organizations to take climate action, particularly by creating favourable mechanisms to empower actions by minorities, marginalized groups, and those directly affected by climate change, as well as to establish a working group on youth and climate policy to represent youth voices at national and international policy forums.

Moving ahead, we have also developed a Youth4Climate Action Roadmap from now to 2030, with a vision to 2050. We recommend that the Government, businesses, and civil society organizations join hands to contribute to and implement this roadmap with Vietnamese youth by allocating resources and enhancing cooperation with the Youth Climate Action Network and youth initiatives nationwide. We commit to continuing to do our best in taking action to realize these recommendations in the near future.

Photo: UNDP Viet Nam

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

JIÓI Trè

Việt Nam Hành Động vì KHÍ HẠU

CC	Climate Change
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CE	Circular Economy
COP	United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties
COY	United Nations Climate Change Conference of Youth
CS0	Civil Society Organization
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HCYU	Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KOL	Key Opinion Leader
LCOY	Local Conference of Youth on Climate Change
MOFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MOHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MONRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MOST	Ministry of Science and Technology
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NRE	Natural Resources and Environment
TOR	Terms of Reference
TOT	Training of Trainers
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USTH	University of Science and Technology of Hanoi
YFEC	Youth for Environment Camp
YNet	Youth Climate Action Network
YOUNGO	International Youth Climate Movement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Climate change is not a new problem. It is here – the climate crisis – along with the increasingly intense, frequent, and impactful disasters and extreme weather events that are threatening the country's achievements in sustainable development and its improvements in living standards.

24 youth writers from different regions of Viet Nam were selected to participate in the 2022 National Writeshop for the Special Report in order to (i) take stock of the youth activities since 2020, (ii) update the Youth4Climate Roadmap, and (iii) identify and formulate concrete actions for youth to contribute to the net-zero commitment by 2050 made by Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh at COP26.

To complete this Special Report Youth for Climate Action 2022, we used a mixed research approach starting with desk research, followed by consulting with experts and using the results from the Stockholm+50 survey (317 respondents), the TOT energy survey (504 respondents), and quantitative research group discussions at the National Writeshop, which took place in Hanoi from August 18–20 2022.

General Bottlenecks

Through discussions at the National Writeshop, as well as the project analysis, we have been able to conclude that youth projects across sectors all face two common difficulties: (1) finances, and (2) knowledge and skills.

• Financial constraints: Lack of funds for implementation and maintenance is a common problem for youth-initiated projects. Moreover, most of the funds for climate change development and response place excessive requirements on the ability of young people to build and manage projects and require legal status, while funds disbursed through NGOs can be small, narrowly focused, or limited in other ways.

• Limited knowledge and skills: Many young people also mentioned difficulties in knowledge and skills. Although the Climate Learning Hub has many modules and good, practical articles, different youth groups across the country still need more access to knowledge and skills related to climate change and project management, such as could be delivered in the lecture hall environment. The new curriculum needs to integrate relevant contents into students' education. This year, youth representatives discussed four main themes:

(i) youth in climate policy and decision-making processes;

(ii) accelerating the transition towards circular economy;

(iii) climate mitigation towards net zero; and

(iv) climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

The youth representatives also proposed a plan of action for Vietnamese youth to respond to climate change until 2030 with a vision to 2050.

Through an in-depth analysis into notable youth-led projects, this report identifies bottlenecks Vietnamese youth are currently facing and also proposes new accelerators to support them in implementing their own projects.

Recommended Accelerators

• Develop a climate finance hub for the youth. By establishing a hub for climate finance available to youth, they will be aware of the open funding sources they can use to plan, apply, and prepare proposals, thereby contributing to reducing the financial difficulties that many youth teams are facing.

• Promote the role of youth in climate governance and diplomacy. It is important to promote activities related to climate diplomacy, including the activities of Vietnamese youth at international conferences and forums as well as negotiating for more funding sources from developed countries.

• Elaborate a specialized set of documents for youth. A set of documents for Vietnamese youth and students on topics related to climate change, presented in a way that is understandable and accessible, will contribute to improving their climate change knowledge and skills, as well as help them to become more confident when joining relevant activities and projects.

Specific Bottlenecks and Accelerators

Youth in climate policy and decision-making processes

Bottlenecks

• Although young people participate in many climate change response activities, Vietnamese youth **need more representation in the policy development process.** For each policy, especially for those relating to climate change response, inviting the participation of young people will help to both develop the contents in accordance with their needs and support youth participating in climate change response.

• Many climate change policies involve changing habits and behaviours, with young people taking on a significant role in driving said change. Consultations with young people will help policymakers to develop specific goals and strategies for changing people's habits towards achieving national goals on climate change response.

Recommended Accelerators

• **#1** Youth Climate Policy Working Group. It is expected that the working group would study issues related to climate change policy and environmental protection; serve as a policy consultation point with NGOs, intergovernmental organizations, and relevant ministries; and represent youth voices at forums and conferences with stakeholders.

• **#2 Development of a multi-stakeholder dialogue on climate change.** This would be an open forum requiring the participation of many different parties with HCYU as the focal point, connecting youth organizations with Government agencies, universities, research institutes, and social organizations.

Accelerating the transition towards a circular economy

Bottleneck

• CE is no longer a new concept in Viet Nam. However, the human resources for implementing the transition to CE development are weak. This is especially true for youth projects in this field, as CE is often associated with scientific innovation and access to advanced models requires certain levels of expertise.

Climate mitigation towards net zero

Bottleneck

• The most notable of these is the **limitation on research** and development. Projects in this field need to be able to invest in transformation, apply new technologies, and research new solutions to limit emissions and use energy efficiently. Young people have no lack of creative ideas, but not all of them have the opportunity to experience a methodical research environment or receive the support they need to develop their initiatives.

Recommended Accelerator

• #3 Capacity building programmes for youth in responding to climate change and accelerating the circular economy. This would provide them with practical guidance and tools to build, transform, and apply the CE model to ongoing projects, and enable them to orient project operations.

Recommended Accelerator

• #4 Research & development fund for youth innovation. Such a fund would aim to provide financing for youth initiatives with a simple and straightforward disbursement mechanism. The fund's activities would include but be not limited to improving youth capacity for building fundraising profiles, teaching financial management for youth initiatives, and organizing scientific research competitions.

Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction

Bottleneck:

• Young people often have difficulty finding focal points to work with because there are no people responsible for monitoring activities related to climate change in localities. This is especially true of young people who operate independently of the HCYU in cooperation with local authorities who need to approve community-based initiatives.

Recommended Accelerators:

• **#5 Skills training for local youth.** This would improve the adaptability and skills of local youth, and the content of the training will revolve around two main topics: professional skills and soft skills.

• **#6** Enhancing the contributions of local youth to existing projects. It is expected that this would increase the recruitment of young volunteers and collaborators in localities affected by climate change, as well as better connect organizations with local youth.

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

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1. Background

Climate change is not a new problem, but it is happening fast and threatening all of our lives¹. However, climate action to date continues to be taken at a much slower pace, even in countries where the impacts of climate change are severe². In this context, young people are increasingly cognizant of their important role in making world leaders more committed to climate action³. They are well aware that they are not only part of the problem, but also part of the solution as key agents of change to drive universal climate action.

Among the countries most impacted by climate change and disasters⁴, Viet Nam has made strong commitments affirming its determination and the priority it gives to addressing global challenges related to climate change, the environment, and ecosystem degradation, and to working towards a healthy planet while also taking the opportunity to put itself on a "green" path to become a high-income country by 2045.⁵ In order to leverage the efficiency of climate action, however, it is necessary to ensure the proactive contribution of all people, communities, and society as a whole. In this context, young people - the most energetic, ambitious, and creative section of the population – play a crucial role in climate action and environmental protection. More importantly, climate change most directly affects the future of today's youth.

Recently, with the support of MONRE, HCYU, UNDP Viet Nam, and many other agencies and organizations, young people gained access to more forums and networks to share and implement climate change projects. Specifically, the first Youth for Climate Action Special Report in 2021 was an important milestone demonstrating the active contributions of Vietnamese youth. The Special Report identified the bottlenecks young people experienced when implementing their projects for counteracting climate change and proposed accelerators and a roadmap for the youth of Viet Nam.⁶

International commitments, as well as national policies related to climate change, have since been adjusted and updated. At COP26, the Prime Minister pledged that Viet Nam will reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and joined the Global Methane Pledge, the Global Coal to Clean Power Transition Statement, the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, and the Adaptation Action Coalition. In addition, the Vietnamese government has incorporated new climate objectives by approving the Scheme on Tasks and Solutions to Implement the Outcomes of COP26⁷, the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for the 2021 – 2030 period with a vision to 2050⁸, and the National Strategy for Climate Change to 2050⁹, and is also updating the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)¹⁰, and the draft Power Development Plan VIII.

Following the success of the Special Report "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam" in 2021, this report is an attempt to provide the most up-to-date information on the recent activities and outstanding projects of Vietnamese youth. Through an in-depth analysis into notable youth-led projects, this report hopes to shed light on the challenges Vietnamese youth are currently facing, as well as the commitments that Vietnamese youth can make with the Government, ministries, and authorities towards net zero by 2050. Therefore, this report aims to:

• Analyze youth-led projects and activities related to climate change, focusing on four main themes:

(i) youth in climate policy and decision-making processes;

(ii) accelerating the transition towards a circular economy;

(iii) climate mitigation towards net zero; and

(iv) climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR).

• Identify bottlenecks for young people implementing activities/projects on environmental protection and climate change, and at the same time propose new accelerators to better implement future activities and projects.

• Update and put forward a Youth-led Roadmap 2022-2030 vision 2050 for Vietnamese youth to effectively adapt to climate change towards the target of net zero.

¹ Clayton, S., & Karazsia, B. T. (2020). Development and validation of a measure of climate change anxiety. Journal of Environmental Psychology, 69, 101434. https://doi.org/10.1016/j. jenvp.2020.101434

² United Nations. (2022). World Economic Situation and Prospects 2022. Retrieved from: https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/world-economic-situation-and-prospects-2022/

³ United Nations. (2021). The Global Youth Statement on Climate Change. Retrieved from: https://ukcoy16.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Global-Youth-Statement.pdf

⁴ Le, K., & Nguyen, M. (2021). The impacts of temperature shocks on birth weight in Vietnam. Population and Development Review, 47(4), 1025-1047

⁵ World Bank. (2021). How Will Vietnam Blossom? : Reforming Institutions for Effective Implementation. World Bank, Washington, DC. https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/ handle/10986/36797

⁶ UNDP. (2021). Youth4Climate Action in Viet Nam. Retrieved from: https://www.undp.org/vietnam/publications/report-youth-climate-action-viet-nam

⁷ Prime Minister. [2022]. Decision 888/QD-TTg dated July 25, approving the Scheme on tasks and solutions to implement outcomes of the COP26. Retrieved from: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/ van-ban/EN/Tai-nguyen-Moi-truong/Decision-888-QD-TTg-2022-scheme-setting-out-tasks-of-Conference-on-Climate-Change/524316/tieng-anh.aspx

^{*} The Prime Minister (2020). Decision No. 1055/QD-TTg 2020 National Climate Change Adaptation Plan in 2021 - 2030. Retrieved from: https://english.luatvietnam.vn/decision-no-1055-qd-ttg-on-promulgating-the-national-climate-change-adaptation-plan-for-the-2021-2030-per-187092-doc1.html

⁹ The Prime Minister. (2022). Decision No. 896/QD-TTg approving the national strategy for climate change until 2050. Retrieved from: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/EN/Tai-nguyen-Moi-truong/Decision-896-QD-TTg-2022-approving-the-National-strategy-for-climate-change-until-2050/525126/tieng-anh.aspx
¹⁰ The Government of Vietnam. (2020). Updated Nationally Determined Contribution.

2. Methodology

To complete this report, we used a mixed research approach starting with a desk review, followed by consulting with experts and then using a combination of qualitative and quantitative research to supplement and provide a comprehensive overview of the activities and projects of young people in recent years. We started by reviewing the 2021 Special Report on Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam, legal documents, reports, documents from online sources, and youth movements/activities to support research findings as needed.

In order to accurately assess the awareness level of Vietnamese youth, we used the results from the Stockholm+50 youth survey (317 participants) and the TOT energy survey (504 participants). These surveys were conducted by UNDP Viet Nam and sent to Vietnamese youth from April 5 to May 15, 2022 via social media channels and various organizations, groups, and clubs working in climate-oriented fields. The results of these surveys have helped us to better understand the level of awareness and interest of Vietnamese youth in themes related to climate change, as well as to provide appropriate accelerators in the updated context.

Based on the findings from desk research and quantitative methods, we prepared a list of questions on climate change which were then used to facilitate group discussions at the **2022 National Writeshop**, which took place in Hanoi from August 18–20 2022 with the participation of 24 youth representatives from different regions of the country, including 8 authors from the 2020 National Writeshop and 16 new authors (see Chapter IX). These are all young, experienced people who are able to represent the voice of youth groups and movements in Viet Nam. This year's writeshop also had diverse participation, with the presence of leading Vietnamese experts and senior policymakers as well as representatives from international organizations, the HCYU, universities, and research institutes, which created an open space for exchange and discussion among young people and leading experts.

This year, youth representatives discussed four main themes – youth in climate policy and decision-making processes, accelerating the circular economy, climate mitigation towards net zero, CCA, and DRR – and proposed actions for Vietnamese youth to respond to climate change until 2030 and a vision to 2050. The writing team also interviewed experts at the National Writeshop, actively discussing youth projects and stories related to their activities as well as their difficulties and expectations.

Over the next four weeks, the youth representatives together with the lead author were divided into writing groups to finalize the various parts of this report. One of its unique features is that the youth themselves drafted an outline, collected opinions from young people across the country, and then completed the report from their own perspective.

3. Structure of the Report

In the following sections of this report, we will update the progress and key achievements of youth-led groups for climate action from 2020 to date before presenting an in-depth analysis of the key themes. For each specific theme, we will start by introducing the concept as well as offering an overview of young people's perceptions. In addition to outstanding projects led by young people, bottlenecks are also presented in detail. Finally, the report will propose new accelerators and a roadmap for climate actions until 2030, with a vision to 2050. <image>

CHAPTER II: UPDATING KEY PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF YOUTH-LED GROUPS FOR CLIMATE ACTION 2020-2022



According to the 2021 Special Report, young people face four major bottlenecks in climate action:

(1) financial constraints, (2) lack of support from stakeholders, (3) skill limitations, and (4) technological limitations.

To address these bottlenecks, the report proposed two general accelerators along with specific accelerators for each theme:

(1) establishing a youth network for climate action, and (2) developing a climate learning hub for Vietnamese youth.

These accelerators were included in a Youth-led Roadmap for Climate Action towards COP26 and the goals for the 2022-2025 period, enhancing the contributions of young people to the implementation of Viet Nam's NDC. Over the past two years, with support from UNDP Viet Nam, MONRE, HCYU, the British Council, Live&Learn, the Green Innovation Development Centre (Green ID), the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi (USTH), the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Viet Nam Office (FES), CHANGE, and WildAct, among other organizations, many activities proposed by youth have been implemented, showing positive signals for responding to climate change. One particular highlight is the establishment of the Youth Climate Action Network (YNet) on January 1 2021 with 15 member organizations across the country. YNet's goal is to support its members in applying for funds, working with stakeholders, and organizing programmes to train and improve youth capacity. YNet has recently organized many activities, such as a running a simulation of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (Mock COP26); contributing to the writing of Youth Statements representing Vietnamese youth voices at COY16, Pre-COP26, and COP26; ensuring the representation of Vietnamese youth in initiatives such as the Global Youth Letter and Heat Up Climate Action; organizing training programmes (e.g., Heat up Climate Action), etc.

Another notable highlight is the development of the Youth4Climate Learning Hub under the Youth4Climate Initiative supported by UNDP Viet Nam, which has been entirely designed and developed by young people. The development team consists of young people from various regions across Viet Nam with diverse backgrounds who have been jointly developing knowledge modules with the support and peer review of science and policy experts. Each module summarizes the core knowledge with eye-catching images that are both extremely informative and creative. To date, the Hub has built five themes related to climate change (climate science; ecosystems and land use; energy; industrial processes, materials, and waste; and climate policy), and has already attracted about 600 people to participate and complete the courses on the website. It also contains more than 100 reports and more than 20 articles on youth perspectives.

Many other activities for young people have also been implemented in recent years, such as a series of training programmes on project implementation skills for youth (Movers Programme); youth for climate roundtables migration and climate change, nature-based solutions, and circular economy; Training of Trainers (TOT) on energy; Youth for Climate Innovation Contests organized by the HCYU Central Committee and UNDP Viet Nam; etc.

Besides, as part of the HCYU's national programme, young people have participated in numerous activities on climate change and environmental protection. Some of the outstanding results from the programme include¹¹:

- 94,831 Local Youth Union Chapters participated in implementing "Bright - Green - Clean - Beautiful Road" campaign;
- 8,028 trainings were organized by HCYU to build capacity of youth union members on environmental protection and climate response with the participation of 624,234 members;
- 1,652 youth-led projects at the provincial level and 12,616 youth led projects were implemented at the district level on environmental protection and climate response;
- 36,387 start-up ideas, start-up models, and young-led businesses were initiated in the topics of environmental protection and climate response;
- 1,055 flood-resistant houses were built, etc.

Annex 1 presents the results of the main accelerators and difficulties encountered and proposes next steps for the coming time.

¹¹ The results of the implementation of the "Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee participates in environmental protection, responding to climate change between 2019 and 2022" national programme, which was approved by the Prime Minister in Decision No. 894/QD-TTg dated 17/7/2019

CHAPTER III: YOUTH IN CLIMATE POLICY AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES

3.1. Introduction



As a country highly vulnerable to climate change, the institutional and policy system for climate change in Viet Nam is **quite complex and involves many sectors and fields.** from the national to the local level. From 2020 to date, the policy system for climate change in Viet Nam has been updated, changed, and improved. The main reason has been the changing international and domestic context, in which two main events can be mentioned:

Approval of Law on Environmental Protection 2020

Chapter 7 of the Law on Environmental Protection focuses on responding to climate change. The chapter's contents have been updated with many strict regulations and now meet more national requirements on climate change than the Law on Environmental Protection 2014, creating the highest legal basis for the development of by-law policies, regulations, and other guidelines for example decrees, circulars, plans.

COP26 and Viet Nam's commitments

COP26 is an important milestone for climate action both internationally and in Viet Nam. At the international level, after more than five years of negotiations, the guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement have been completed. As a result, countries (including Viet Nam) will have to fulfil more obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), such as in the area of domestic reporting.

Viet Nam has also entered into various commitments to show its expectations and efforts, including its commitments to reach net zero emissions by 2050, reduce methane by at least 30% by 2030, etc. Since COP26 in late 2021, Viet Nam has been very active in developing domestic plans and policies to achieve its commitments and in assigning clear roles and responsibilities to relevant agencies.

The results of the Stockholm +50 survey also indicate that youth have diverse opinions on the role of current climate policies in protecting their future: 16.1% strongly believe in directions existing policy; 26.2% think that policies likely work for their future; 25.2% think the policies may work for their future.

With such a complex and rapidly updating system of climate change policies, however, understanding and participating in this process is not easy for many people, especially youth. As such, for the purposes of developing a report for youth related to climate change, the content of this section will focus on giving an overview of selected key climate change policies from 2020 to date. The meaning of these policies is also explained in a simplified way by the youth from the Writeshop as an example of how to communicate policies to young people.





Law on Environmental Protection¹² – Chapter 7: Responding to Climate Change

Text Type: Law Date of approval: 17/11/2020 Effective date: 01/01/2022

Summary:

- Overarching legal document
- Chapter 7 of the Law focuses on climate change, including seven detailed provisions.
- Some of the highlights include:
- Adapting to climate change:
 - Developing a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to be updated every five years.
 - Developing a system for monitoring and evaluating (M&E) adaptation activities.
- Mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions:
 - A national greenhouse gas inventory must be taken once every two years. Currently, relevant ministries are working on developing guidelines on inventory, measurement, reporting, and appraisal of GHG mitigation activities based on their areas of management.
 - Every year, facilities that must carry out a GHG inventory make plans to reduce GHG emissions and report on the results.
 - Building a domestic carbon market.
- Building a national database on climate change.
- Develop a national climate change response report every five years.
- Fulfilling international commitments on climate change and floor protection ozone
- In addition to the provisions directly related to climate change, the Law on Environmental Protection also stipulates provisions related to the protection of environmental components such as surface water, air, seawater, land, and natural heritage; environmental protection in production, business, and service activities, both urban and rural; and waste management and control of pollution sources. Good management of environmental issues will have a significant impact on climate issues, helping Viet Nam to respond to climate change.

Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP promulgating regulations on the Mitigation of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Protection of the Ozone Layer¹³

> Type of document: Decree Date of approval: 07/01/2022

Summary:

- The Decree provides more detailed guidelines on the provisions of the Law on Environmental Protection. In terms of GHG mitigation, the Decree stipulates contents such as:
 - Every year, relevant ministries and GHG-emitting facilities according to the list must develop and submit GHG mitigation plans and report on implementation results.
 - Contents and processes involved in conducting GHG inventories.
 - Contents and processes involved in measuring, reporting, and appraising the reduction of GHG by production and business establishments.
 - Building a domestic carbon market:
 - From 2026 onwards, GHG-emitting facilities will be allocated quotas of allowed emissions..
 - From now to 2027, relevant regulations and policies will be developed, including piloting the exchange of GHG emission quotas and carbon credits.
 - From 2028, the domestic carbon market will be officially operating.

¹² Viet Nam National Assembly. (2020). Law on Environmental Protection 2020, Law No. 72/2020/QH14. Retrieved from: https://thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/Tai-nguyen-Moi-truong/Luat-so-72-2020-QH14-Bao-ve-moi-truong-2020-431147.aspx

¹³ The Government of Viet Nam. (2022). Decree No. 06/2022/ND-CP regulations on Greenhouse Gas Emission Mitigation and Ozone Protection. Retrieved from:https:// thuvienphapluat.vn/van-ban/EN/Tai-nguyen-Moi-truong/Decree-06-2022-ND-CP-mitigation-of-green-house-gas-emissions/503148/tieng-anh.aspx



Circular No. 01/2022/TT-BTNMT¹⁴ detailing the implementation of the Law on Environmental Protection regarding climate change response

> Document Type: Circular Date of approval: 07/01/2022

Summary:

- This Circular provides more detail on a number of contents in the Law and Decree 06, including:
 - An assessment of the impacts, vulnerabilities, risks, losses, and damage caused by climate change.
 - An appraisal of GHG inventory results and GHG emissions mitigation.



Decision No. 01/2022/QD-TTg¹⁵ promulgating the list of sectors and greenhouse gas-emitting facilities subject to greenhouse gas inventory

Type of document: Prime Minister's Decision Date of approval: 18/01/2022

Summary:

- This Circular provides more detail on a number of contents in the Law and Decree 06, including:
 - Promulgates a detailed list of production and business establishments that must carry out GHG inventories and are mentioned in previous Laws, Decrees, and Circulars.
 - The facilities in the Decision are in the sectors of Industry and Trade, Transport, Construction, and Natural Resources and Environment

National Strategy on Climate Change to 2050

Text Type: National Strategy Date of approval: 26/07/2022

Summary:

- The Strategy sets targets for 2030 and 2050 for both adaptation and GHG emissions mitigation, regulates tasks, and assigns work to relevant ministries and sectors.
- Towards the net zero target:
 - By 2030: GHG emissions will be reduced by 43.5% compared to emissions under the business-as-usual scenario.
 - By 2035: Peak emissions.
 - By 2050: "Net zero" target achieved.



Scheme on Tasks and Solutions to Implement the Outcomes of COP26

> Type of document: Prime Minister's Decision Date of approval: 25/07/2022

Summary:

 This Scheme was issued after COP26 and including tasks for ministries and agencies to achieve Viet Nam's commitments.

¹⁵ The Prime Minister. (2022). Decision 01/2022/QD-TTg promulgating the list of sectors, greenhouse gas-emitting establishments subject to greenhouse gas inventory. Retrieved from: https://english.luatvietnam.vn/decision-no-01-2022-qd-ttg-dated-january-18-2022-of-the-prime-minister-on-promulgating-the-list-of-sectors-greenhouse-gas-emittingestablishments-s-216078-doc1.html

¹⁴ MONRE. (2022). Circular 01/2022/TT-BTNMT detailing the Law on Environmental Protection regarding climate change response. Retrieved from: https://english.luatvietnam.vn/ circular-no-01-2022-tt-btnmt-of-the-ministry-of-natural-resources-and-environment-detailing-the-implementation-of-the-law-on-e-215999-doc1.html

Document Type: UNFCCC Submission Text

Summary:

- Must be updated every five years (as of 2020).
- Current status: Viet Nam reviewed and updated its NDC and submitted it to the UNFCCC Secretariat in 2020. It is now working on updating this version for submission in 2022. This update is not a 5-year cycle but has been done at the request of the UNFCCC to increase Viet Nam's ambitions as well as make adjustments to match its new net zero commitment.

National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NAP)

Type of text: Text required by the UNFCCC, but focused on adaptation

Summary:

- Must be updated every five years (as of 2020).
- The first NAP was approved in 2020.
- Similar to the NDC, Viet Nam is also updating the 2020 version to align with its recently approved National Strategy on Climate Change (NCCS).

Climate Change Action Plan

Type of text: National, sectoral, and local plans

Summary:

- Roadmap: will be issued after the NCCS.
- There are three levels to this type of plan:
 - National action plan
 - Planning in regulated industries
 - Planning at the provincial level
- Meaning: Because the NCCS is a strategic document, many items have not been described in detail. To turn the NCCS into reality, action plans have been introduced to respond to climate change at all levels and in all sectors.

Action Plan to Reduce Methane Emissions by 2030

Text Type: National Plan | Date of approval: 05/08/2022

Summary:

- Objective: to reduce total methane emissions by at least 30% by 2030 compared to 2020 levels in the sectors of farming, animal husbandry, solid waste management, wastewater treatment, oil and gas extraction, coal mining, and fossil fuel consumption.
- The plan also specifies specific measures to achieve the goals in each of the above-mentioned sectors.



3.1.2. Why is it important for young people to be involved in climate policy making and implementation processes?

Youth participation is not only a good thing to do, but also a necessity; young people are the ones who will live with the future consequences of today's climate change policies. As such, young people have rights and obligations associated with contributing to the development of climate change policies in line with the country's sustainable development orientation and building a future that young people can confidently own.

In today's digitally linked society, young people are the group that consumes and spreads the most content online. **Key Opinion Leaders (KOLs)**, also known as online influencers, are dominated by young people. Therefore, creating a community effect urgently needs active participation from youth groups working in different fields to spread the message, especially from young KOLs. To do this, we need to encourage young people to speak out boldly on climate issues.

Although young people participate in many climate change response activities, they need more representation in the policy development process. For each policy, especially for those relating to climate change response, inviting the participation of young people will help both to develop the contents in accordance with their needs and to support youth participating in climate change response. Moreover, many climate change policies involve changing habits and behaviours, with young people taking on a significant role in driving said change. Consultations with young people will help policymakers to develop specific goals and strategies for changing people's habits towards achieving national goals on climate change response.

Actively participating in policy making will help young people become more confident in their efforts to respond to climate change. Being empowered in this way will help to raise their awareness of their responsibility and increase their boldness in developing climate change response projects.

We also need to look at the youth contribution process with a long-term vision. Young people who contribute constructively today can become policymakers in the future. Therefore, having access to the policy-making process early on will build up their qualifications and help them to prepare for their future careers.



3.2. Youth and Climate Policy: Status and Perspectives

3.2.1. "Dialogue" between youth and policymakers

During the writing of the report, we approached young people of different ages and occupations to understand their perspectives on the role of young people in the policy contribution process. Their responses shed light on some of the bottlenecks mentioned in the 2021 Special Report, colouring them with the contributors' own policy-making experiences. The authors collected and synthesized the inputs of these young people and turned them into interview questions for policymakers in the field of climate change in Viet Nam. Here is a look at both sides, summarized as a dialogue.

Problem 1: Lack of knowledge and self-confidence in the process of contributing to policy development as well as communication channels to approach policies



Youth

The policy-making contribution process is a mystery. We felt incapable of participating and contributing.

Policymakers

Young people can access legal documents posted for comments on the websites of ministries and agencies.

In general, young people are not clear about the policy contribution process or the opportunity for youth participation. Because of this, they do not understand their role in policy issues, leading them to think they are incapable of participating in and contributing to the process because their voices will not be heard.

Policymakers responded by saying that, while a closed policy-making process was the case five years ago when only people operating within the state apparatus were able to participate, currently the government has asked for legal documents to be posted on ministry and agency websites to ask for opinions from the public, including young people. The state website has two interfaces: one for commenting on the draft text, and one for Q&A to help people better understand relevant policy issues.

Given the above, the following main difficulties lead to young people not participating deeply in the process of contributing to policy development:

Internal challenges

-Many young people do not know how to use their voices to influence stakeholders in the policy-making process. As a result, they are neither motivated nor actively looking for contribution channels. This is reflected in the 2021 Special Report on "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam": 36.7% of the 387 young survey participants do not think that the voices of youth have an influence.

External challenges

- Communication on making policy contributions has not reached young people, leading many to be unaware of their role in raising their voices.

Problem 2: Expertise requirements

Youth

Commenting on ministry websites requires too much expertise. An individual will not be able to learn the knowledge scattered across many texts and many ministries like this.

Policymakers

Even policymakers do not know it all! The key solution is to focus on a very specific problem.

Without the orientation to become a policymaker, or if the youth themselves do not work in relevant fields, it is difficult for them to understand different ministries' many policies clearly, specifically, and in detail – not to mention that young people generally think that such documents are still too dry. It is difficult for them to actively learn without the help of experts. This is a major obstacle for young people wanting to contribute their opinions through the above-mentioned channels.

In response, policymakers affirmed that they themselves cannot grasp all of the policies across all ministries. The solution that they propose is to focus on very specific problems, so that we can deepen our knowledge and find useful solutions. Instead of tackling climate change in several different areas such as construction, manufacturing, and agro-forestry-agriculture, young people may only need to focus on a single area, and then narrow in on specific issues within that area. In the manufacturing sector, for example, young people could focus on waste management.

Difficulties with the problem of "expertise requirements" include:

Internal challenges

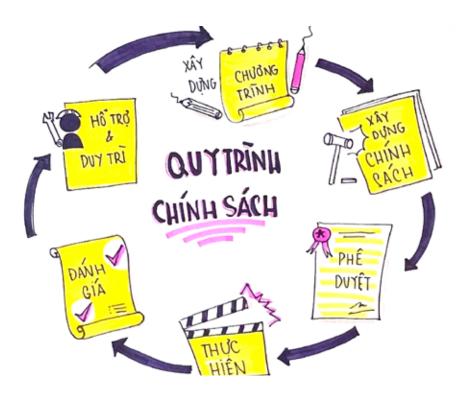
 Young people do not have professional knowledge if they are not active in that field.

- Young people will not take the time to learn about policy in another field if it does not directly affect them.

External challenges:

- Policy text is dry, and the interface is not yet youth-friendly. In the 2021 Special Report, it was pointed out that the primary reason why young people have difficulty accessing and understanding policies is that, according to 60.5% of respondents, they are "too dry and confusing sources of information."

- There is no training or guidance from professionals on how to read policy documents.



Problem 3: Individual and Collective Action

Youth

Youth cannot contribute directly to legal documents during the formulation process.

Policymakers

Typically, policymakers are more concerned with the contributions of legal entities, working groups, and professionals than individuals

Many youth-led climate change action projects are organized independently, without a coordinated network that can connect projects and project teams to unify their voices and influence the field of policy contributions. Young people's opinions on climate change policy have not found a suitable place to reach lawmakers.

Policymakers gave specific advice on this point: youth need to join or create an organization with legal status or a working group, or else to become professionals. In doing so, your opinions will be easier for lawmakers to hear.

Internal challenges

- Young people lack the initiative to connect with other young people to work together in the field of policy.

External challenges

- Young people do not have access to solutions to strengthen their voices in the field of policy development.

- There is no focal point for updating and coordinating the collection and transmission of policy suggestions between youth and policymakers.

Problem 4: Access to expert knowledge and leadership.

Youth

Where can young people who want to hone their policy knowledge seek the help of experts?

Policymakers

Youth can access widely-communicated policy consultation workshops.

For young people who do not have a background in policy, self-exploration, reading, and understanding legal documents and systematizing this knowledge is a major obstacle.

In response to this problem, policymakers encourage young people to participate in policy consultation workshops on topics of interest to them. These workshops are often widely communicated and attended by many industry-calibre experts, and young people in attendance will be asked about specific policies related to their areas of interest. One policymaker said that young people should boldly approach experts at these events and offer their own opinions. Experts may also be able to comment on and supplement the shortcomings in their proposals.

However, these workshops do not yet use youth-accessible communication channels, meaning that the number of young people interested in and aware of these workshops is small. Most young people also do not have the opportunity to participate in policy consultations unless they belong to organizations and universities that have been invited.

Internal challenges

- Young people are not interested in policy consultation workshops with topics related to their areas of activity.

External challenges

- Communication about consultation workshops has not been effective in reaching young people.

- Workshops are often quite technical and professional. Young people can be intimidated or unsure of how to contribute when participating in seminars with knowledgeable experts.

- Young people have not had the opportunity to participate and have not been actively involved.

3.2.2. Activities to which youth have contributed

In spite of the above-mentioned issues, young people have many advantages when it comes to participating in policies. Today's generation is more educated than the previous generation and will undeniably have broader relationships and communication. With the support of the internet and in the era of Industry 4.0, young people have access to many opportunities and advantages for responding to climate change and sustainably protecting the environment. Over the past time, Vietnamese youth have actively participated in the policy contribution process, although their numbers are still relatively few.

Some information about youth activism and contributions is summarized below.¹⁶



Youth4Climate National Writeshop 2020: The Special Report on "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam"

At the first Youth4Climate National Writeshop, which was organized by UNDP Viet Nam together with MONRE and HCYU in December 2020, 20 young people participated in contributing to and developing the Special Report, which was published in May 2021. The report solicited opinions from nearly 400 Vietnamese youth on bottlenecks, solutions, and prioritized accelerators for engaging young people in climate action, and addresses four main themes: climate change response, climate change adaptation, nature-based solutions, and climate policy. Based on the youth consultation process, the report also proposes several solutions to overcome those bottlenecks and provides a 5-year Youth Climate Action Roadmap for 2021-2025.

This Special Report was sent to COP26 to express the voice of Vietnamese youth in addressing climate change. It is intended as a document for stakeholders to come up with solutions promoting youth participation in climate action.

Global Youth Letter campaign

On 9 September 2021, the British Council launched the Global Youth Letter for Climate Action, which calls for action by young people around the world, and especially those who attended COP26. In Viet Nam, the signature programme is run by British Council Viet Nam and YNet Viet Nam. The Global Youth Letter of Viet Nam, also known as the Youth Statement, summarizes the opinions of Vietnamese youth on climate change.

The Global Youth Letter programme has gone viral since its endorsement by the singer K-ICM as its ambassador, and the petition has obtained 7, 727 signatures from Vietnamese youth.

COY16

The United Nations Climate Change Conference of Youth (COY) is an event under the International Youth Climate Movement (YOUNGO) the official Youth Constituency of the UNFCCC. The conference took place on the eve of the United Nations Annual Conference on Climate Change, also known as the Con-

¹⁶ The information was gathered from the Writeshop in 2022 and interviews conducted through the YNet network, thus the information may not represent well all activities of Vietnamese youth

ference of the Parties (COP), in the same host country. COY serves as a space for capacity building and policy training to prepare young people for the COP.

In 2021, COY16 took place in Glasgow, UK, from October 28– 31 2021. Viet Nam sent one representative, Khong Tuan Anh, who presented Viet Nam's Youth Statement to other countries and gained attention when Viet Nam was the country with the most signatures.

Pre-COP26 Event 'Youth4Climate: Driving Ambition'

Pre-COP26, a rehearsal meeting on the eve of COP26 in Glasgow, was the last formal opportunity for a multilateral meeting between ministers to reshape what would take place at the conference. Along with the discussions of senior leaders, the **Youth4Climate: Driving Ambition** event also took place from September 28–30 2021.

With the participation of nearly 400 young people, the event result was to formulate a global youth proposal for presentation at COP26 containing specific ideas and actions for young people to address climate change issues.

Viet Nam had two youth representatives, Hoang Ngoc Xuan Mai and Ly Phuong Thanh. At the **Youth4Climate: Driving Ambition** event, they participated in many activities to contribute to the youth petition. One of the representatives, Hoang Ngoc Xuan Mai, questioned the transparency of cooperative relationships between the public and private sectors, giving the example of the Youth4Climate conference budget itself, which required transparency in the conference as well as in other climate negotiation processes. Mai also mentioned the issue of language barriers for countries that do not use English as their main language, including Viet Nam, where the exchange process cannot reach the majority of young people. Addressing this would allow the young people of countries like Viet Nam to be involved in the process and give a voice to representatives from their own localities.

Stockholm+50 National Consultations in

Stockholm+50 National Consultations in Viet Nam

The Stockholm+50 National Consultations in Viet Nam were organized by the Embassy of Sweden in Hanoi, the Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE), and UNDP Viet Nam. The topic of the Stockholm+50 National Consultations was "A healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity." As part of the consultation process, a workstream dedicated to youth was also developed to ensure that their voices were included in Viet Nam's national report. The consultation event gathered the opinions of 317 young Vietnamese people to submit to a global conference in June 2022 on the challenges being faced by people and the planet.

Participation in other events and forums



Four youth panellists joined the Youth Dialogue with United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Antonio Guterres on 22 October 2022. One representative, Pham Ngoc Anh, shared about the 2022 Special Report: Youth for Climate Action in Vietnam and the Youth-Led Roadmap for Climate Action 2022-2023. She highlighted the role of YNet in raising youth capacity for taking action against climate change and creating the National Youth Statement together with the 2022 young writers. The Secretary-General, who was presented with the Statement and a draft version of the Special Report by Ngoc Anh, acknowledged that the youth play a significant part in tackling climate change and spoke highly of their passion.

Along with participating in conferences and programmes on climate change policy, young people have also been participating in domestic events such as:

• "Raising awareness, updating information, knowledge, and policies on climate change," held in Bac Giang.

- COP26 Result Announcement Event
- Actions of Viet Nam and updated climate change scenarios, held in 2020 in Hanoi
- "Adaptation policies to climate change in the Mekong Delta" workshop, held at the University of Economics Ho Chi Minh City.

These were all seminars organized to address many subjects, so there are no specific statistics on the number of young people participating. Although they were in attendance, young people mainly listened and watched and did not have much to say or contribute.

3.3. Youth Opportunities in the Near Future

At COP26, the Prime Minister of Viet Nam made a strong statement about achieving net zero emissions by 2050. In the same vein, according to MONRE Minister Tran Hong Ha, the theme of the Fifth National Conference in 2022, "Harmonizing economic development and environmental protection, towards a CE and sustainable development," is also a strong call for gathering and solidarity to protect the environment and prevent biodiversity degradation in order to live in harmony with nature and build a sustainable future; strengthen the unity of the whole population; promote the role of international cooperation; and apply science, technology, and digital platforms to solve environmental, climate change, and biodiversity issues. Therefore, Vietnamese youth will have many favourable conditions contributing to completing the legal corridor on environmental protection and climate change response.

The system of policies, laws, planning, and strategies is completed synchronously in all fields. The Law on Environmental Protection in 2020, with many breakthrough policies and solutions, has marked a period of strong transformation in environmental protection towards the highest goal of improving environmental quality, responding to climate change, and protecting people's health.

In parallel, given the era of globalization, the rapid development of science and technology, and the growing economy, Vietnamese youth have access to modern media. As a result, they can inform themselves quickly and in depth about the relevant mechanisms for effectively adapting to climate change, which is essential for the country. In each locality/region, specific policies enhance the resilience of highly vulnerable people, such as social security insurance for the poor and policies for sustainably managing wetland resources or protecting and restoring forest ecosystems. The youth demographic is also targeted by these policies: the State always creates many conditions to foster young people's local knowledge¹⁷. At present, although youth consultations on climate change policy have been conducted, many young people still feel they need to be more involved. There should be more mechanisms to allow young people to share their opinions and contribute their recommendations on climate change policies. Furthermore, more methods of communication are needed so that young people interested in climate change know about the opportunities available to them for participating in policy making. From the perspective of policymakers, the contributions of young people are commendable, but also often show their lack of knowledge in the field of climate change. Survey results also show that, although young people's level of interest in climate change policy is relatively high, their knowledge base on this topic is often not deep enough, making it difficult to make appropriate recommendations. This is not entirely due to a lack of awareness; it can also be attributed to a lack of information in the media.

¹⁷ Bao, N.V. (2022). National Youth Policy Review: Vietnam. National Youth Policy Institute of Korea



3.4. Accelerators

#1 Youth Climate Policy Working Group

In order to remove barriers for youth to access and contribute to policy making, we hope that they will be regularly engaged in appropriate dialogues with the Government, legislators, stakeholders, and communities to access legislation and to support policy and related issues for projects run and/or initiated by youth. To do this, it is necessary to establish a **Youth Climate Policy Working Group** (draft TOR in Annex 3) to represent the voices of young people related to climate change and professional work in different fields.

It is expected that the Working Group will:

(i) study issues related to youth and climate change policy as well as serve as a policy consultation point with NGOs, intergovernmental organizations, and relevant ministries;

(iii) research and assess the impact of policies on youth activities and provide training for youth in negotiation and policy-making skills, especially at the grassroots level;

(iii) periodically organize seminars and exchanges on climate change policy among policymakers and young people; and

(iv) together with the Viet Nam Youth Network for Climate, represent youth voices at forums and conferences with stake-holders.

In the process of developing important policies related to climate change in Viet Nam, we hope that youth representatives who are members of the relevant committee of the Working Group will be officially involved in policy consultations with the parties.

Prior to consultations, the Youth Climate Policy Working Group will draft a youth petition to submit to relevant agencies as a basis for youth contributions made during the formal policy consultation. We hope that when the group comes into operation it will help policymakers to better understand the situation of young people in the field of climate, as well as to find areas for improvement or that need investment in order to help them contribute more effectively. However, to operate effectively in the long term, young people need professional advice and orientation related to the policy-making process of Viet Nam, in the region, and around the world. The participation of stakeholders, especially of local authorities and policymakers, is a prerequisite to helping young people strengthen their content and perform their duties and roles properly.

#2 Development of a multi-stakeholder dialogue on climate change

In order to support the Youth Climate Policy Working Group to work more effectively, we propose to **build a multi-stakeholder dialogue on climate change with youth.** This would be an open forum requiring the participation of many different parties with HCYU as the focal point, connecting youth organizations with Government agencies, universities, research institutes, and social organizations. When the forum comes into operation, stakeholders will better understand the activities of youth as well as what they can contribute to the activities of the Government, thereby jointly developing an action roadmap, creating a unified coordination mechanism, and mobilizing and allocating resources for projects to respond to climate change and protect the environment.

The forum is expected to connect youth with policymakers at the central and local levels, as well as to create a space for young people to have their voices heard on climate change.

The dialogue forum has three main components:

(i) Information sharing: Classify information by importance: the more important it is to young people, the more channels need to be used to ensure all young people have access. Youth feedback channels with shared information must be ensured. (ii) **Resolving difficulties/problems:** Provide clear information to young people about the channels for receiving and resolving difficulties/problems, as well as the resolution process itself. (iii) **Consultations/suggestions:** Find out why there are such difficulties and ensure that young people are involved and informed throughout the consultation process.



CHAPTER IV: ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

4.1. Introduction

At COP26, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh highlighted the importance of "transforming the development model towards a green, circular, sustainable, inclusive and humane economy."

According to the Law on Environmental Protection 2020, a circular economy (CE) is "an economic model in which design, production, consumption, and service activities aim to reduce the exploitation of raw materials and materials, extend the product life cycle, limit waste generation, and minimize adverse impacts on the environment." ¹⁸ In this model, the industrial system operates as a closed production and consumption cycle wherein the waste generated by the production process is returned to become a raw material for production, thereby minimizing waste and protecting the living environment and human health. An estimated 3.1 million tons of plastic waste are discharged on land annually in Viet Nam, at least 10% of which ends up in rivers flowing into the sea, making Viet Nam one of the top five ocean plastic polluters in the world. ¹⁹

In 2022, Viet Nam promulgated the Law on Environmental Protection 2020, which specifies the concept of environmental protection and introduces extended responsibilities of producers, which will enter into force in January 2024. This is a great boost for businesses to shift from a linear economic model towards more circular economic development, and it is also an opportunity for young people to participate in learning and developing more economic projects.



¹⁸ Article 142 of the Law on Environmental Protection in 2020

¹⁹ World Bank. (2022b). Towards a National Roadmap for Single-Use Plastics in Vietnam, The World Bank Group. Washington DC

4.2. Youth is the "Core" of Circular Economy

CE is seen as the best way to break the link between economic development and negative environmental impacts. At the same time, "circularity" is a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary issue that cannot be solved in one direction and requires multidisciplinary, multi-stakeholder participation, and cooperation.

With more than 22 million of Viet Nam's people, youth have an important role to play in the transition to CE, both as consumers with higher expectations for sustainability than previous generations and as implementers with changing perceptions about production and consumption habits. Young people are increasingly aware of the importance of using recyclable materials, minimizing the exploitation of natural resources, and minimizing waste and GHG emissions. As a younger generation that is more exposed to the Internet and digital technologies, their role needs to be further emphasized in building initiatives to promote economic development.

Involving young people in the development of circular economy projects

CE is beneficial in terms of business and economics, as well as in terms of society and the environment. Currently, many young people have set up projects to spread awareness about CE to everyone in their communities. Able to observe and react quickly, young people have also built CE models where they live.

Encouraging young people to participate more in CE will help to increase their awareness of environmental topics and proactively apply CE models for communities' sustainable development. This creates many new jobs and sustainable careers for young people, who can take advantage of these opportunities to further their professional development and move on to more sustainable careers in the future.

Involving young people in the development of CE policies

In addition to building CE projects, youth can participate in the related policy-making process over the course of several stages:

The first is the **planning stage.** Young people can provide information about the current, real situations they face by surveying people and their surroundings. When a policy is adopted and brought to the local level, young people can set up groups and online surveys to gauge the effectiveness of the policy and contribute practical information to future revisions.

The second is the **implementation stage.** Youth have a role in simplifying and spreading policies promoting CE. Policy documents are often dry and confusing, their perceived complexity sometimes causing people to ignore them. Young people need to make things easier to understand and communicate these simpler messages with those around them.

The third is the **evaluation stage.** Young people can also play the role of monitoring/reviewing policies, compiling data, and developing reports on the current state of CE policies for youth and proposing solutions to the authorities, thereby making positive changes.

The fourth is the **support and maintenance stage**. Young people can play a role in spreading CE policies and regularly participating in CE communication programmes to increase awareness and spread information to people through projects. To give a few examples, some young people have set up businesses to trade products using recycled waste, set up websites and second-hand exchange networks to increase product life cycles, arranged for used products to be brought cost-effectively to those who need them, and limited the generation of waste into the environment.

To do this, a combination of solutions designed through constructive dialogue between young people, scientists, policymakers, and various stakeholders is needed.

4.3. Outstanding Projects

It is certain that many young people have an understanding of CE. Moreover, with the spread of the Internet, young people have many opportunities and advantages in accessing knowledge, models, and initiatives. While they are not limited only to waste management, youth projects often take advantage of waste, making an important contribution to the priority goals of reducing the use of raw materials and fuel, extending product life cycles, reducing waste, and reducing adverse environmental impacts. The following are some outstanding youth projects that promote CE:

REshare



Photo: REshare

REshare is a project working towards CE in the fashion industry. With the goal of "creating a new life cycle" for clothing products, the project helps users to donate, buy, sell, and exchange old items conveniently through a technology platform.

The operation of the REshare system is very simple: those wishing to donate only need to register to send items to the Reshare. vn address. The project will then send staff to collect, inspect, sort, and clean the items, and will then update the system for buyers to browse the additions. Some items REshare receives are resold for 0 VND, with buyers only needing to pay the shipping fee. In this way, REshare connects the "excess" with the "lack" to take advantage of old clothing, creating a new life cycle. The trend of fashion recycling that the project contributes to replicating has helped to reduce the amount of waste being released into the environment.

Since its establishment, however, REshare has encountered many difficulties due to a lack of human resources and other troubles during the operation process. This CE model is still new, so there are not many knowledgeable experts in this area. As one of the pioneers of circular fashion, REshare has few similar models to refer to and learn from.

Papa's Soap - Papa dreamers

Papa's Soap is a handmade soap production model that uses natural materials and applies the principles of CE. Papa's Soap is entirely environmentally friendly: the project does not use typical plastic packaging, minimizes the amount of waste that must be discharged, and takes advantage of available materials, wrapping its products in materials such as stencils, bamboo trays, and tin cans. As a result, this product is now recognized and gained some support by customers in the nationwide market.

Papa's Soap is also a pioneering brand in that it uses wrapping paper with seeds attached inside. After unwrapping the soap bar, users can bury these pieces of paper in moist ground, from which young sprouts will germinate if they are tended. However, because it is only doing business on a household scale, Papa's Soap still needs help because they have not connected with individuals who love and want to use environmentally friendly products.



Photo: Papa's Soap

Gen Xanh



Photo: Gen Xanh

Gen Xanh ('Green Gene') is an environmental non-profit organization operating mainly in the field of e-waste, single-use plastics, and second-hand clothing. It advocates for opening garbage collection points to ensure at least one location in each district, creating coverage that can help people to easily bring garbage to exchange for gifts in any area. It has also built a network of volunteers who collect garbage from the homes of residents who cannot go to collection points.

When people need Gen Xanh's services, they fill out a Google form to provide information about the garbage to be collected. After the application is received, it will be put into the volunteer network for the volunteers to review the application and contact customers to arrange collection. Gen Xanh also organizes a festival to exchange garbage for gifts and a green market every 1-2 months: Organize a large-scale festival and collect a variety of garbage and more diverse gifts to attract people to participate. Gen Xanh has had the opportunity to meet with people directly. Green markets also contribute to making the programme more diverse, promoting CE, and helping individuals and organizations trading green products to bring said products to consumers.

The biggest difficulty Gen Xanh has encountered is finding the funding and personnel to be able to maintain its operations every week and increase the efficiency of its activities.



4.4. Bottlenecks

For young people working in CE, the results of the group discussion at the youth camp showed that the three biggest difficulties they encountered were (1) a lack of financial resources, (2) a lack of knowledge and skills, and (3) a lack of human resources, especially highly qualified human resources. The most notable of these is the last, i.e. the difficulty of accessing highly qualified human resources, because this is an area that needs good experts, deep expertise, and appropriate design.

Lack of human resources, especially highly qualified human resources

CE is no longer a new concept in Viet Nam. However, the human resources for implementing the transition to CE development are weak. This is especially true for youth projects in this field, as CE is often associated with scientific innovation and access to advanced models requires certain levels of expertise.

4.5. Accelerators

According to Mr. Huynh Ngoc Thai Anh, a member of the writing camp, Vietnamese youth still face many difficulties and do not have a long-term vision or orientation in terms of implementing CE associated with technology development, digital economy, or Industrial Revolution 4.0; promoting the formation of a linkage mechanism on the Internet of Things; carrying out technological innovation activities; or professionalizing the stages of project implementation.

Because many young people participating in projects are still in school, their commitment to participating in community activities is inevitably affected by the demands of their studies. This leads many youth teams to regularly recruit members throughout the year in order to be able to continue their activities.

#3 Capacity building programmes for youth in responding to climate change and accelerating the circular economy



Over the years, the guidelines and policies of the Party and the Government of Viet Nam have gradually been moving towards green and sustainable development, approaching the CE model. To further promote the application of CE projects, we propose developing **capacity building programmes for youth in responding to climate change and accelerating the transition towards a circular economy.** Currently, there are many training programmes to improve the capacity of businesses from different industries, such as agriculture, plastics, environment, waste treatment, and construction materials. However, CE programmes for young people are still limited. When such capacity-building training programmes are implemented, they will inspire young people, provide them with practical guidance and tools to build, transform, and apply the CE model to ongoing projects, and enable them to orient project operations. After the programmes' completion, organizers can continue to implement mentoring activities for young people. CE manuals and online lectures can also be developed to provide knowledge and tools that will help young people to solve the challenges they might encounter during the implementation of their projects.

CHAPTER V: CLIMATE MITIGATION TOWARDS NET ZERO



5.1. Introduction

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), net zero emissions are achieved "when emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) from human activities to the atmosphere are balanced by anthropogenic removals, meaning withdrawal of GHGs from the atmosphere as a result of deliberate human activities over a specified period." ²⁰

Although Viet Nam's GHG emissions account for only a small proportion of the total global emissions (0.8%), ²¹ they are rapidly increasing, with energy being one of the largest sources of national GHG emissions today, accounting for about 65%.²² Speaking at COP26, Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh emphasized Viet Nam's role and goals in achieving net zero emissions by 2050: "Despite being a developing country that has only begun the process of industrialization for more than three decades, Viet Nam is a country with an advantage in renewable energy. We will develop and implement strong greenhouse gas emission reduction measures with the country's resources, together with the cooperation and support from the international community, especially developed countries, both in terms of finance and technology transfer, including the implementation of mechanisms under the Paris Agreement, to reach net emissions of "zero" by 2050."

four sectors they believe need to be top priorities to move towards net zero are:

- Waste, plastics, and materials (50.2%)
- Nature-based solutions (38.8%)
- Energy (36%)
- Agriculture Forestry Fisheries (30.9%)

Youth from the Stockholm+50 survey also agreed that reliance on fossil fuels, including investment in fossil fuel infrastructure and massive imports of fossil fuels, are the biggest barriers to achieving Viet Nam's commitment of net zero by 2050. 48.6% of young people are also willing to make lifestyle changes, especially by implementing the '3 Rs' (reduce, reuse, recycle), planting more trees, and using less energy as part of their daily lives.

In recent years, young people have implemented many activities and projects nationwide focusing on three main areas that contribute to net zero: **waste management, energy, and agriculture, forestry, and land use.** Several outstanding projects in these fields are highlighted in Section 5.3.

The results of the Stockholm+50 youth survey showed that the

²⁰ Hartley, A., & Turnock, S. (2022). What are the benefits of reducing global CO2 emissions to net-zero by 2050?. Weather, 77(1), 27-28.

²¹ World Bank. (2022a). Vietnam Country Climate and Development Report. Washington, DC: World Bank. Retrieved from: https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/37618

²² Do, T. N., & Burke, P. J. (2021). Carbon pricing in Vietnam: Options for adoption. Energy and Climate Change, 2, 100058.



5.2. Towards Net Zero

Carbon emissions have continually increased over the years, even after the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was signed in 1992, meaning that Viet Nam needs to do more to achieve our net zero emissions target by 2050. This is an achievable but extremely challenging job. At present, young people need to continue to promote effective emissions reduction policies from the Government. Changing to a bottom-up approach where policymakers and stakeholders listen more to youth is key to delivering impact on a larger scale. Youth today and future generations can also make personal behavioural changes, such as choosing lower-carbon modes of transportation, using less air conditioning, recycling, and reusing, etc.²³

Young people have been actively taking action to reduce emissions through running various initiatives, creating social movements, building networks, and moving forward collectively. Some young people have also expressed their views in the media or through climate activism. This needs to continue to be encouraged and maintained so that young people can work together with the Government and ministries towards the net zero emissions target.

Young people also have an ability to think creatively and do things differently. In addition to strengthening the Youth Climate Action Network (YNet) to connect youth projects and building core youth groups on climate change policy, energy, DRR, etc., youth are also actively connecting with HCYU at all levels, building youth networks at the provincial level, and actively participating in youth forums and movements around the world (e.g., YOUNGO, COY, Empowering Youth for Climate Action, the Youth Innovation Competition for Climate, Youth for Climate, etc.). Empowering young people to take action should be further promoted, creating opportunities for young people to reach their full potential in life, participate more in climate change response and environmental protection activities, and further contribute significantly to the economic development, environment, and society of Viet Nam.

Young people are also actively participating in the movements launched by HCYU (e.g. For a green Viet Nam or Propagating environmental protection activities), doing many meaningful jobs to improve the living environment, learn and train, and join hands with localities to build "Green, Clean, Dynamic" schools.

²³ IEA (2022), Global Energy Review: C02 Emissions in 2021, IEA, Paris https://www.iea.org/reports/global-energy-review-co2-emissions-in-2021-2

5.3. Outstanding Projects

5.3.1. Energy

Globally, the energy sector is responsible for the most GHG emissions. As noted above, according to UNDP Viet Nam's Stockholm+50 youth survey, more than 46% of young people are willing to commit to actions related to energy efficiency by changing their daily lifestyles. The same survey showed that access to clean energy is one of the four topics in which young people are most interested. In particular, the term "renewable energy" has become popular in recent years, with solar and wind energy seeing strong development today in Viet Nam.

Below are some outstanding youth-led projects in the energy sector:

Youth Energy Training-of-Trainers

Youth Energy TOT is a project jointly organized by Youth4Climate (UNDP), the Green Innovation Development Centre (GreenID), and the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi (USTH). It was established to raise awareness among Vietnamese youth about the energy transition and climate change through online knowledge-sharing seminars and training modules using a climate change portal. At the end of 2021, ten young people were selected by UNDP and USTH to be equipped with basic skills and knowledge to start the project's activities.

The project, which began in February 2022, focuses on designing and disseminating a youth survey to gather more perspectives on young people's knowledge, actions, and suggestions relating to energy and climate change issues in Viet Nam. Based on information obtained from more than 500 young people participating in surveys (including both direct and indirect surveys), a summary report with information regarding the knowledge, actions, and recommendations of the youth was developed.

In terms of young people's basic knowledge about energy and climate change: the majority (54%) still believe that hydropower accounts for the largest proportion of installed capacity in Viet Nam's electricity system. In fact, this is not the case: it is coal-fired power, which has adverse impacts on the environment. The survey also showed that only one in ten young people know that the Power Development Plan is the official document stating the direction of electricity system development in Viet Nam. This deviation may come from the mass media, or from their lack of basic knowledge of energy issues in Viet Nam.

In terms of action: the majority of young people consider themselves to have a good sense of saving electricity, expressed through actions such as turning off electrical appliances when going out of the house and turning on electricity only when necessary. More than half also mentioned that they would use clean vehicles if economic conditions allowed.



Photo: Youth4Climate Learning Hub

However, when asked if they had experience participating in any energy transition-related activities or competitions, only 14% said that they did.

Regarding their recommendations on the energy transition: they generally agreed that there should be more jobs for young people in the green energy sector, as well as campaigns and events to increase their awareness about this issue.

After collecting valuable information and perspectives from young people, the Youth Energy TOT continued by hosting a series of three events to raise awareness about the energy transition in Viet Nam, renewable energy innovations, and job opportunities for young people in the energy industry.

So that the useful knowledge synthesized and accumulated by the project will not be wasted, short videos on four topics – the grid, hydrogen, fossil fuels, and carbon footprints – have been uploaded on the Youth4Climate website as free learning materials accessible to everyone.

While the TOT project lasted only half a year, its members continue to propose ideas to UNDP to start developing their own future TOT projects.

Deep Learning Project (Solar Radiation Forecasting Software)

Thanks to the incentive policies of the Government of Viet Nam in the period of 2017-2020, as well as the development of the solar power market in Viet Nam and around the world, the capacity of solar power systems in Viet Nam has increased from nearly 0% in 2017 to nearly 25% in 2020.²⁴

The draft Power Development Plan 8 has also set out orientations to develop renewable energy sources and gradually reduce the installed capacity of coal power plants by 2050. However, to do this, Viet Nam will need to continue to develop related technologies that can support a greener, cleaner electricity and energy system in Viet Nam.

One of the most prominent technologies is forecasting the generating capacity of renewable energy sources, which are very unstable and highly dependent on the weather. Seizing on this development trend, a group of students at Hanoi University of Science and Technology have spent more than three years researching and developing software capable of predicting solar radiation based on deep learning methods. Using historical data collected from the rooftop solar power system on the D9 building at Hanoi University of Science and Technology through specialized sensors (radiation, wind speed, temperature, humidity, wind direction, etc.), combined with deep learning models, the student group are able to forecast solar radiation and wind speed and display the results on a computer screen. Forecast data is compared with real-time data to compare application errors, thereby further improving the proposed forecast model.

However, the project still faces difficulties due to a lack of suitable funding as well as technological and technical limitations, leaving many of the team's research ideas unimplemented.



Photo: 100RE Lab, D9-300, Hanoi University of Science and Technology

5.3.2. Waste management

For young people who care about the environment, waste is probably the topic they hear about the most. It is not surprising that waste is everywhere around us, from leftovers to plastic bags on the street to plastic straws that "không hẹn mà đến" (unexpected to be seen). In UNDP Viet Nam's Stockholm+50 youth survey, waste management received the most attention from respondents asked what personal lifestyle changes they were willing to make, with more than 48% of participants committing to actions related to the '3 Rs' (reduce, reuse, recycle). Along with plastic waste, survey respondents identified air pollution (80.1%) and plastic waste (54.6%) as the three most urgent environmental issues that Viet Nam needs to solve in the near future.

Below are some outstanding youth-led projects in the field of waste management:

Green Fingers Viet Nam

Green Fingers Viet Nam, which was established in June 2014 and is also a member of the 2030 Youth Force Viet Nam network, represents the efforts of a responsible young generation to overcome society's environmental problems creatively and effectively. With the motto of "Recycling is so simple!", Green Fingers Viet Nam has combined activities like awareness campaigns and environmental education by organizing seminars, school classes, fairs, and music, bringing a far-reaching impact and positive results. The project has successfully provided essential knowledge to young people about environmental issues and recycling, such as by sharing stories about plastics and batteries. Green Fingers Viet Nam is also a place for young people who love the environment to connect through workshops or film screenings on environmental topics.

However, much like many other youth-led projects, Green Fingers Viet Nam has encountered many difficulties, the biggest challenge being a lack of funds to operate the events.



Photo: Green Fingers Viet Nam



Youth for Environment Camp (YFEC)

The Youth for Environment Camp (YFEC) is an annual programme conducted by Eco Station to raise the awareness, capacity, and experience of young people in Da Nang aged 16-30 on issues related to the environment. Through YFEC, young people are given the opportunity to understand more about the relationship between nature and people, grow more love for the environment, gain knowledge related to environmental issues, and connect with communities sharing similar interests.

YFEC is organized annually by Eco Station every fall, with the initial ideation and implementation starting around June. For the first time, YEFC attracted more than 110 applications from which 24 young people were selected as campers, with 10 young people acting as organizers and collaborators. The content of the YFEC 2022 programme revolves around plastic and its impact on forest and marine ecosystems, and included:

(i) Online training: Knowledge of plastics, their impact on ecosystems, and lifestyles that reduce plastic waste;

(ii) Camping and practical experience: Enterprise visits to learn about the eco-economy model, discover and learn about Son Tra's ecosystem, gain knowledge about the ecosystem and plastic waste through activities, and take part in the waste audit process.

Since the first camp was held, YFEC has gained valuable experience that has allowed them to improve the internal working abilities of their project team, as well as to provide more effective programme content and integrate professional knowledge into experiential activities and games in a way that all young people can easily absorb



Photo: Eco station

5.3.3. Agriculture, forestry, and land use

Climate change poses an increasingly serious threat to our country's agriculture, forestry, and fishery sectors. Agriculture is the second-largest emitting sector after energy at nearly 70 million tons of CO2, accounting for about 19% of GHG emissions. At the same time, while it is a major source of emissions, agriculture is also the sector most affected by climate change.²⁵

Many young people have also expressed concern about the situation of forests in Viet Nam, when primary forests are destroyed to make way for economic production. Although the forest area appears to be increasing, this is partially due to monoculture plantations, i.e., industrial crops for economic purposes.²⁶ The following are some outstanding youth-led projects in the field of agriculture, forestry, and land use:

ANKHOE ('EAT HEALTHY')

Cattle farming now accounts for about 14.5% of the world's annual GHG emissions, roughly equal to the emissions from all cars, trucks, planes, and ships combined. Therefore, if we consume more plant-based products, it will help reduce emissions. Recognizing the above problem, ANKHOE has developed an all-in-one mobile application on nutrition for people interested in vegetarianism in Viet Nam, consisting of four main features: consumer's empathy, menu options, connect to experts, and community network.

ANKHOE's most important goal is to accompany, help, and develop the vegetarian community in a scientific and sustainable way. However, it still has limited human resources and finances, especially the support of professional advisors to allow the project to become more successful and fully developed. According to the ANKHOE team, it would be helpful to have the opportunity to connect and expand with a community



Photo: ANKHOE

of young people, nutritionists, and software application developers interested in vegetarianism to be able to accelerate the progress of the project and create a product that achieves the greatest effect.

LEARNING TO SOW IN THE GARDEN



Photo: Learning to Sow in the Garden (Youth4Climate Learning Hub)

Currently, modern agriculture makes excessive use of biological products to stimulate growth, flowers, and fruit, as well as chemical fertilizers and pesticides that can have serious effects on human health and the environment. Domestic medicinal resources are also being particularly affected, with the country having to import medicinal herbs abroad. The project "Learning to Sow in the Garden" aims to raise awareness through natural observation, sensing activities in medicinal gardens, and natural agricultural practices bringing concrete effects: for example, one of their criteria is to provide 2-4 tonnes of drugs/year for pharmaceutical use. At the same time, they are collecting agricultural products that can generate income to ensure the project's sustainability in the long term. The project also supports individuals and organizations interested in replicating the model of the 'medicinal ecosystem' and building a youth network for chemical-free agriculture and environmental protection.

Two difficulties the team encountered during implementation were how to increase the awareness and knowledge of young people and how to gain more community support. Many people do not have a proper awareness of the importance of nature-based agriculture that reduces GHG emissions, so changing behaviour can be very difficult.

²⁵ World Bank. (2022a). Vietnam Country Climate and Development Report. Washington, DC: World Bank. Truy cập từ trang: https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/37618
 ²⁶ Iwanaga, S., Hoang, D. T., Kuboyama, H., Duong, D. T., Tuan, H. H., & Minh, N. V. (2021). Changes in the Vietnamese timber processing industry: A case of Quang Tri province, North Central region. Forests, 12(8), 984.

5.4. Bottlenecks

After analysing youth projects and panel discussions, we have identified three main bottlenecks for youth-led emissions reduction projects: (1) a lack of financial resources, (2) a lack of knowledge and skills, and (3) limitations on research and development.

The most notable of these is the limitation on research and development: projects in this field need to be able to invest in transformation, apply new technologies, and research new solutions to limit emissions and use energy efficiently.

Limitations on research and development

Large-scale research conducted by young people is also one way they can build trust with scientists, policymakers, and local authorities to try and solve the problem of GHG emissions. Young people have no lack of creative ideas, but not all of them have the opportunity to experience a methodical research environment or receive the support they need to develop their initiatives. The current research environment is not ideal for this, because there is no mechanism to encourage youth innovation in the field of climate action or to facilitate their access to research resources. Young people (especially those in the highlands or from disadvantaged groups) do not have many opportunities to be exposed to emissions reduction technology in the general education environment. At higher levels, such as university or graduate school, young people may face additional difficulties when they want to develop technology to reduce GHG emissions if the laboratory facilities are inadequate for research.

5.5. Accelerators

#4 Research & development fund for youth innovation

Research and development tend to lead to new innovations, which can lead to significant and disruptive changes. However, in Viet Nam, research and development still needs to be given proper attention and investment, and it is increasingly essential in the context of the Industrial Revolution 4.0. Therefore, to contribute to promoting youth activities in the field of reducing emissions, we propose building **a research & development fund for youth innovation** with a simple and straightforward disbursement mechanism.

The fund's main purpose would be to provide financing for youth science and research initiatives, promoting their role in fulfilling Viet Nam's commitment to net zero emissions by 2050. The fund's activities would include but be not limited to improving youth capacity for building fundraising profiles, teaching financial management for youth initiatives, and organizing scientific research competitions. Implementing the fund will require great support from stakeholders such as universities, centres with research programmes in energy, waste management, and agriculture, and agencies in charge of youth affairs.

According to one 2021 ranking,²⁷ Viet Nam ranks 44th out of 132 countries worldwide, continuing to lead in the group of 37 lower-middle-income economies where young people are an important factor in promoting the spirit of innovation. It is no surprise that young Vietnamese are rapidly gaining access to advanced education and modern technology. Therefore, when the Fund comes into operation, it would further promote operational initiatives and youth research and, more importantly, propose suitable solutions for different regions according to their unique characteristics. Their tireless efforts to address climate change through innovative ideas and technologies will make an important contribution to achieving the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

27 Global Innovation Index 202



CHAPTER VI: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



6.1. Introduction

CCA and DRR are two of the main activities being conducted in response to climate change in Viet Nam and around the world. Both are mentioned in Viet Nam's NAP,²⁸ its NCCS to 2050, and the NDC. CCA regulates natural and social systems in order to mitigate climate risks and strengthen resilience,²⁹ while DRR aims to prevent new risks, mitigate existing risks, and manage the risk backlog, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.³⁰ Given that Viet Nam is heavily affected by climate change, the participation of young people in projects to adapt to climate change and mitigate disaster risks is essential, not to mention that they themselves are also being directly affected.

In Viet Nam, CCA is stipulated in Article 90 of the Law on Environmental Protection (2020), and includes the following main contents:

(a) Assessing the impacts, vulnerability, risks, losses, and damage caused by climate change for sectors, regions, and communities based on climate change scenarios and socio-economic development forecasts;

(b) Implementing CCA activities, DRR, community- and ecosystem-based CCA models, and responding to sea level rise and urban flooding;

(c) Developing and implementing a system for monitoring and evaluating CCA activities.

The NCCS in the period to 2050 has set Viet Nam's overall goal for CCA as to "proactively adapt to effectively reduce vulnerability, losses, and damage caused by climate change."

Current projects led by Vietnamese youth are focusing on agriculture, forestry, cultivation, and animal husbandry to adapt to climate change conditions and towards the CE model; as well as research and practice to restore and develop biosphere or forestry reserves to increase resilience, protect and sustainably utilize the economic value that forests bring. Although interconnected, CCA and DRR also have their own characteristics, so the initiatives and projects of young people in this field are also quite diverse. In addition to working independently, many volunteer youth teams for disaster prevention and control are also active with support from the HCYU and local authorities at all levels. Vanguard youth teams are equipped with basic knowledge in disaster prevention and given the skills to handle situations before, during, and after disasters, allowing them to be ready to respond to disasters, storms, floods, and droughts that may occur in their own communities. Many meaningful activities undertaken by these youth teams are also regularly added to Thanh niên Nông thôn (Rural Youth).

29 IPCC. (2022). Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Retrieved from: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/ downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_WGII_FulReport.pdf

²⁸ The Government of Vietnam (GoV). (2020). Viet Nam's nationally determined contribution. Retrieved from: https://vihema.gov.vn/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/NDC_VN_Clean_final.pdf

³⁰ Wisner, B., Gaillard, J. C., & Kelman, I. (2012). Handbook of hazards and disaster risk reduction. Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203844236



6.2. Youth actively involved in responding to climate change



CUP 26 ELS TAX

Photo: UNDP Viet Nam

The actions of young people at the community level are being increasingly promoted. This is especially important as extreme weather events increase and emphasises the importance of CCA innovation.

Many innovation competitions related to climate change response activities have recently been organized, such as the Youth Climate Innovation Contest jointly organized by MONRE, HCYU Central Committee, and UNDP. Many creative and practical ideas and solutions from different localities and regions were proposed around the themes of creative communications on climate change, innovations for mitigation solutions, Youth start-up for responsible businesses, and nature-based solutions.

In response to the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (13 October 2021), UNDP, in collaboration with the Viet Nam Disaster Management Authority and the Vietnam Administration of Forestry under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, organized a contest for creative communication on disaster mitigation and climate change aimed at Vietnamese students. The contest aimed to raise the awareness of Vietnamese students while also contributing to behavioural change, calling on the community to participate in proactively preventing disasters and minimizing the impacts of climate change.

The HCYU also established a network of youth volunteers for commune-level disaster prevention, coordinating with the General Department of Natural Disaster Prevention and Control to organize training that equips the youth volunteers with the knowledge of how to respond to disasters, including safety skills for supporting people to overcome the impacts of disasters. The HCYU cooperated with the General Department of Hydrometeorology to deploy an early warning system for severe weather through the staff of the local chapters, with more than 10,000 participating officials. Early warning information is regularly sent to this network so that local officials can promptly warn authorities and the community to take action to prevent and mitigate damage.

We hope that these events were more than just contests, and that the initiatives proposed by young people will see more implementation and attract the participation of young people at the regional level, while at the same time motivating them to respond to climate change as part of their lifestyle.

6.3. Outstanding Projects

The impacts of climate change are most evident in the rural and coastal areas of Viet Nam. Stemming from local realities, many projects have been initiated by young people to adapt to weather changes as well as to reduce the impact of unusual weather phenomena. Here below are some outstanding youth-led projects in the field of CCA and DRR:

The Valley Farm

The Valley Farm is an organic farm located in the valley of Huu Lung district, Lang Son province, which was founded by Ms. Le Thi Minh Tra (1992) and a team of more than ten enthusiastic young engineers. The Valley Farm is consistent with the spirit and mission of "incubating green life", adapting to the northern climate, improving people's quality of life, and achieving a balanced ecological environment on the farm, which covers more than 6 hectares. The project focuses on three main domains: an organic vegetable garden, organic dairy farming, and a tourism experience. In order to alleviate the impact of extreme weather in the north, reduce the risk of landslides caused by rains and floods, and reduce heat for the farm, the team planted more than 1,000m2 of trees to form a buffer zone and built a 2,000m2 water reservoir to ensure water supply for the whole area during the dry season. Ms. Tra and her colleagues also grow vegetables in 4,000 m2 of greenhouses and 6,000 m2 of fields, flexibly switching

between different varieties of vegetables with good heat and pest resistance to adapt to the terrain. With their mission of raising awareness through practical experience, the Valley Farm sets an example of organic farming and CCA for both individuals and groups of young people.

Although COVID-19 has affected operations, the Valley Farm has had certain successes. Its 'From Farm to Table' products have made their way into restaurants in the Lang Son area and most large supermarkets in Hanoi, Hung Yen, and Hai Duong, and they aspire to reach the whole Northern region and across the entire country. The farm is attracting students to participate in the experience by offering activities such as planting and caring for vegetables, adding buffer zone plants, and improving the soil and substrates. However, the team also looks forward to receiving more support from local authorities so that the project can be replicated in the future.



Photo: The Valley Farm



Photo: Danh Bo

Cultivating green fungi at home for pest and disease management on shrimp-rice farms

The model of cultivating green fungi to manage pests and disease on shrimp-rice farmland was developed by Danh Bo, a young farmer interested in climate change and especially saltwater intrusion in the Mekong Delta region.

Following the state's recommendations on adapting to climate change in areas affected by saltwater intrusion in the western Mekong Delta, Mr. Danh Bo has converted 3 ha of rice farmland and adopted an ecological rice-shrimp agricultural model to handle water shortages and saltwater intrusion. Although shrimp is a product with high economic value suitable for brackish and salty areas, many farmers still choose traditional farming methods because of concerns about pests and disease. To promote the role of young people in the region, Mr. Danh Bo developed a model to demonstrate (i) the roles of young people in agriculture and CCA, and (ii) the effectiveness of rotating eco-shrimp farming and rice cultivation, using green fungi safe for growing shrimp to prevent pests on the rice. The project is supported by the Department of Science and Technology of Bac Lieu province, and is proposing to test the model on Mr. Danh Bo's farm in the upcoming 2022 season.

However, according to Mr. Danh Bo, the project still faces many difficulties related to personnel due to working conditions in harsh weather (sun, heat, rain, etc.). The profits are also small, so it has not attracted young people to participate. He hopes that many places in the Mekong Delta will eventually apply the model to local production practices.



Assessing CO2 emissions through soil respiration for the sustainable management of forest ecosystems

The research project "Assessment of CO2 Emissions Through Soil Respiration for Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Response to Climate Change: Research of Mangroves in Can Gio District" is assessing the carbon exchange and storage capacity of forest ecosystems through soil respiration. Mr. Nguyen Thai Son, the implementer of this project, has determined and evaluated the correlation between the intensity of soil respiration through CO2 emissions from the soil and the temperature and humidity in natural forest habitats, enabling him to better predict the impact of climate and temperature change on CO2 emissions from soil respiration in the Can Gio mangrove ecosystem.

In this study, soil respiration was measured by the DC-Dynamic chamber method in twelve natural forest habitats with a sample plot size of 20x20 m. The CO2 flux is emitted from the soil into the atmosphere, obtained through a closed chamber, transferred to a portable infrared gas analyser, and then returned to the chamber for the evaluation of measurement parameters. The project's proposed adaptation solutions will be considered for application by management agencies and units in the sector of forest management, protection, and development.

Although it has contributed to creating an accurate basis for determining the value of mangroves through carbon certification and payment for forest environmental services, this project still has some difficulties:



(i) Finance, time, sample measuring equipment (with limited funds, it is difficult for equipment, time, and personnel to allow further research);

(ii) Scale (not as many sample plots have been assessed as expected); and

(iii) Development - communication (research is the basis for the development of future climate change-adapted mangrove plantations, but this result has not been communicated).

Therefore, for the project to be more successful, according to Mr. Son, financial resources and supportive communication networks are needed so that he can have enough time to research and serve this activity for climate change response.

6.4. Bottlenecks

After analysing youth projects and panel discussions, we found that the main bottlenecks of their CCA and DRR projects are (1) a lack of financial resources, (2) a lack of knowledge and skills, and (3) lack of support from local authorities. The most challenging of these is the last, as projects in this area need to work a lot with local authorities.

Lack of support from local authorities

When implementing community initiatives, young people often have difficulty finding focal points to work with because there are no people responsible for monitoring activities related to climate change in localities. This is especially true of young people who operate independently of the HCYU in cooperation with local authorities who need to approve community-based initiatives. The process of approving the project from the local authorities can take a long time, making it a significant bottleneck. Furthermore, government personnel change constantly, and may not agree on the focal points or methods of working with the team.



6.5. Accelerators

#5 Skills training for local youth

The effects of climate change and disasters in each region have different characteristics. Therefore, each high-risk locality needs training programmes to provide the detailed, specific knowledge and skills that young people lack to build appropriate adaptation projects. The training sessions should also aim to increase the confidence level of local youth so that they can realize their ability and responsibility to act to adapt to climate change in a sustainable and effective way. Training sessions should be held regularly before the monsoon season, with the format changed to suit young people's access to information in each locality,

The content of the training should revolve around two main topics: professional skills and soft skills. Professional skills,

such as in-depth knowledge of climate change response and disaster prevention or models to protect schools and communities during floods and landslides, will also depend on the needs and conditions of each locality. To work with stakeholders, the soft skills section should prioritize skills such as public speaking, project management, and planning.

The training programme should prioritize young people who have volunteering experience with HCYU that can support them in building longer-term DRR projects in their communities. Training materials, such as handbooks or propaganda posters, should be developed and prepared in accordance with the characteristics of each locality.

#6 Enhancing the contributions of local youth to existing projects

After local youth undergo skills training sessions, they need to have more opportunities to access and contribute to CCA and DRR projects on a large and long-term scale before they can set up their own projects. Therefore, social organizations and even youth groups need to increase recruitment of young volunteers and collaborators in localities affected by climate change. Currently, many domestic and foreign organizations are implementing projects related to CCA and DRR in Viet Nam. If enabled to do so, local youth will actively contribute to their activities. Young people also urgently need the support of a management organization, in which the Youth Network for Climate and HCYU can play a media role to bring these volunteer opportunities to many young people.

Young people's projects are very diverse. Despite being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, they have still continued activities to protect the environment, adapt to climate change, and increasingly understand the crisis and urgency. In addition to the projects presented in Chapter IV, V, and VI, the Climate Change Portal also showcases many other projects led by Vietnamese youth in different fields, illustrating youth's diverse approach to the topics at hand as well as their active participation in recent years in projects for environmental protection and response to climate change. The Portal on Climate Change for Young People hopes that young people from all over the country will register projects on its website, as well as connect with other youth movements across the country.



Photo: Map of Youth-Led projects across Viet Nam updated via Youth4Climate Learning Hub



CHAPTER VII: GENERAL BOTTLENECKS AND ACCELERATORS

7.1. General Bottlenecks



Through discussions at the National Writeshop as well as our analysis of youth-led projects, we have identified two common difficulties such projects face: (1) finances, and (2) knowledge and skills.

Financial constraints

While young people may have many ideas and solutions to problems related to the environment and climate change in their localities, capital also plays a critical role as a resource to help them realize their ideas and expand their projects' activities to a wide audience. According to the 2020 Special Report, Vietnamese youth consider a lack of funds to implement and maintain their projects to be the most significant obstacle, with 54.3% of the 387 young people surveyed assessing the severity of financial bottlenecks at 8 or higher. This is not surprising, given that many young people are still sitting in school seats and financially dependent on their parents. However, one good sign is that many young people have actively called for the support of relatives and the surrounding community or written proposals to call for capital and financial support from many different sources.

Many young people want an information channel to share youth funding sources so that they can actively write proposals for project implementation and the funding process for youth activities and projects for climate action is made simpler to navigate. Moreover, seeing as they may be operating without legal status, young people also face many restrictions on their exposure to large sources. As a place to connect youth movements and projects, Youth Climate Action Network – YNet needs to be further promoted for young people to access more significant funding from international organizations, NGOs, and foreign investment funds. Most of the funds for climate change adaptation and response place excessive requirements on the ability of young people to build and manage projects and require legal status. At the same time, some funds disbursed through NGOs are small, focused on certain topics, or limited in other ways, such as by imposing a duration of only 3-6 months.

Limited knowledge and skills

Many young people have also mentioned difficulties with knowledge and skills. Although the Youth Climate Change Portal has many modules and good, practical articles, different youth groups across the country still need greater access. Approximately 600 students are currently completing courses using the portal; this number is extremely small given the more than 22 million young people across the country. Young people have little access to knowledge and skills related to climate change and project management in the lecture hall environment; the new curriculum needs to integrate relevant content into teaching for students. This difficulty still exists and stronger steps need to be taken in order to address it – not only by upgrading the Climate Change Portal, but also by bringing very meaningful content from this website to students across the country.

7.2. General Accelerators

#7 Development of a climate finance hub for youth

As per our research, there are now many finance sources both at home and abroad ready to provide funds for young people to implement climate action projects. However, information about these sources of capital is fragmentary, and there needs to be a unified gathering point. We hope to establish a hub for climate change finance for young people that can allow them to learn about the open funding sources available for them to plan, apply, and prepare proposals.

For the above objectives, the hub should have at least two main functional components:

(i) Call for project proposals: project-related information, such as project descriptions, professional requirements, and donor expectations; and

(iii) Networking programmes with industry mentors: connecting young people working in the field of climate change with leading industry experts.

For the financial hub to be operational, we urgently need the support of various agencies to connect domestic and foreign organizations, private companies, social enterprises, and non-governmental organizations. When "supply" meets "demand," we believe that more practical projects for young people will be implemented. Such a hub can contribute to reducing the financial difficulties that youth teams are facing.

#8 Promotion of the role of youth in climate governance and diplomacy

In the current context of deep international integration, diplomacy plays an increasingly important role in connecting external resources. We propose promoting the role of youth in climate governance and climate diplomacy in order to:

(i) learn about the models and good practices of young people around the world in terms of climate change response, green growth, energy transition, transportation, and agriculture;

(ii) participate in organizations and forum mechanisms related to climate change, make substantive contributions, and propose new ideas and initiatives through regional and global mechanisms; and If activities related to climate diplomacy are promoted more, Vietnamese youth and their connections with international youth movements will become more active, and more funding from developed countries worldwide will support Viet Nam. Promoting climate diplomacy will also help the Portal to receive more funding, thereby reducing the financial difficulties the youth are facing.

(iii) connect project funding sources from countries around the world.

#9 Elaboration of a specialized set of documents for youth

Knowledge and skills require time and a suitable approach for each group of young people. Although not much information on climate change-related topics is currently included in the curriculum, we, together with the Youth Climate Policy Working Group, will actively work to include it in textbooks. In the short term, we hope to be able to build a set of documents on topics related to climate change in the most understandable and accessible way for Vietnamese youth and students. To do this, we need significant support from MONRE and leading national experts. A handbook on team culture will also be developed to help young people work together more effectively in the future. We believe that this set of documents will contribute to improving the knowledge and skills of young people about climate change, as well as help them be more confident when joining any relevant activities and projects. The table below briefly describes the accelerators proposed in this Special Report, with details about relevant stakeholders, descriptions of accelerators, and expected results.

No.	Accelerators	Relevant stakeholders	Description of accelertors	Expected results	
	YOUTH IN CLIMATE POLICY AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES				
#1	Establishment of a youth working group on climate change policy (draft TOR in Annex 3)	Proposed technical support to be pro- vided by UNDP Viet Nam and MONRE; Participating agencies: CC Working Group; CC Policy Research Institutes; NGOs/CSOs; Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs (MOHA); National Committee on Youth of Viet Nam; National Assembly's Committee for Culture and Education; HCYU; Ynet; Etc.	Learning about issues re- lated to climate change and environmental protection policies, working as a focal point for policy consultations with NGOs, intergovernmental organizations, and relevant ministries; Reviewing and evaluating the impact of policies on youth activities; Providing training on negotia- tion skills and policy formula- tion for young people, espe- cially at the grassroots level; Organizing regular seminars and exchanges on climate change policy with policymak- ers and youth representatives.	Better representation of the youth in CC pol- icy and decision-mak- ing processes Policymakers are better informed about the situation and position of the youth in climate-related sectors; Policymakers are able to identify areas for improvement and investment to pro- mote full and effective participation of youth in CC policy-making processes	
#2	Development of a multi-stake- holder dia- logue on CC with youth participation	Proposed technical support to be provided by HCYU; Participating agencies: Schools/research institutes; DCC; NGOs/CSOs; CC Working Group; Department of Youth Affairs, MOHA; National Committee on Youth of Viet Nam; National Assembly's Committee for Culture and Education; UNDP Viet Nam; Ynet; Etc.	Identifying the challenges for youth in implementing their projects/activities related CCA and mitigation for timely support; Enhancing exchanges with au- thorities, mass organizations, and agencies to allow better understanding about youth's activities and potential; Developing an action roadmap, defining coordination mecha- nisms, and ensuring resource mobilization and allocation for effective implementation of the roadmap	Enabling environment for networking and synergies among the youth themselves, with policymakers, and with implementing partners at the central and local levels; Space developed for young people to speak up about climate change.	

ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TOWARDS A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

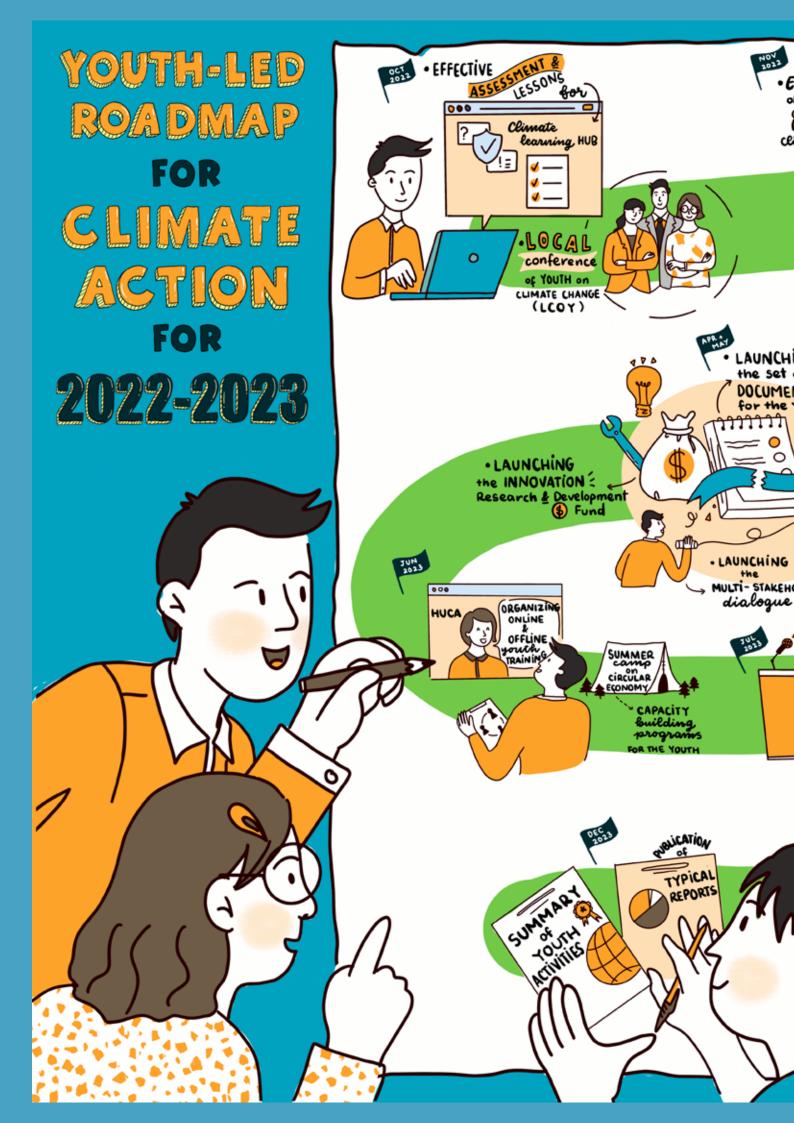
#3	Capaci- ty building programmes for youth in responding to climate change and accelerat- ing the circular economy	Proposed Implementing Agency: UNDP Viet Nam and MONRE; Participating agencies: CC Working Group; CC Policy Research Institutes; NGOs/CSOs; YNet;	Providing practical guidance and tools to facilitate the de- velopment of, transformation to, or implementation of circu- lar economy (CE) models; Developing project activity orientations.	Highly qualified hu- man resources; A number of youth projects developed in line with the country's development strategy.
		YNet; MOIT; HCYU; Etc.		

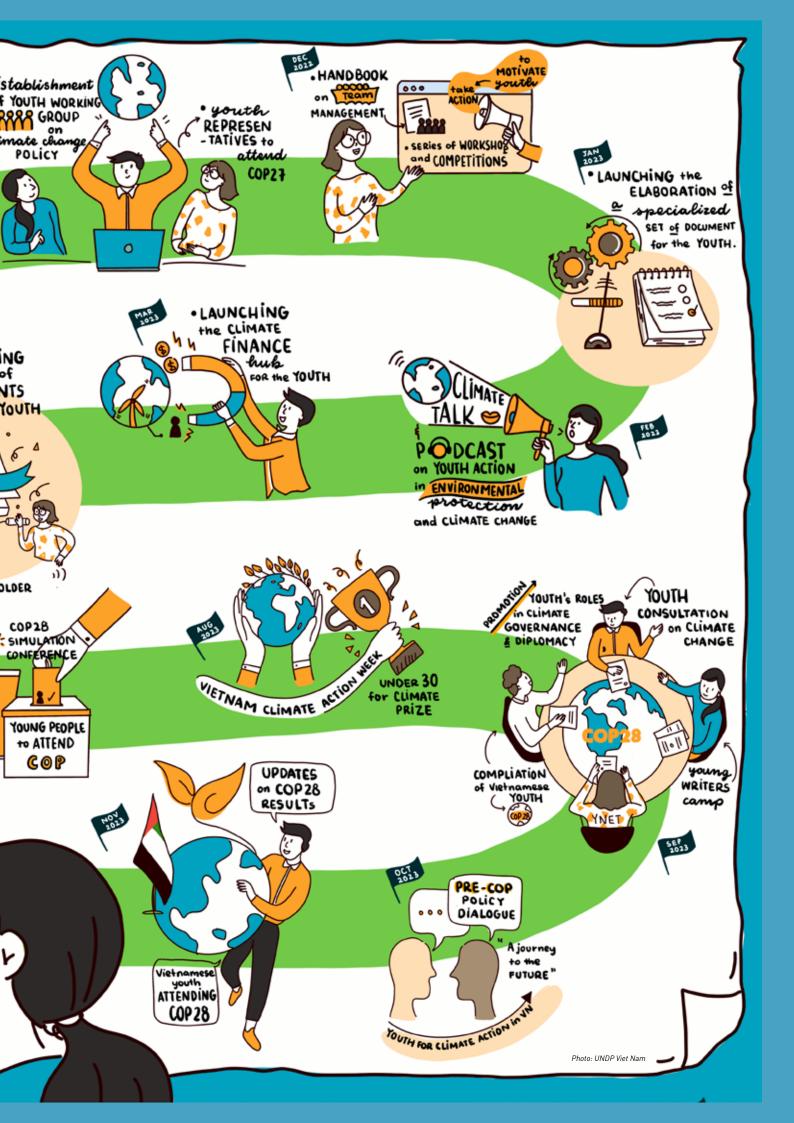
No.	Accelerators	Relevant stakeholders	Description of accelertors	Expected results	
	CLIMATE MITIGATION TOWARDS NET ZERO				
#4	Research & development fund for youth innovation	Proposed Implementing Agency: MONRE and MOST Participating agencies: UNDP Viet Nam; HCYU; NGOs/CSOs; CC Working Group; bilateral and multilateral donors and partners.	Establishing a fund to provide financial support to youth initia- tives with a simple and effective disbursement mechanism; Some of the fund's activities may include capacity building for project fundraising, financial management, and organization of scientific research competi- tions.	Youth climate ini- tiatives and actions across the country are promoted to contribute to the net zero target by 2050.	
	CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION				
#5	Skills training for local youth	Proposed Implementing Agency: MONRE and HCYU Participating agencies: UNDP Viet Nam; NGOs/CSOs; CC Working Group; Local authorities; Ynet; Etc.	Training topics include: (1) tech- nical knowledge and skills and (2) soft skills; Professional skills such as in-depth knowledge of climate change response and disas- ter prevention; disaster risk management models will be developed depending on spe- cific disaster risks (e.g., floods, typhoons, landslides, etc.) and local needs; Priority soft skills include public speaking and presenting, project planning, developing stakeholder engagement plans, etc.	Improved technical knowledge and soft skills of local youth; Local youth can develop more impactful and long- term projects at the grassroots level.	
#6	Enhancing the contributions of local youth to existing projects	Proposed Implementing Agency: MONRE and HCYU Participating agencies: UNDP Viet Nam; NGOs/CSOs; CC Working Group; Local authorities; Ynet; Etc.	Recruitment of volunteers and collaborators who are local youth in CC-prone areas; Support to connect local youth with relevant organizations.	Practical contribu- tions to long-term CCA and DRR proj- ects at scale.	

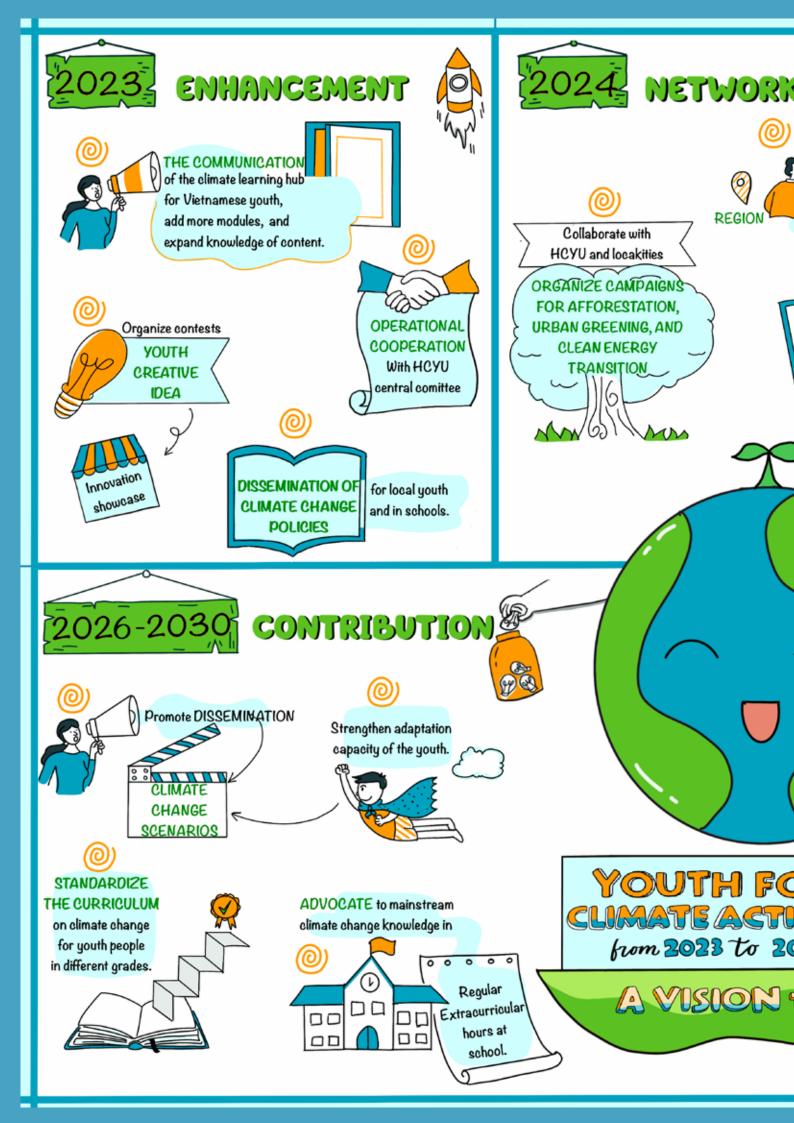
No.	Accelerators	Relevant stakeholders	Description of accelertors	Expected results	
	GENERAL ACCELERATORS				
#7	Development of a climate finance hub for youth	Proposed Implementing Agency: MPI, MONRE, and UNDP Viet Nam Participating agencies: HCYU; NGOs/CSOs; CC Working Group; bilateral and multilateral donors and partners; Ynet; Etc.	Uploading project-related infor- mation; Connecting young people work- ing in the field of climate change with leading experts;	More projects will be implemented; Capacity building for young people to imple- ment the project.	
#8	Promotion of the role of youth in climate gov- ernance and diplomacy	Proposed Implementing Agency: MOFA and UNDP Viet Nam Participating agencies: MONRE; YNet; HCYU; NGOs/CSOs; VYCO; CC Working Group; Etc.	Learning from good CC models and practices of young people around the world; Actively participating in climate change-related organizations and forums and making sub- stantial contributions, e.g., new ideas and initiatives proposed at regional and global platforms; Connecting project funding sources from countries around the world.	Representatives of Vietnamese youth par- ticipating in COPs and other international CC events; Vietnamese youth participation in inter- national youth move- ments promoted; Better access to financial resources for Vietnamese youth.	
#9	Elaboration of a specialized set of doc- uments for youth	Proposed technical support to be provided by: UNDP Viet Nam and MONRE; Participating agencies:: MOET; NGOs/CSOs; CC Working Group; Department of Youth Affairs, MOHA; National Committee on Youth of Viet Nam; National Assembly's Committee for Culture and Education; Ynet; Etc.	Developing a set of documents on topics related to climate change, using language suitable for Vietnamese youth and stu- dents; Developing a handbook on teamwork skills for Vietnamese youth.	Youth's CC knowledge and skills improved.	

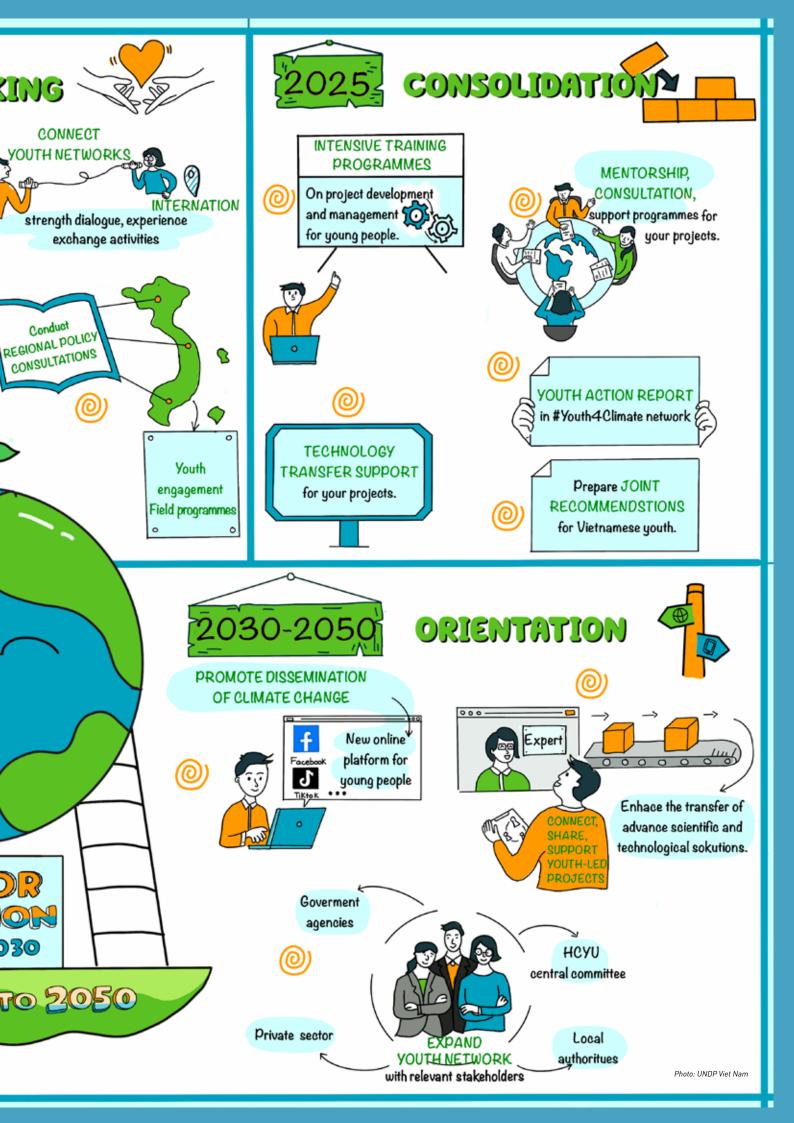
CHAPTER VII: YOUTH-LED ROADMAP FOR CLIMATE ACTION

After considering the above bottlenecks and accelerators, we propose a specific action roadmap for 2022–2023 as well as long-term goals from now to 2030 with a vision to 2050, as below:











CHAPTER IX: LEAD AND CO-AUTHORS



Bao is interested in development issues, especially the relationship between the three pillars of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental. He is doing a Ph.D. in Public Policy at the Korea Development Institute's School of Public Policy and Management. Bao also holds master's degrees in Development Policy and Data Science. Before studying abroad, he participated in many development projects and set foot in almost all provinces in Viet Nam. Bao believes that as part of the Sustainable Development Goals, our own sustainable life goals are also important.

Long is a senior student majoring in Electrical Systems at Hanoi University of Science and Technology and is the head of the 100% Renewable Energy research lab. Long has participated in projects regarding the feasibility of renewable energy policies and systems. He has also had the opportunity to participate in research studies on energy modelling, management, and the economic evaluation of solar, hydrogen, and battery power systems.

Tri is a Ph.D. student majoring in Energy Systems at the University of California San Diego. His research focuses on combining technical principles and political economy factors to promote global energy transitions, especially in Southeast Asia and Viet Nam. As a scholar of the European Forum Alpbach, he believes that Viet Nam is facing a great opportunity to become one of the leading countries in the region in energy transition and response to climate change.

Nguyen Thai Son Nguyen Hoang Nam Pham Ngoc Anh Image: Solution of the standard of the s

Son has a master's degree in Environmental and Natural Resource Management and a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering. He is an independent expert in research and consulting on environmental protection, technology-waste management, and climate change. With all professional activities such as teaching, consulting, and scientific publication, he aims for sustainability (bringing socio-economic benefits, which must be associated with ensuring environmental harmony). According to him, this crucial point is derived from the view that protecting the environment ensures our health and life. Through his studies at the Faculty of Environmental Science under the Hanoi University of Science, Nam gradually became interested in environmental issues such as waste, water, soil, air, climate, ecology, renewable energy, environmental philosophy, environmental psychology, sustainable agriculture, wildlife conservation, forests and mental health, art, etc. He believes that environmental problems require interdisciplinary treatment and should be solved systematically. Ngoc Anh graduated from RMIT University Viet Nam, majoring in communications. She participated in building the Climate Change Knowledge Portal and organizing youth roundtables on climate change with the Youth4Climate project. Currently, she is working at Viet Nam Water Supply and Sewerage Magazine with the desire to improve her experience in journalism and enhance communication activities in the field of water sector policy formulation.



As an economics student with a passion for fashion, for Phuc, working in the environment sector has never been a career path, but now she is devoted to it. Aware of the impacts of climate change in her hometown, as well as waste problems in Da Nang city where she studied for four years at university, she has participated in many projects on climate change and the environment, including the establishment of an environmental group called Eco Station in Da Nang city. Thien is a third-year student majoring in Global Innovation Studies at Toyo University, Japan. Her biggest concern is sustainability and sustainable development. In the context of environmental sustainability being shaken by climate change, Thien realizes that we may be the last generation with a chance to save the planet. As a youth with abundant energy, she has been and will actively contribute to the journey to net zero emissions for Viet Nam and the world. Mai is a second year student majoring in journalism at the Academy of Journalism and Communication. As someone who works in the media, Mai realizes that the issue of climate change is getting more and more attention, especially among young Vietnamese when we have been witnessing the terrible impacts of climate change. However, at present, information on climate change is given out quite a lot in the media, but it is still limited in terms of conveying accurate and not diverse content. Therefore, Mai always wants to convey information about climate change objectively and honestly, without highlighting or blackening about climate change.



Nguyen Thi Thuong Thuong

Tran Thanh Bao

Luong Ngoc Chung



Thuong is currently working for the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), focusing on supporting the development and implementation of national climate change policies to help Viet Nam realize its commitments to climate change with the world. Thuong graduated from the National Economics University with a major in Economics, then continued to study for a master's degree in Development Studies in Germany. Before working at GIZ, Thuong had an internship at the United Nations Organization for Climate Change in Bonn, Germany. Here, she had the opportunity to participate directly and witness international cooperation activities on climate change, including climate negotiations, cooperation events, and sharing lessons learned from other countries.



Thanh Bao, a 21-year-old boy from the remote Central Highlands, has always embraced the dream of creating a better world. With small actions in climate combat, he hopes his small contributions will spread in the community. Besides being trained to become a General Practitioner, he has actively participated in community activities and projects with various roles such as Human Resources Coordinator at YNet Viet Nam, Coordinator at the Movers Programme, and Youth Advisory for the United Nations.



Tran Ngoc Han



Han graduated in Tourism and Service Management in Finland. After returning to Viet Nam, Han works at CHANGE, a non-profit organization related to climate change, pollution, and wildlife issues. Here, she has the opportunity to work on and be inspired by environmental issues in general through the projects that CHANGE has implemented. Since then, Han hopes that she can contribute a small part of her value to the community for a greener, cleaner, and more sustainable Viet Nam. Huynh Ngoc Thai Anh



Thai Anh is currently a lecturer in Computer Science at Can Tho University. His research focuses on virtual reality technology, artificial intelligence, and applied solution models in environmental projects. He has won awards for technical research, creative entrepreneurship, and communication in Viet Nam and Taiwan. In addition to teaching, he is also the founder of the environmental communication project GreenViews and the director of Startup AIVR. Currently, he is a consultant for students' creative projects in the Mekong Delta region.

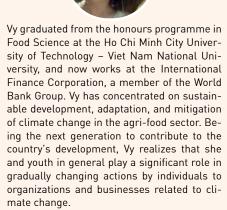




Duong is a research fellow at DCC and Global Issues, Institute of Strategy and Policy on Natural Resources and Environment (ISPONRE). Thuy Duong graduated from the University of Science and Technology of Hanoi, majoring in Water, Environment, and Oceanography, and holds a master's degree in Climate, Land Use, and Ecosystem Services from France. Duong focuses on climate change policy research on several prominent topics: gender equality and climate change, mainstreaming climate change into socio-economic development policies, mobilizing resources for NDC implementation, international experiences in implementing the net zero emissions target, etc.

Ngo Thi Thuy Vy

Tran Do Bao Nghi



Nghi graduated with a degree in Public Health and has a special interest in Environmental Health. Currently, Nghi is working at the FHI360, a non-governmental organization implementing health projects that always put sustainability first. YNet is a network that Nghi has built and joined from the very beginning with the desire to promote the voice of youth in climate policy towards net zero emissions in Viet Nam.



Nhu is currently a 12th grader in New York, USA, and co-founder of the Youth Climate Action Network - YNet. While studying, she realized that many social problems are happening today, and the most prominent is the environment. She also realized that if we do not speak up and act strongly for the climate right now, perhaps the consequences that the Vietnamese people, in particular, will have to experience will be more severe. Therefore, as a young Vietnamese person, Nhu considers herself responsible for acting and contributing good value to the environment for a greener and more beautiful Viet Nam.



Le Minh Quan

Dinh Vu Thuy Anh

Nguyen Thi Thuy Ngan



Quan is studying at a boarding high school in Connecticut, USA. Spending time in a friendly and diverse environment, Quan has learned to use his leadership skills to guide young people and deliver green initiatives that can change the habits and perceptions of students and build a sustainable community. Along with that, he also enjoys writing and has published scientific research articles in areas such as bioremediation and, more recently, the carbon economy.



Thuy Anh is currently a senior at Foreign Language Specialized School, majoring in Korean. Under the positive influence of her mother, who loves the environment in her daily life, Thuy Anh has also gradually become interested in challenging issues, including climate change. She has participated in several projects related to environmental protection for students, and this time, participating in the writeshop is a new and exciting experience.



Ngan graduated with a degree in Economic Management and is particularly interested in the CE. The question is always asked about how to more widely apply the eco-economy, prolong product life cycles, and reduce waste in the environment. At the same time, Ngan also loves social activities about the environment, wishing to inspire everyone, especially her generation, about love and responsibility to protect the surrounding environment. When the environment is healthy, climate change will also gradually slow down; everyone will also have a safe, green earth.



Nhuong graduated with a degree in biotechnology from Tan Tao University. Currently, Nhuong is the co-founder of the vegetarian application ANKHOE, and is the head of three scientific studies. Interested in liberal arts education and sustainable development, she wishes to connect more with projects and brothers and sisters with the same passion for realizing unfinished ideas and bringing benefits to the community. Linh, who is studying at Vinschool Metropolis Secondary School, won the outstanding prize in the Climate Change and Our Action Contest co-organized by the UK and WWF. Linh wants to learn about science, policies, programmes, and projects on climate change, as well as develop ideas and proposals to increase the voice of youth in responding to climate change in schools and communities where she lives. Danh Bo is a farmer and member of the Viet Nam Farmers' Association. Although he graduated in Economics from Bac Lieu University, with his passion for agricultural projects Danh Bo had many good and practical initiatives for the land where he was born. He hopes everyone can learn from each other's experiences and actively apply good models to farming and responding to climate change.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1: Updates on the implementation of the accelerators in the Special Report - Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam 2021

No	Accelerators	Outcomes	Challenges	Next steps
		Gener	ral accelerators	
1	A youth network for climate actions: The network can assist member groups in rallying human resources, applying for funds and working with stakeholders, as well as offer train- ing programmes to improve youth capacity	Youth Climate Action Net- work - YNet was estab- lished on 01/01/2021 with the membership of 15 youth-led organizations across the nation.	There is a limited number of participants in YNet. Members also lack special- ized knowledge in fighting climate change. YNet has yet to be legally recognized, which brings about certain difficulties in organizing events and activities	Establish legal status for YNet to increase organizational effec- tiveness and accountability and overcome legal challenges when signing cooperation agreements or for financial management. DCC and HCYU to take responsibility. YNet should organize group activities to discover stories from individual members and inspire a climate-conscious lifestyle in the community.
				An official acknowledgement from the authorities (MONRE, HCYU) that YNet is the nation- al network of youth for climate change. YNet participates in climate change policy workshops at the national and local levels.
2	A Climate Learning Hub for Vietnam- ese youth: Create an online climate learning hub serv- ing youth groups and individuals who want to learn about the latest climate solutions. The portal will feature modules on climate topics and proj- ect management skills as well as a constantly updated database of youth projects:	Climate learning hub for Vietnamese youth: The Learning Hub (https:// climatelearning.undp.org. vn/) has been developed in collaboration with UNDP Viet Nam. As of today: There are about 600 reg- istered members on the Learning Hub Covers 5 climate change topics. Hosts 103 reports and 24 youth opinion pieces Source: Learning Hub	The number of people who know of and use the site is limited. Users are not yet surveyed on their experience at the site. Community awareness and impacts are still low.	UNDP should boost communi- cation efforts and advertising on social media and other sites and collaborate with individuals, com- munities, and organizations with the same area of interest. UNDP should survey users' expe- rience to make improvements and adjustments. UNDP should create stronger, more engaging content about cli- mate change impacts and stories in different regions of the country and update Viet Nam's commit- ments to these issues.

		Clim	nate mitigation	
3	Scholarships for youth interested in innovation for mit- igation: Establish scholarships and internships in uni- versity labs, college labs and research centres, priori- tizing youth from under-resourced communities and young women	Lack of information	Lack of overseeing organi- zation(s)	UNDP collaborates with develop- mental, civil society organizations and youth-led organizations to give scholarships to youth.
4	Long-term proj- ect mentorship groups: After launching an inno- vation competition and programmes, organizers should commit to setting up mentorship groups to support youth from project experimentation to implementation for at least six months.	Lack of information	Lack of overseeing organi- zation(s)	DCC assumes responsibility for building a network or group of relevant scientists and experts, and at the same time connects the youth and these advisor groups.
		Climate adaptation	n and disaster risk reduction	
5	Skills training for local youth: Organizing skills training courses for young people in localities most affected by climate change, so they can effectively contrib- ute to adaptation efforts in the place they know best.	The youth capaci- ty-building series (Movers) began in July 2021. It has trained and connected a network of 450 trainee facilitators and 187 youth facilitators across the country. Source: Movers Pro- gramme	The number of youth partic- ipants are limited. Most of the programmes were held online, lacking interactivity between facili- tators and participants.	Strengthen training activities and improve capacity for facilitators as well as participants. Build a nationwide community of facilitators, divided by region.
		YNet: Organized two seasons of skills train- ing for climate project implementation - Heat Up for Climate Action (HUCA) with the partici- pation of 13 youth across the country.	Challenges in event organi- zation: Lack of human and financial resources, lack of media and legal patronage, and lack of professional advice.	YNet or other organizations take the initiative in pointing out the difficulties, prepare documents to apply for support, and actively contact UNDP, DCC, HCYU, and lo cal authorities to ask for support.

6	Recruit local youth into existing adap- tation projects: De- velopment organi- zations, CSOs, and HCYU should boost recruitment of local youth volunteers and interns in existing adaptation projects for youth to contribute to and be empowered to build their own projects later on.	Lack of information.	Lack of overseeing organi- zation(s)	Developmental organizations, civil society organizations, and local HCYUs need detailed strategies to address this concern: recruiting, subsidizing, assigning specific tasks, and communicating about the project for youth to know and participate in.
		Nature	-based solutions	
7	NBS experiential tour: Organize field visits for youth interested in NBS to experience, con- tribute to, and learn from existing NBS models, as well as connect with potential human resources for future projects.	Lack of information	Lack of overseeing organi- zation(s)	Youth-led organizations and NGOs collaborate with national parks, households, businesses, and cooperatives to create these experiential tours
		CL	imate policy	
8	Research on youth understanding of policy: Although our survey has roughly assessed the level of climate policy	Lack of information	Lack of overseeing organi- zation(s)	Create a youth climate policy working group, which will coordi- nate different advocacy, research, and communications activities on policy making.
9	Design and carry out a climate policy awareness campaign: The programme 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 youth to express what climate policy means to them.	YNet: MOCK COP26 was organized from April to June of 2021 with three special topics on the history and policies of climate change negotia- tions. The Mock COP and policy dialogue had the participation of 256 youth and experts from MONRE and UNDP. Yiet Nam Youth Letter to COP26 was conducted from September to De- cember 2021 in partner- ship with British Council and young artist K-ICM. Voice of Youth 2022 - over 30 youth will have the chance to work in teams and hone their critical thinking to come up with multi-faceted points of view on climate change.	Media coverage of these events was limited. The organization of the event had multiple limita- tions in terms of human and financial resources and le- gality, and lacked guidance for specialized knowledge	UNDP, DCC, and HCYU create spaces, forums, and policy dia- logue opportunities for the youth. UNDP, DCC, and HCYU increase media coverage of the process of making and implementing policies. UNDP, DCC, and HCYU support young people in participating in national and international climate conferences Organize similar events with high- er frequencies.

Lack of overseeing organization(s) **Create a youth climate policy working group,** which will coordinate different advocacy, research, and communications activities on policy making. UNDP, DCC, and the HCYU coordinate the establishment and management of group activities.

ANNEX 2: TERMINOLOGY

Circular	A legal document promulgated by ministers and heads of ministerial-level agencies to guide the implementation of legal documents of superior state agencies.		
Circular Economy	An economic model in which design, production, consumption, and service activities aim to reduce the exploitation of raw materials and materials, prolong the product life cycle, reduce waste generation, and minimize adverse impacts on the environment.		
Climate Change Adapta- tion	Activities that modify natural and social systems to reduce climate risks and increase their resilience.		
Climate Change Scenario Scientific and reliable projections about the future trends of the climate based on tionship between socio-economic activities, greenhouse gas emissions, climate c sea level rise.			
Conference of the Parties (COP)	Annual meeting of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to assess the effects of the measures taken by the Parties and the progress made in achieving climate goals.		
Decree	A legal document issued to detail the implementation of a law or resolution of the National Assembly, ordinances and resolutions of the National Assembly Standing Committee, and orders and decisions of the President		
Disaster risk reduction (DRR)	The conceptual framework of elements considered with the possibilities to minimize vulner- abilities and disaster risks throughout a society, to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) the adverse impacts of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development		
Glasgow Climate Pact	An agreement to re-visit emission reduction plans in 2022 in order to try to keep the 1.5 °C Paris Agreement target achievable.		
Greenhouse gases (GHGs)	Greenhouse gases are those gaseous constituents of the atmosphere, both natural and anthropogenic, that absorb and emit radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of infrared radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere, and clouds. CO2, N2O, CH4, O3, and H2O are the primary greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere.		
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)	The United Nations body for assessing the science related to climate change		
Ministry of Natural Re- sources and Environment	A governmental agency responsible for: land; water resource; mineral resources and geology, environment; hydrometeorology; climate change, surveying, and mapping; management of seas and islands and sea; and management of the public services under its mandates.		
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)	A non-binding national plan highlighting climate change mitigation, including climate-related targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions, updated every five years.		
Net zero	Achieving a balance between emissions and removals.		
Viet Nam Youth4Climate	An initiative launched by UNDP Viet Nam, in collaboration with MONRE, in order to strengthen the capacity of youth representatives and networks in stepping-up their climate actions in different frontlines to advance Viet Nam's NDC.		
Youth Within the scope of this report, the term "youth" is understood as young peop of 16 to 30 in Viet Nam.			

ANNEX 3: Terms of Reference: Youth Working Group on Climate Change Policy

Title:	Youth4Climate Policy Working group	
Location of activities:	Viet Nam (nationwide)	
Starting Date:	December 2022	

1. BACKGROUND

Viet Nam is a signatory of the Paris Agreement and has been active in mainstreaming climate change into national policies. To respond to the urgent call for enhanced climate ambition from the international community, the National Climate Change Strategy to 2050 and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) were approved by the Government of Viet Nam, focusing on how Viet Nam can achieve net zero emissions by mid-century. The country is also currently revising its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

In collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Viet Nam launched the initiative Youth4Climate in 2020. The initiative strengthened the capacity of existing youth representatives and youth networks in stepping up their climate actions on different frontlines to advance Viet Nam's NDC.

The initiative also resulted in the formulation of the first Special Report "Youth for Climate Action in Viet Nam" in 2021, the Climate Learning Hub and supported the launch of the Youth Climate Action Network.

As part of the Youth4Climate programme, UNDP Viet Nam, Department of Climate Change (DCC-MONRE) and Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union (HCYU) plan to establish the Youth4Climate Policy Working Group (YPWG) to collaborate with all stakeholders in boosting climate actions. The YPWG will be a voluntary working group, represented by youth agencies and individuals who would like to work closely with the Government of Viet Nam in promoting youth inclusive and youth empowerment initiatives for climate change in Viet Nam. Young representatives working on the Special Report and youth-led organizations are considered potential candidates for this working group.

2. OBJECTIVES

The YPWG will work closely with the Government of Viet Nam to increase the efficiency and visibility of youth-led projects as well as to promote youth inclusivity and youth empowerment initiatives for climate change.

In addition, the YPWG will connect different agencies and take the lead in organizing impact assessment, capacity building, and advocacy activities that promote youth contributions in climate policy drafting; as well as gauging the impacts of current policies on Vietnamese youths.

3. EXPECTED RESULTS

The YPWG is expected to achieve:

• A cohort of 10 youth who contribute to raising youth voices and actions related to advocacy and policy;

• A close working relationship with the Government of Viet Nam, youth-led organizations, and networks to provide youth perspective and recommendations to the national policy processes;

• 01 national youth statement created on the basis of surveys (Activity Group 1) and youth-centred dialogues (Activity Group 2 and 3);

• 05 peer-reviewed knowledge chapters on updated climate change policies, their development process, and potential impacts (Activity Group 2);

• 03 capacity building events to empower youth in participating in climate change policy processes (Activity Group 2).

4. PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Activity Group 1: Impact assessment

Survey Vietnamese youth on their awareness and opinions on climate change policies and how they are impacted by policy changes

• **GOAL:** 2,000 youths surveyed, with careful sample selection

• WHO: YPWG; with technical/outreach support from Youth4Climate (UNDP) in close coordination with CSOs/university networks



Photo: www.shutterstock.com

Activity Group 2: Capacity and knowledge building

Update climate policy knowledge chapters and create detailed guides for youth policy contribution on the Youth4Climate Learning Hub.

• **GOAL:** 05 additional chapters with creative and engaging explanations on the Youth4Climate Learning Hub, 01 up-todate guide on how youth can participate in the policy making process

• **WHO:** YPWG; with technical support from Youth4Climate (UNDP) and DCC

Create COP simulations alongside Viet Nam Youth Cooperation Organization (VYCO) and YNET to build youth capacity in public speaking and resolution drafting, aiding their engagement in the policy making process

• **GOAL:** 01 MOCK COP in May, producing a youth statement; bi-annual organization of MUN conferences with climate change topics

• WHO: YPWG; VYCO and YNet, with technical support from Youth4Climate (UNDP) and DCC

Activity Group 3: Advocacy

The YPWG represents Vietnamese youth to participate in policy consultation workshops, making sure to account for diverse youth voices with findings from the survey.

• **GOAL:** Organize and/or participate in three policy consultation workshops

• WHO: YPWG; with technical support/ outreach from Youth4Climate and DCC, YNet

Collaborate with global youth policy working groups and participate in international climate change conferences to share Viet Nam's youth perspectives on climate policies

• **GOAL:** Gather youth voices to develop the National Youth Statement on Climate Change (NYS), Participate and present the NYS in the COP28 as youth representatives

• WHO: YPWG; with technical support/ outreach from Youth4Climate (UNDP) and DCC, YNet

5. THE POLICY WORKING GROUP STRUCTURE

Structure & Focuses

The group of 10 youth (including 50% female) will be loosely structured around three focuses, with close coordination and task-sharing:

• **ADVOCACY:** 2-3 youth with climate advocacy background with a special interest in climate change, natural resources, public policy, energy, vv

• **CAPACITY BUILDING**: 2-3 youth with technical and scientific research background (universities & other research institutes) • **INNOVATION:** 2-3 youth with entrepreneurship background (start-up leaders, accelerator/incubator organizers)

Commitment

• 01 year (Dec 2022 - Dec 2023)

Leadership & Accountability

Among the 10 TOT youth, 03 will be cohort leaders responsible for coordination and reporting. They are expected to commit at least 02 working days (16 hrs.)/week: For the rest of the TOT cohort:

- Youth TOTs will be offered certificates for their work
- Youth TOTs are expected to commit at least 01 working day (8hrs)/week







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