



The NGO Resource Centre Climate Change Working Group

VIETNAM & CLIMATE CHANGE

What is the Climate Change Working Group?

The NGO Climate Change Working Group (CCWG) was established in February 2008 in recognition of the fact that Vietnam is likely to be significantly affected by climate change and that NGOs are well placed to support localised responses. CCWG provides a forum for Vietnamese NGOs (VNGOs) and International NGOs (INGOs) to actively participate in the climate change debate.

CCWG consists of a core group which facilitates and coordinates the working group. Current core members include: the VUFO-NGO Resource Centre; Oxfam; CARE; CRS; SNV; EMW; WWF; Challenge to Change and SRD. In addition to the core group, CCWG maintains three thematic groups: Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change Awareness & Behaviour Change and Climate Change Mitigation. Thematic groups meet separately to exchange relevant information and ideas and provide updates to the core group.

CCWG plays a significant role in facilitating information and resource-sharing and coordination among NGOs currently engaged in addressing climate change across a number of sectors and themes.

CCWG members:

- learn about what others are doing in response to Climate change
- access and share information
- coordinate interaction with other actors
- share contacts, resources, events, capacity
- have a representative voice in policy making and other Climate Change forums

GOAL STATEMENT OF THE CCWG

CCWG seeks to contribute to reducing the vulnerability of poor people in Vietnam to the impacts of climate change through NGO coordination, advocacy and capacity building for environmentally and economically sustainable and socially just responses to climate change.



KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE CCWG

■ **COORDINATION:** coordinate and share NGO initiatives and knowledge on climate change in order to maximise impact and minimise overlap through providing forums for INGOs and VNGOs to interact.

■ **ADVOCACY:** provide a forum for NGOs to develop common advocacy agendas on climate change and build relationships between NGOs and decision-makers (government/donors/private sector/others) for coordination, dialogue and participation in policy processes nationally and sub-nationally.

■ **CAPACITY BUILDING:** ensure NGOs in Vietnam have access to information, training, current events and funding opportunities in climate change.



NGO CCWG ACTIONS

MITIGATION

- Contribute to the development of national climate change mitigation strategies that address social equity and biodiversity conservation
- Engage with private stakeholders to link investment in carbon finance with VNGOs
- Promote the use of pro-poor standards in carbon markets

ADAPTATION

- Build capacity of NGOs to assist vulnerable communities adapt to climate change through training opportunities in community-based adaptation
- Influence government policy and support for community based adaptation and financing

POLICY DIALOGUE

- Engage in policy dialogue with the Government of Vietnam and provide CCWG expertise where appropriate to ensure pro-poor responses to climate change
- Support the implementation of the National Target Program (NTP) and MARD Action Framework at the local level for example, by providing technical advice on mainstreaming or planning methodology and tools that ensure meaningful and full participation of local communities



Mangrove afforestation project Thanh Hoa

- Engage with international donors to achieve appropriate adaptation financing

AWARENESS-RAISING AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

- Raise awareness and understanding on the issue of climate change throughout all spheres of Vietnamese society
- Work closely with media and press agencies to encourage a greater focus on climate change news
- Participation with mass media to raise awareness and increase the capacity of journalists to report on relevant climate change developments
- Develop climate change awareness material for a range of audiences

LEARN MORE:

Further queries relating to CCWG and Climate Change should be directed to the VUFO-NGO Resource Centre (NGO RC). NGO RC aims to promote, facilitate and contribute to the sharing of information, resources, and experiences within and among INGOs, their partners and local organisations in order to improve the quality and impact of their development work in Vietnam.



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WHAT ARE NGOS PROPOSING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY AND PROGRAMS IN VIETNAM?

- Support to Community-based adaptation should start now and be adequately financed
- User friendly information informed by science and local knowledge is needed at all levels.
- Civil society (community groups, mass organizations and NGOs) is able to mobilise large numbers of vulnerable people for adaptation and local level mitigation.
- Climate change mitigation options can be small scale, community-based and provide multiple benefits.
- Capacity is needed for action at the sub-national level
- Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) Programs must incorporate social rights and ensure poor communities benefit equally

HOW CAN I JOIN THE CCWG?

CCWG is open to the participation of all interested INGOs, Vietnamese NGOs and agencies who can participate through the mailing list and/or meetings. CCWG holds regular monthly meetings which are open to all and ensures information is shared on events and workshops attended. Meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month at 2pm at the VUFO-NGO Resource Centre.

www.ngocentre.org.vn/node/5457

The website provides the option to join the mailing list. Subscribers receive automatic notifications of meetings, events, and information updates and can contribute resources and information to the list, which has almost 200 members. Subscribers are also able to communicate directly with all members by emailing to the list:

ngoclimatechange@ngocentre.org.vn

The CCWG Terms of Reference, meeting minutes of the core group and the three thematic groups are available on the website. Members are encouraged to send relevant links and resources for the website. To do so email eddy@ngocentre.org.vn