



SUSTAINABLE  
ENERGY FOR ALL



## SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FOR ALL

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is leading a global initiative on Sustainable Energy for All in support of three objectives to be achieved by 2030:

1. *Ensure universal access to modern energy services*
2. *Double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency*
3. *Double the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix*

The three goals are interlinked and governments, private companies, communities and individuals all have a part to play.

### ***2012: The International Year of Sustainable Energy for All***

UN member states have declared the year 2012 the *Year of Sustainable Energy for All*. In April 2012, the UN Secretary-General released the *Global Action Agenda for Sustainable Energy for All*, which recommends eleven action areas to help focus efforts and mobilize commitments toward the three main objectives. It also aims to help countries and stakeholders create their own pathways toward sustainable energy for all.

### ***The way forward***

At Rio+20, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development on 20-22 June 2012, the UN Secretary-General will invite all stakeholders to announce their commitments in support of the Global Action Agenda, seeking to generate momentum for a sustainable energy future and to meet the three objectives by 2030.

Viet Nam is also actively engaged in this area. It is developing a Green Growth Strategy, of which energy is a central element, to provide the country's voluntary emission reduction targets and help to transform current development patterns towards sustainable development.

### ***UN in Viet Nam work on energy efficiency***

Rapid economic growth and industrial expansion based on low cost energy has led to intensive use of energy and other resources in Viet Nam. A development path with high resource intensity exposes the economy to significant risks in an increasingly resource constrained global economy, and produces greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that cause climate change and waste that pollutes the environment.

Reducing the use of scarce resources through measures such as energy efficiency is critical to meeting future energy demand in a growing economy. It also provides an opportunity for a more sustainable development path by creating jobs, reducing environmental impacts, saving money and fostering economic growth.

The United Nations in Viet Nam has supported the Government and the private sector to harness energy efficiency opportunities in numerous projects through the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and other UN agencies.

Some examples of the UN's work are provided in the box overleaf.

For more information on the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, please visit:

<http://www.sustainableenergyforall.org>

For more information on the UN's activities, please contact:

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## The UN's contribution: supporting Government-led efforts to promote energy efficiency

### Energy efficiency in the industry sector

The industry sector accounted for an estimated 34% of total energy consumption in Viet Nam in 2007, which is a strong indicator of the sector's contribution to national GHG emissions. The industry sector must develop in a sustainable way to continue to grow, maintain its contribution to the national economy and reduce the country's GHG emissions.

**Energy management standards:** UNIDO and the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MOIT) are assisting industrial enterprises with their energy efficiency work, with the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and local financiers. This support aims to save 325,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent in industrial energy use over ten years through system optimization and adoption of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) developed energy management standard, ISO 50,001. This will increase competitiveness of national industrial enterprises through reduced energy and production costs and a reduced impact on the environment.

**Green industry:** UNIDO is also providing policy advice on green industry development, through MOIT, to promote sustainable industrial development. Three specific pilots for scaling up and mainstreaming green industry concepts and practices have been implemented in the steel sector (through benchmarking and technology road mapping for electric arc furnaces), the city of Hoi An (through eco-town development), and crafts villages (through model systems for waste and resource recovery and sustainable crafts production).

**Strengthening policy makers' and stakeholders' capacity (in planning):** UNDP is working with MOIT to develop a new project to strengthen the capacity of policy makers and stakeholders in the industry sector to reduce GHG emissions and enhance climate resilience. The project aims to encourage industry to invest in low carbon technologies and more resource-efficient practices through policy and regulatory incentives and by directly training and supporting financial institutions and energy service providers to develop new, tailored products and services to catalyze investments.

### Energy efficient appliances

Energy-using appliances and equipment accounted for an estimated 39% of electricity use in Viet Nam in 2007. The increasing affluence and rapid industrialization will continue to boost the demand for these appliances, such as home refrigerators and air conditioners, whose numbers increased by 180% and 24% respectively from 2002 to 2009. Energy efficient standards and labeling is an identified priority in the national target programme on energy efficiency and conservation and is critical to reduce Viet Nam's national energy use and its GHG emissions.

**Household appliances:** Since 2009, UNDP has worked in partnership with MOIT, with GEF support, to develop an energy standards and labeling framework in Viet Nam. This framework will set energy benchmarks for appliances, which will reduce household energy use and help to increase cross regional trade of electric appliances.

One of the key achievements has been assisting MOIT to develop a roadmap for energy efficiency standards and labelling for household appliances. The roadmap specifies that energy-using equipment such as air conditioners, refrigerators, rice cookers and lighting must move to mandatory energy labelling by January 2013 and adopt minimum energy performance standards by January 2014. UNDP will continue to assist MOIT to achieve this ambitious timetable through targeted support to manufacturers, retailers, consumers and testing laboratories.

### Small and medium enterprises (SMEs)

SMEs are a key target for energy conservation in Viet Nam as they now account for 95% of enterprises, provide 26% of the country's employment, contribute up to 25% of GDP and are expected to fuel Viet Nam's future employment growth.

**Craft villages:** From 2006 to 2011, UNDP supported the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) to catalyze energy efficiency investments by SMEs working in brick making, ceramics, textiles, pulp and paper, and food processing. Policy support and training, combined with a loan guarantee fund to secure SME investments, led to cumulative energy savings of 232,000 tonnes of oil equivalent and GHG reductions of 962,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through the implementation of 531 pilot projects.

The project also created around 10,000 jobs in rural areas and villages and improved air quality in craft villages, reducing the incidence of respiratory diseases in one ceramics producing village.

**Household enterprises:** The Joint UN Programme on Green Production and Trade is working with around 4,500 poor farming and crafts-producing households in the northern provinces of Viet Nam to increase income and employment opportunities. Under this project, UNIDO promotes the adoption of cleaner production and sustainable design by handicraft producers and SMEs.

**Corporate social responsibility:** UNIDO is also promoting corporate social responsibility (CSR) among SMEs, with support from the European Union – Switch Asia Programme. In collaboration with the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other sector associations, UNIDO assists SMEs to adopt CSR principles for improved linkages with global supply chains in sustainable production. Using participatory processes, the project will identify and promote sustainable production practices and behaviours among 1,500 Vietnamese SMEs, consumers and other relevant stakeholders.

### Buildings, construction and public works

Energy use in residential and public buildings in Viet Nam accounted for 22% of total national energy consumption in 2003. The pace of development in Viet Nam means construction and public works are another significant source of energy and other resource consumption.

**Public lighting:** From 2005 to 2011, UNDP in partnership with GEF and the Viet Nam Academy of Science and Technology implemented a project to support the transition towards the use of more energy efficient lighting. With direct and indirect intervention of the project, about 89% of towns, 91% of rural areas and 65% of schools and hospitals installed new energy efficient lighting equipment by 2010. This contributed to an electricity saving of 674.4 GWh of energy and avoided GHG emissions of around 290,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

**Construction materials (in planning):** UNDP is working with MOST to develop a new GEF supported project to promote non-fired brick (NFB) production. The project aims to displace fossil fuel use and reduce the use of good quality soil for brick-making through policy support, improved technical capacity of local service providers and selected producers, and enhanced availability of financial sources for NFB investment projects.

**Buildings (in planning):** Commercial and high-rise residential buildings are an important area for future support due to the rapid expansion of urban areas in Viet Nam. Potential areas of focus include: the policy and regulatory framework, technical capacity building, and the scaling up and replication of energy efficient technologies in buildings.