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## Sustainable Development in Vietnam

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### Abstract

Sustainable development is a global concern. In the development process of the world, each region and country has many common pressing issues. The more the economy grows, the scarcity of raw materials and energy due to the depletion of non-renewable resources is increasing, the more the natural environment is destroyed, the ecological balance is broken. , nature causes extremely catastrophic disasters. It is economic growth not in keeping with social progress and development. There is economic growth but no progress and social justice; economic growth but cultural and moral decline; Economic growth has made the gap between rich and poor differentiated, leading to social instability. Therefore, the development process that needs to harmonize economic growth with social security and environmental protection or sustainable development is becoming an urgent requirement for the whole world. It can be said that the initial achievements in the implementation of Vietnam's sustainable development strategy are very important, affirming the Party's guidelines and the State's policies are correct; At the same time, it is a solid basis to strengthen people's confidence in the Party's leadership in the process of bringing the country towards socialist development. However, this does not mean that the implementation of the sustainable development strategy in our country in the past time has not raised new and complicated problems.

**Keywords:** sustainable development, environmental perspective, policy

### 1. Introduction

The content of sustainable development was reaffirmed at the 1992 Earth Summit for Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) in 1992 and was supplemented and completed at the World Summit on Sustainable development organized in Johannesburg (Republic of South Africa) in 2002: "Sustainable development" is the development process with a close, reasonable and harmonious combination between 3 aspects of development, including: economic development (especially economic growth), social development (especially implementation of social progress and justice; poverty reduction and job creation) and environmental protection (especially handling , remedying pollution, restoring and improving environmental quality; preventing fire and deforestation; rational exploitation and economical use m natural resources). The concept of sustainable development is gradually formed from the realities of social life and is indispensable. Thinking about sustainable development begins with recognizing the importance of environmental protection and then recognizing the need to address social instability. In 1992, the United Nations Environment and Development Summit held in Rio de Janeiro set out the Global Agenda for the 21st Century, according to which sustainable development was identified as: " A development that satisfies the needs of the current generation without compromising its ability to meet the needs of future generations. "In principle, sustainable development is the process of operating simultaneously three aspects of development: sustainable economic growth, prosperous society, fairness, stability, diverse culture and a healthy environment, Resources are maintained sustainably. Therefore, the complete system of ethical principles for sustainable development includes the principles of sustainable development in all three economic, social and environmental "stakes". Since the end of World War II, global tourism has grown rapidly with an average passenger speed of 6.93% / year, income is 11.8% / year and becomes the leading important economic sector. According to the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), despite the prolonged difficult economic situation in some

countries and regions, the number of international tourists in 2015 reached more than 1 billion people [1]. It is also the sixth year in a row, achieving an annual growth rate of 4% or more [2].

Tourism in Vietnam plays a very important role in socio-economic development. According to the announcement in March 2016 of the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), tourism in Vietnam contributes 6.6% to GDP, ranking 40 out of 183 countries in terms of direct contribution [3], ranked 55 out of 183 countries in terms of total scale of contribution to national GDP. Specifically, tourism contributed directly, indirectly and public investment was 584,884 billion VND (equivalent to 13.9% of GDP), of which the direct contribution of tourism to GDP was 279.287 billion VND (equivalent to 6, 6% of GDP) [4]. Tourism created more than 6.3 million jobs both directly and indirectly (accounting for 11.2%), the number of direct jobs created was 2.783 million (accounting for 5.2% of total jobs [5]). Vietnam tourism development strategy to 2020, vision to 2030 has set the goal: "By 2020, basic tourism will become a key economic sector with professionalism and a system of similar facilities, synchronous and modern; High quality, diversified and branded tourism products, deeply imbued with national cultural identity, compete with other countries in the region and the world. Striving to 2030, Vietnam will become a developed tourism industry"[6].

Firstly, economic sustainable development is fast, safe and quality development. Sustainable economic development requires the development of an economic system in which the opportunity to interact with natural resources is facilitated and the right to use natural resources for economic activities. Sacrifices are shared equally. The focus here is to create common prosperity for all, not only to bring benefits to a few, within the limited limits of the ecosystem, nor to infringe upon the rights basic human. The aspect of economic sustainable development includes some basic contents: Firstly, gradually reducing energy and other resources consumption through economical and lifestyle-changing technologies; Secondly, changing consumption needs does not harm biodiversity and the environment; Third, equality in access to resources, living standards, health services and education; Fourthly, eliminate hunger and reduce absolute poverty; Fifth, clean technology and industrial ecology (recycling, reuse, reduce waste, recycle used energy). An economy considered sustainable should meet the following requirements: (1) Having high GDP growth and GDP per capita. Developed countries with high incomes still have to keep the growth rate, the poorer the lower income countries, the higher the growth rate. Developing countries in the current situation need GDP growth of about 5% / year to be able to see the expression of sustainable economic development. (2) GDP structure is also a criterion for evaluating economic sustainability. Only when the ratio of industry and services to GDP is higher than agriculture will growth be sustainable. (3) Economic growth must be a highly efficient growth, it does not accept growth at all costs.

Second, social sustainable development is assessed by criteria, such as HDI, income equality coefficients, indicators of education, health, social welfare, and cultural enjoyment. In addition, social sustainability is the guarantee of harmonious social life; there is equality between social strata and gender equality; the gap between

rich and poor is not too high and tends to approach; there is not much difference in life between regions. Social justice and human development, the Human Development Index (HDI) is the highest criteria of social development, including: per capita income; intellectual level, education, health, longevity, levels of enjoyment in culture and civilization. Sustainable social development focusing on equity and society always needs to create favorable conditions for human development and strive to give everyone the opportunity to develop their potential and conditional. Acceptable living. Sustainable social development includes a number of main contents: Firstly, stabilizing the population and rural development to reduce the pressure of migration into urban areas; Secondly, minimize the negative impact of the environment on urbanization; Third, improve education and eliminate illiteracy; Fourth, protect cultural diversity; Fifth, gender equality, concerned with gender needs and interests; Sixth, increasing public participation in decision-making processes.

Thirdly, environmentally sustainable development. The process of industrialization, modernization, agricultural development, tourism; the process of urbanization, new rural construction ... have an impact on the environment and negatively affect the environment and natural conditions. Environmental sustainability is when using these natural factors, the quality of human habitat must be guaranteed. It is to ensure the purity of air, water, land, geographic space and landscape. The quality of the above factors should always be valued and regularly evaluated and tested according to national or international standards. Rational exploitation and use of natural resources, environmental protection and improvement of living environment quality. Sustainable development of the environment requires us to maintain a balance between protecting the natural environment and the exploitation of natural resources for human benefit in order to maintain the exploitation of resources. Because of its inherent limitations, it allows the environment to continue to support living conditions for humans and living things on earth.

Sustainable development of the environment includes the following basic contents: Firstly, effective use of resources, especially non-renewable resources; Second, development does not exceed the load-bearing threshold of the ecosystem; Thirdly, protecting biodiversity and protecting the ozone layer; Fourthly, control and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; Fifthly, strictly protect sensitive ecosystems; Sixthly, reduce emissions, overcome pollution (water, gas, soil, food), improve and restore the environment of polluted areas.

## 2. Overview about Sustainable development

Vietnam has promulgated a Sustainable Development Strategy for the period of 2011-2020 with the aim of achieving sustainable, effective growth, in parallel with progress, social justice, protection of natural resources and the environment, and maintaining stability. Socio-political regulations, firmly protecting national independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

Monitoring and evaluation indicators for Vietnam's sustainable development for the period 2011-2020 include: general indicators (green GDP, human development index, environmental sustainability index); Economic indicators (capital efficiency, social labor productivity, reduction of

energy consumption to produce a unit of GDP, consumer price index, current balance ...); Social indicators (poverty rate, unemployment rate, labor force working in the trained economy, sex ratio at birth, inequality coefficient in income distribution ..); Targets on natural resources and environment (rate of forest cover, percentage of protected land, degraded land ...).

In terms of economy, it is necessary to maintain sustainable economic growth, gradually implement green growth, develop clean energy and renewable energy; implementation of sustainable production and consumption; ensure food security, sustainable agricultural and rural development; sustainable development of regions and localities. Economic growth in the 2016-2020 period will reach an average of 7% / year, raising the average annual income per capita in GDP to 3,200 - 3,500 USD (compared to 2,100 USD in 2015). Inflation stays below 5%.

Regarding society, focusing on promoting poverty reduction in a sustainable manner; create sustainable jobs;

the rate of poor households reduces on average about 2% / year, particularly the poor districts reduce over 4% / year. Make progress and social justice; well implementing social security policies; In 2014, 1.4 million people participated in social insurance, more than 8.5 million people participated in unemployment insurance, over 72% of the population participated in health insurance. People's living standards improved. Per capita income reached USD 2,052 / person (2014). The average life expectancy is 73.5 years (2015). Complete many Millennium goals. Stabilizing the scale, improving and improving the quality of the population; developing cultural harmony with economic development, building and developing Vietnamese families; sustainable development of urban centers, new rural construction, rational distribution of population and labor by region; improve the quality of education and training to raise people's intellectual standards and professional qualifications to meet the requirements of national, regional and local development.



Fig. 1: Sustainable development in Vietnam

Regarding natural resources and environment, fighting against degradation, efficient and sustainable use of land resources; water environment protection and sustainable use of water resources; rational exploitation and economical and sustainable use of mineral resources; protecting marine, coastal and island environment and developing marine resources; forest protection and development; reducing air pollution and noise in big cities and industrial areas. The implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy in Vietnam has achieved some encouraging results, creating favorable conditions for the sustainable development in the coming period, shown in the following points:

Economic: The average economic growth rate in 6 years will reach nearly 7% in the 2006-2011 period; GDP per

capita reached USD 2,100 (2015). The economic structure has also made positive progress, the proportion of industry and services in the GDP structure is increasing, the agricultural sector in the GDP structure is declining. Food security is guaranteed. Achievements in the economic field have contributed positively to the sustainable development of other fields. However, the economy in the period 2011 - 2015 recovered slowly, the growth did not reach the set target (5.82%), lower than the previous periods, the quality of growth was low. The contribution of total factor productivity (TFP-Total Factor Productivity) to growth is limited, the capital use ratio (ICOR - Incremental Capital - Output Ratio) is high. National competitiveness has not been much improved, especially in terms of economic institutions, infrastructure and technological innovation.

Socially: education has developed, state budget expenditure for education and training has reached 20% of total budget expenditure; By 2011, all provinces and cities will have achieved the standard of secondary education. Employment has achieved positive results: in 6 years (2006 - 2011), jobs were created for over 9 million workers. In 2012, new jobs were created for more than 1.5 million people; in 2013, striving to create jobs for 1.6 million people; new vocational training for 1.9 million people; implement vocational training strategies associated with job creation. In 2012, the urban unemployment rate was 3.53%, in rural areas it was 1.55%. The work of hunger eradication and poverty reduction has made much progress, the percentage of poor households has decreased to 9.6% and by the end of 2013 it is estimated at 7.6%. In 2012, Vietnam ranked 127th out of 187 countries and territories in HDI and ranked in the group with high growth rate of HDI. Vietnam has completed 6/8 Groups of Objectives for Competition. The term sustainable development was first used in the report "World Conservation Strategy" proposed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 1980 [12]. The overall goal of the strategy is to achieve sustainable development by protecting biological resources, emphasizing the sustainability of ecological development, in order to call for conservation of biological resources [13]. Most of the following concepts agree that the inner meaning of sustainable development is a

development process with a close, reasonable and harmonious combination between the three aspects of development, economically sustainable, environmentally sustainable and culturally sustainable [14]. Tourism is considered the largest "smokeless industry" on a worldwide scale, contributing positively to the economic development of nations, preserving global cultural values as well as working that touches all aspects of natural resources and environment [15]. The concept of sustainable tourism development: "It is the development of tourism that meets current needs without compromising the ability to meet the travel needs of future generations." [16]. Accordingly, in the development process, it is necessary to ensure the economic sustainability, sustainability of environmental resources and sustainable socio-culture. In particular, economic sustainability should be understood as a long-term stable development of tourism, creating a significant source of revenue, contributing positively to the growth of the economy and society, bringing benefits to community, especially local people [17]. Local people's living standards are improved from tourism, they will have a reason to protect this source of income by protecting natural resources and environment, protecting traditional cultural values for tourists to continue. Next, through which poverty reduction will bring opportunities to improve living standards for local people, economic growth for disadvantaged areas [13].

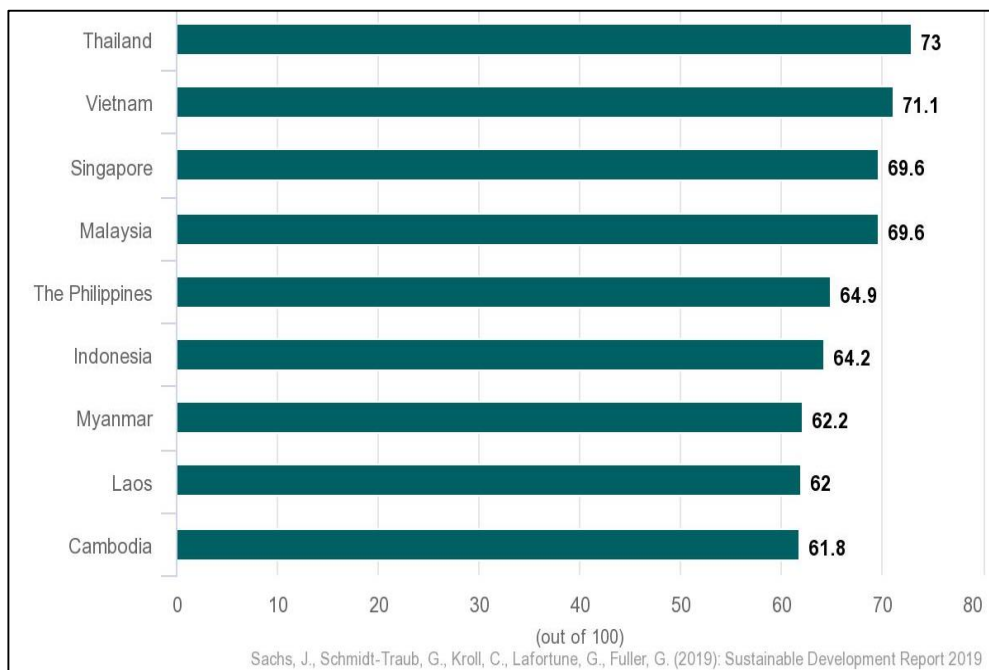


Fig. 2: Sustainable development goal index in ASIA countries

Issues of sustainable development have been introduced since the 1980s, conducting research on this issue; many scientific studies have been carried out to provide aspects related to sustainable development. Since the 1990s, scientists around the world have mentioned a lot about developing tourism with a purely economic purpose that threatens to destroy the ecological environment, to the local culture [18]. The consequences of these impacts will again affect the long-term development of the tourism industry itself. But defining sustainable tourism development not only focuses on environmental protection but also focuses on maintaining local cultures and ensuring economic

development and fair benefits for the group of participants. Sustainable tourism development is considered to be a branch of Sustainable Development, with many definitions already in place and the research team offers a number of concepts given: According to the World Commission on Development and Environment Conference (or Brundtland Commission) identified in 1987: "Sustainable tourism development is a development activity in a specific area so that content and images are consciousness and scale are appropriate and sustainable over time, do not degrade the environment, affect the ability to support?" [19]. According to the World



Tourism Organization (WTO): "Sustainable tourism development is the development of tourism activities to meet the current needs of tourists and indigenous people, while still interested in preserving and embellishing resources for future tourism development" [15]. Sustainable tourism development is the most complete and comfortable meeting the needs of tourists, attracting tourists to regions and tourist spots today and protecting and improving the quality for the future. So far, most experts in tourism and other related fields in Vietnam think that: "Sustainable tourism development is a mining activity that manages natural and human values to satisfy the diverse needs of tourists, pay attention to long-term economic benefits while ensuring the contribution to conservation and restoration of resources, maintaining cultural integrity to develop future tourism activities; for environmental protection and contribute to improving the living standards of local communities". This is also the concept that the authors use as a basis for conducting research.

### 3. Conclusion

Mankind has never witnessed rapid changes on a large scale and increasing depth in the fields of social life of the world brought about by the development process as in recent times. . Apart from the positive side and the progress, it is impossible not to admit that the process has been putting all countries in front of a series of hot global issues, affecting and directly threatening human development prospects. , such as increasing trends in social inequality and disparities between rich and poor, natural resource exhaustion and ecological environment pollution, global security issues, risks of cultural degradation, etc. serious consequences of the old conception of development (short-term development, identical development with economic growth). All of this forces mankind towards a new, more correct and intelligent conception of development - a sustainable development strategy. Not outside the common movement trajectory of the world, in Vietnam, sustainable development has been identified by the Communist Party and the State of Vietnam as a long-term strategic goal. Like many other countries in the world. Gender, in Vietnam, sustainable development soon became an important strategic goal of the Communist Party and State of Vietnam. Vietnam has affirmed: striving for economic growth with fast pace, high quality and more sustainable, associated with human development; implementing social progress and justice in every step and every development policy; economic growth goes hand in hand with cultural development, health care, education ..., well resolving social issues for the purpose of human development; effectively protect and use national resources and improve the natural environment; complete laws, strengthen state management of protection and improvement of the natural environment. In fact, Vietnam has actively carried out a comprehensive renovation of the country, explored and applied many important measures to the economic, social and environmental protection. In the process of striving to achieve the goal of the rich people, the strong country, the fair, democratic and civilized society, Vietnam has always persisted and seriously implemented international commitments and achieved success. It is important and important on all three basic goals: economic growth, social development and

environmental protection, recognized and appreciated by the world.

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